

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Tenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



10
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday May 4, 1988/Vaisakha 14, 1910
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Illicit Trading in Explosives

*939. SHRI SRIHARI RAO:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports about illicit trading in explosives and violations of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884 and the Indian Explosive Substances Act, 1908; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or contemplated including amendments to the said Acts with a view to curb these illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Adequate provisions exist to deal with criminal acts involving explosives both in the Explosive Substances Act and the Explosives Act and there is no proposal to amend either of these Acts, in this regard.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO: Mr. Speaker. Sir, there has been rampant use of explosives by way of country-made bombs by anti-social elements and village factions. The enforcement of these Acts has not been satisfactory. What are the special or additional steps taken to prevent misuse of explosives for criminal purposes or any special squad recruited to detect all these cases of explosives.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the enforcement of these two Acts is with the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. There has been some laxity in some States in enforcing these Acts. We have, from time to time, emphasised that the State Governments should not be lax in enforcing these Acts. We shall do so once again. But really it is the State Government which must enforce these Acts.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO: My second supplementary is this. In all criminal cases where country-made bombs are used, a very intensive search and investigation of the places where these country-made bombs are manufactured has to be done. But, at the present moment, this is lacking. A serious view has to be taken. Will the Central Government issue instructions to all the State Governments to report cases under the above Acts and the action taken by the State Governments also?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We have and we shall in future also. Really, it is for the State Government to enforce these Acts strictly.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Sir, the Hon. Minister has agreed that the present provisions are sufficient to deal with the criminals. May I know from the hon. Minister as to how many such cases have

been registered, how many persons have been brought to book and what action the Government has taken so far including the State, Central and the Union Territory Administrations?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The hon. Member will kindly appreciate that there is no Central place where these figures are compiled upto date. Each State enforces these Acts and registers cases. But, if the hon. Member asks me a question about any particular State, I will collect the information from that State. But there is no Central place where we collect and compile this information. It will take a lot of time for me to ask all the States to give the full information.

Visit of U.S Defence Secretary to India

+

*940. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Defence Secretary visited India during April, 1988;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit;

(c) whether he met the Indian leaders; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). The US Defence Secretary, Mr. Frank C. Carlucci, visited India from 4th to 6th April, 1988 as part of the ongoing high level dialogue between India and the USA on different areas of bilateral cooperation. The US Defence Secretary also called on the Prime Minister and held talks with the Raksha Mantri. Discussions on bilateral cooperation in defence focussed on the transfer of technology in mission areas and acquisition of training aids. The situation in South and South West Asia was also discussed in the light of current developments and the two

sides exchanged views on international issues of mutual interest.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the answer it was stated that discussions on bilateral cooperation in defence focussed on the transfer of technology would in mission areas and acquisition of training aids. I would like to know specifically one thing. Before the Defence Secretary arrived here, there was a lot of talk that the transfer of technology to India to facilitate indigenous production of F-5 Fighter-cum-Trainer Jet was also to be discussed in these talks. May I know whether this subject was discussed and any commitment has been made by the USA in this regard?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: This particular subject was not discussed and, therefore, the question of commitment does not arise.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: My second supplementary is whether it was discussed that, after the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan, there would be no need for supply of arms to Pakistan according to the Indian view, whether this point of view was put before the Defence Secretary and if so, what was his reaction.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: We did express our concern about the military aid which is being given to Pakistan by the USA and we also tried to impress that, in view of the present withdrawal of the Russian troops from Afghanistan, the need for supply of different equipments was not at all there. He gave a patient hearing. No reaction was there, but subsequently in the Press Conference he reiterated that their relationship with Pakistan was long-standing that they would continue to give the supply. This is the reaction we have got after his Press Conference.

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: May I know whether there has been any improvement in the relations between the USA and India after the visit of the U.S. Defence Secretary, particularly with regard to their policy of strengthening Pakistan with supply of

sophisticated arms which are being given to the terrorists?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: During the discussion with the Raksha Mantri as well as the Prime Minister, it was told that we have got enough proof that Pakistan is supplying some sophisticated arms to the terrorists. He said that he would bring it to the notice of Pakistan. This was the only thing. But we have expressed to him that sophisticated arms which are coming to the terrorists in Pakistan are being given from Pakistan and we have got enough proof about it.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Has it been brought to the notice of the Defence Secretary of the U.S., since he was going to Pakistan after he came to India, that the supply of sophisticated arms such as AWACS and Stringer missiles to Pakistan will upset the balance of power in this region and that India strongly protests against this type of supply to Pakistan, particularly after the Geneva Agreement and if so, what was the reaction of the U.S. Secretary of Defence?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: We did express our worries and our unhappiness. But in a Press Conference in Pakistan the U.S. Defence Secretary has reiterated that the commitment given by his predecessor to Pakistan will be kept up.

SHRI G. C. SWELL: I would like to know whether we talked turkey with Mr. Frank Carlucci or whimpered about the American intended supply of E3A Sentries to Pakistan, now, according to reports, with the addition of aerostats. Did we also talk to him about their supply of fire-finding radar to Pakistan which had led our former Chief of Staff to say that he changed his mind from the French Sofma gun to Bofors Howitzer? Did he show concern for our concern or did he treat them all as hallucinations? If he had showed some concern, then how is it that next day, next door, he went to Pakistan and said that they would get all the AWACS aircraft they needed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): Sir, so far as the Airborne Early Warning System is concerned, there was an exchange of views and our understanding is that the United States has taken no decision in this matter yet.

And in so far as other specific items are concerned, the particular one which is referred to by my Hon. friend, there have been some discussions, some talks with the United States of America.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, may I know from the Minister whether this particular aspect of supplying sophisticated arms and arming Pakistan, which will definitely affect the balance of power in this region, after the press conference of the Defence Secretary where he reiterated that supply would be maintained and United States would continue to supply as per the agreement - the Government have taken up this matter with the United States of America.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: During the visit of Mr. Carlucci, the Raksha Mantri during his discussion expressed his unhappiness about arming Pakistan with sophisticated weapons. And he also said: "in a developing country like ours, our preference is more for development work than spending money for defence purposes. And because Pakistan is being armed with certain weapons which is threatening our security, we had to spend money for our defence preparedness." And these views have also been expressed by the Prime Minister during the discussion. Unfortunately, I think, after his press conference in Pakistan, this has no bearing on US because they continue to give arms aid to Pakistan because of their special relations with them. Our diplomatic efforts to dispuade them for giving such weapons to Pakistan will continue. It is a continuous process and I am sure, that it is continuing.

Amendment to Arms Act

*942. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amendment of 1982 in the Arms Act, 1959 restricting the ownership of licensed arms per person to three weapons only brought about a reduction in crime or in the illegal possession of unlicensed weapons; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to amend the Act and allow genuine sportsmen to own more than three weapons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
(a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

Under the amended provisions of the Arms Act, 1959 no person can be licensed to acquire, possess or carry more than three firearms. This restriction was imposed mainly because there was no ceiling on the number of firearms that a person can be licensed to hold under the old provisions of the Act. The ceiling was fixed at three having regard to the various bonafide requirements of a person for self protection, crop protection or sport, etc. However, members of Rifle Clubs are permitted to use a .22 bore rifle for target practice as a fourth weapon. Further concessions were given to target shooters who have attained certain standards as in the statement given below. At present the Government do not consider it necessary to propose any further amendments to the Act in this regard.

STATEMENT - I

Sl. No.	Target shooter	Age	Exemptions granted	Arms	Remarks
1	2	3		4	5
1.	Arjun Award Winner	Should complete 16 years		Category of arms used in that branch of shooting competition which he has been conferred th Arjun Award. (1) Rifles in Calibre .22 Long Rifle (also known as .22 LR) excluding semi-automatic Rifles. (2) Target Rifle (fullbore)	Under the provision of Arms Act, 1959 a person is licensed to acquire, possess, carry not more than three firearms. Further he should attain 21 years of age. The exemptions will be admissible on the basis of certificates issued by the competent authority as indicated in Note (2) below.
2.	International Medalist			(a) It must be single shot without any magazine. (b) Minimum outer diameter of barrel at Muzzle end -22 mm. (c) Calibre .243 or 30.06 or .303 or 7.62 or 7.5 Swiss or .308. (d) Minimum length of barrel - 635 mm.	
3.	International Target shooter	Should complete 16 years			
4.	Renowned Shooter				

1	2	3	4	5
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(3) *Target Pistol*

- (a) Minimum barrel length - 103
- (b) Minimum overall length - 22
- (c) Calibre .22 Short, or .32 Smit & Wesson Long Wad cutter (also known as .32 S & W Long WC) or .38 Special Wad Cutter and the rearsight adjustable in both directions i.e. left-right as well as up-down.

(4) *Target Revolver*

- (a) Minimum barrel length - 150
- (b) Calibre .32 Smith & Wesson (also known as S & W L) or .38 (also known as .38 Spl.) and the rearsight must be adjustable in both directions viz. left-right as well as up-down.

(5) Fourth Shot-guns of 12 bore (for Trap Shooting and 2 Guns for Skeet Shooting).

Should complete 16 years but below 21 years

- (i) .22 calibre Long Rifle (also known as .22 LR) excluding semi-autom rifles.

5. Junior Target Shooter

OR

(ii) 12 bore Shot Gun

OR

(iii) Target pistol having a minimum barrel length of 130 mm., minimum overall length of 225 mm., calibre .22 Short, .32 Smith & Wesson Long Wadcutter (also known as .32 S & W Long WCD, or .32 Sp) and the rear sight adjustable in both directions i.e., left-right as well as up-down.

NOTE (I)

(a) "International championship" means the Asian Games, the Asian Shooting Championships, the Commonwealth Games, the Commonwealth Shooting Championships, Championships or the World Ladies or World Junior Shooting Championships;

(b) "International medalist" means a person who has won an individual medal in an international championship, the score of the bronze medalist;

(c) "International target shooter" means a person who has achieved a rank among the first 15 positions in

Provided that where the number of participants in the event in question is less than 30, the person's total number of participants in that event or better;

(d) "renowned shooter" means a person who has achieved a rank amongst the first fifteen positions in a event or open Ladies' event or Open Civilian's event:

Provided that where the number of participants in the event in question is less than 30, the person's total number of participants in the event, or better:

Provided further that the event should be according to current rules of International Shooting Union;

(e) "Junior target shooter" means a person who has completed the age of sixteen years but is below the age of one State Level, Zonal level, or National level, Shooting Competition recognised by National Rifle Association.

NOTE (2)

CERTIFYING BODIES FOR PERSONS MENTIONED IN ANNEXURE

- (1) Certifying Body for Arjun Award Winner shall be the Ministry of Sports, Government of India. The Award was conferred for excellence as a shooter, and not for administrative, developmental or promotional work.
- (2) Certifying Body for 'International Medalist', 'International Target Shooter', 'Renowned Shooter' and 'Junior Target Shooter' shall be the currently serving General Secretary or the Honorary Secretary of the National Rifle Association. The fact that the General Secretary or the Honorary Secretary issuing such a certificate or is holding the post of the Honorary Secretary in the year of issue of such certificate shall be duly certified by an officer of the rank and status of an Under Secretary. The said certificate from the Ministry of Sports shall accompany the application of the Honorary Secretary of the said association in the case of every individual application.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Sir, I need your patronage. Here the Question (a) is a specific question that whether this amendment has brought about any reduction in crime or in the illegal possession of unlicensed weapons. The specific question. In the statement, there is no answer to this specific question. May I ask for the answer to this specific question?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, as I understood the thrust of the question, the question was (a) whether the amendment restricting the ownership of licensed arms per person to three weapons only brought about a reduction in crime, and (b) if not, whether Government propose to amend the Act and allow genuine sportsmen to own more than three weapons. Sir, I do not believe that sportsmen commit crimes. The thrust of the question, as I understood, is, why are sportsmen being restricted to three weapons and is it because of crime? The answer is that we have restricted this by an amendment made in 1982 having regard to the *bona fide* requirement of the person for self-protection, crop protection and sports. But we are allowing sportsmen to use a .22 bore rifle as a fourth weapon over and above the three weapons. There is really no connection between sportsmen being restricted to three weapons only and crime and I am sorry if Hon. Member feels that I have not answered that directly, I wish to take this opportunity to answer him. We do not believe that sportsmen are connected with crime.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: It is not only the sportsmen who have licensed weapons but the other people can also have for crop protection and self-protection. Therefore, may I once again ask the Minister to reply in 'yes' or 'no' has this amendment of 1982 where the main thrust was to curb illegal possession of arms and proliferation of arms brought about reduction in crime?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It would be difficult to answer a question of that nature by 'yes' or 'no'. The amendment was made in 1982 in order to ensure that people do not have a large number of arms. This is restricted to three arms and for bonafide sportsmen and members of Rifle

clubs there is a provision to use a fourth weapon. It will be difficult to answer a question of that nature and establish a direct cause and effect relationship between possession of arms and crime. But I suppose if people are allowed to hold any number of arms there is certain proneness to more crime.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: When the amendment to Arms Act was introduced in Parliament in the preface it was said: 'to curb terrorism'. So if I remember right this Act was amended to curb crime and restricted three arms per individual. So what the Member has asked must be answered. Part (b) of the question about sportsmen is a different question. I would like to know did this Act as thought upon by the Department curb terrorism and crime in India and secondly do you feel that an individual cannot protect himself in India and the Police or the Department of Home are doing a better job?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We have taken into account the need for individuals to possess Arms for crop protection, self-protection and for sports. Having regard to all this Parliament in its wisdom amended the act and placed a ceiling of three fire-arms per person. I do not have any empirical data to prove or disprove that this directly resulted in curbing crime but I tend to believe that restriction on the number of arms which a person can possess certainly does have an impact upon crime. As I said earlier it is not possible to answer a question in a simplistic fashion as 'yes' or 'no'. As regards the second part of the question we think it is the duty of the State to protect citizens but if citizens want fire-arms for self-protection the Act recognises their right to possess fire-arms for self-protection.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I asked whether in the Act or in the Bill when it was introduced is there a sentence that it is being introduced to amend the Arms Act to curb terrorism?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I do not have a copy of the statement of objects and reasons of the amending Bill but the Long Title

to the Bill does not make any reference to this. If the hon. Member wants I can look into the statement of objects and reasons and let him know.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mishraji, you believe in non-violence. What question you want to ask?

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Sir, I am not concerned with the number of the licenses of fire-arms issued to sportsmen. I am interested in licenses being issued to general public. With my personal knowledge I can say that in Terai region of Pilibhit district and in my region and in Deoria and Gorakhpur districts of U.P. licenses of fire-arms have been managed from Bihar and Punjab illegally. There is a rule that arms brought from another State should have their entry in home State also, but there is no entry of such weapons. Would the Minister of Home Affairs propose to conduct an investigation regarding the number of fire-arms in the possession of the people in Terai region of Gorakhpur, Deoria and Pilibhit districts which have been licensed by the State Governments of Bihar and Punjab. My second Question is also related to the first one. Sir, district magistrate has got the power to issue licenses for fire-arms. I would like to know the names of the two collectors of Bihar and Punjab who are minting money by way of issuing licenses to the people of Uttar Pradesh illegally. I would like to submit that the hon. Minister should make efforts to frame such rules so that people may not manage weapons illegally because illegal arms are being used by the criminals.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not fall under the scope of the question and you go on speaking.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: My Question has not been replied.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think you can answer this question?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The power to issue licenses for non-prohibited bore rests with the State Governments. I am not denying that there are a large number of unlicensed arms in various States. We have repeatedly emphasised upon the State Governments that they should take strict action in respect of unlicensed arms. I am aware of the Terai region's problems. We have told the U.P. Government. We shall do so again.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Sir, a collector in Bihar has granted a license for firearm to a person of U.P. and a collector in Punjab has granted a license to a person belonging to Pilibhit.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not fall within the scope of the question. You may ask another question.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: I would like to know whether he proposes to conduct an enquiry into it or not? Illegal possession of firearms is giving further rise to the terrorism.

[*English*]

Performance of Canadian Heavy Water Reactors

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*944. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI S. M. GURADDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canada has discovered a design flaw in the Heavy Water reactors in Canada;

(b) if so, whether the Canadian heavy water reactors operating in India have also been affected;

(c) if so, to what extent;

(d) whether Canada is now modifying the system to switch over to four garter springs in place of two for safety reasons;

(e) whether Canadian heavy water reactors operating in India will also be modified; and

(f) if so, to what extent these defects have been removed in the Indian Heavy Water Reactors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (f). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) to (f). The design flaw detected in Canada relates to the garter spring system which separates the concentric coolant tubes from the calandria tubes. The earlier design provides for two garter springs which were observed to have shifted from their original position over a period of time. The system is being modified to provide four garter springs in place of two in the Canadian reactors.

The Indian Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor units at Rajasthan and Madras also have two garter springs in each channel separating the coolant tubes from the Calandria tubes. Remote techniques have been devised indigenously to locate the precise position of the garter springs in the coolant channels and to move these garter springs back to the original position, if necessary. These techniques have been utilised recently in Unit 2 of Madras Atomic Power Station prior to commissioning to ensure that the garter springs are at the correct position. From Narora onwards, the design has been modified to provide four garter springs.

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no specific answer to my question. The Canadian heavy water reactor, in which they have found a flaw in Canada, has been replaced with certain modifications.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether similar reactors working

in Rajasthan and Madras do not have the same defects. Is the Government considering to modify the reactors as per the new Canadian specifications? If it is not so, I would like to know the reasons.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: We have not modified the reactors in Rajasthan and Madras simply because they have not provided any problems. Apart from that, we have indigenously devised a technology for detecting the actual position for the garter spring and also a technology to reposition it correctly if it has shifted from the original position. We do not expect any problems there.

As I said, as regards Narora, we have introduced four garter springs just as Canadians have done. But we have developed this on our own because we had no access to Canadian improvements in technology.

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: What about Madras and Rajasthan reactors?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: I have said that Madras and Rajasthan reactors are working on two garter spring system. They have produced no problem. If they produce any problem, we have developed the technology of repositioning the garter springs.

I would like to add that -- the hon. Member knows -- this spring goes around the coolant channel to keep it in the right position. Even if there is some slight shift, it is not likely to lead to any kind of serious damage. What is important is the correcting method. We have developed that. In all the future reactors we would have the improved design.

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: My second supplementary is: What is the total number of Canadian heavy water reactors operating in this country? Does the Indian Government propose to install the Canadian reactors at Kaiga which is under process in Karnataka?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: There are, at present, four reactors of the pressurised heavy water type operating in the country.

Narora is also on same type of design and technology. The future reactors are also primarily based on this, though, as the hon. Member knows, we are going into other types of breeder reactors.

There is also a likelihood of our getting the Soviet reactors which are of a different technology.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the atomic power plant which was installed in Rajasthan Kota in 1973-74 was expected that both its units could function regularly but No.1 unit has not been generating power since 1981 and its generation was expected to be 200 MW but it is less than one-fourth of its capacity? Similar is the case with heavy water reactors which is being planted at Kota. So, could we infer that the technology with regard to the atomic power plant which has been purchased from Canada had been found defective and not upto date? What step has the Government taken when it was found that the atomic power unit No.1 at Kota was with defective technology? Then, why did the Government enter into the contract to purchase the technology of heavy water reactors from Canada?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Rajasthan 1 reactor was a prototype reactor which was got introduced with the Canadian technology, when the Canadian technology itself was not fully developed and that is why we call it a prototype reactor. It has been working well but it showed one defect in the sense of leakage in the end-shield; this has been plugged by our technologists, we have to re-rate it into 100 MW capacity as a matter of caution so that there may not be any kind of danger. As I said, since then, we have developed the technology ourselves and that is the kind used in Rajasthan-2, Madras and Narora. Madras and Narora are based on this improved technology which not only meets our needs and avoids any sort of danger, but we consider them as some of the safest reactors in the world.

Liquid Propulsion Centre at Mahendragiri

*947. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to expand the Liquid Propulsion Centre at Mahendragiri; and

(b) whether Government propose to convert this centre into an independent unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) The Liquid Propulsion Test Facilities (LPTF) at Mahendragiri are a part of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and presently comes under the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of ISRO/Department of Space. At present the working LPTF is directed towards ongoing projects/programmes. The existing facilities at Mahendragiri will be augmented appropriately where necessary, to meet the future testing requirements in the context of development of advanced liquid propulsion systems.

(b) The question of converting the Test Facilities into an independent autonomous unit does not arise, since it is a major ISRO Facility mainly catering for the ground testing of Liquid Engine stages and subsystems developed for the Indian Space Programme. It thus forms a part of the facilities set up for supporting a well integrated Programme.

SHRI N. DENNIS: Mahendragiri, the southern part of the Western Ghats, 10 kms. from Kanyakumari, has been selected as a suitable place for the new activities of liquid propulsion technology, for space and missiles in our country. Mahendragiri has been given only a sub-centre status. It is

only a test site. This hampers the growth of new technology. For the growth and development of this technology, Mahendragiri should be made as an independent research centre with adequate personnel. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government could take early steps in this regard?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Sir, as I have already indicated in my answer, this facility at Mahendragiri is a part of the integrated system of liquid propulsion research and development and it cannot be separated from the rest of the research and development taking place in this system in other parts of the country. In other words, it is impossible to make it an independent set-up. It is part and parcel of an integrated system of liquid propulsion, part of which is at Vallimannar in Trivandrum and the other is in Bangalore. It is a closely integrated system. We can augment the facilities at Mahendragiri which will take place in due course of time, but Mahendragiri cannot be made into an independent establishment.

SHRI N. DENNIS: It is a place of strategic importance due to its proximity to the Indian Ocean and other regions. The nearby coast is an ideal place for the establishment of a rocket launching base. Moreover, though the centre is in operation for the last three years, no industries or workshops have merged in this locality. It is gathered that ISRO is keen to assist the development of industries that would support the ISRO programme. May I know whether the Government would take early steps for the implementation of this programme in this backward area?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: This area is certainly a strategic one and it was chosen as an ideal place for setting up this test facility after scouring the whole of India to find a suitable location for this. But as you know, there is a launching centre not far away in Thumba and I do not think there is a case for another launching centre at Mahendragiri.

As regards industries, ISRO is actually contracting out to private industries most

of the equipment and components, which go into the launchers and satellites. I am not sure whether there are any industries which could do such jobs near Mahendragiri. If there are, no doubt, they will come within the compass of attention of ISRO, but certainly I want to tell the hon. Member that we employ about 250 to 350 local people in this test facility and as the space programme is increasing at a rapid rate, even the test facility itself would give benefit to the people of the area.

Indo-German Cooperation in Neo-Technique

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*949. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:
SHRI H. N. NANJE COWDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-German bilateral cooperation project studying the neo-technique activity in the Indian Sub-continent has yielded valuable data useful in planning maj or geo-engineering projects like deep mines, dams and nuclear and thermal power plants;

(b) if so, whether the Study Report has been submitted to Government;

(c) if so, how many proposals have been accepted by Government; and

(d) to what extent it will help in improving the economic conditions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Scientific investigations using in-situ stress measurement have been carried out in underground mines of Kolar gold mines at a depth of 3 Km and in a number of bore holes in different parts of the country including Hyderabad, Malanjkhund (copper mine area), Singhbhum and in Karnataka upto depths of 150-350 metres. The pro-

jects have yielded useful scientific information. No engineering applications have been made at this stage.

(b) A Scientific Report on phase one of the project was submitted to CSIR in 1983.

(c) CSIR has accepted the scientific results of the report.

(d) Does not arise at this stage.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: In view of the great need to provide sufficient water, energy as also to prevent floods, on which every year Government have to spend crores of rupees from the exchequer, will the construction of dams, nuclear and thermal power plants be given preference as the Committee has already recommended.

If so, what are the dams and thermal power plants that would be constructed and built with the help of West Germany and to what extent the Germans have agreed to help technically and financially?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: As I said, this research experiment has not reached the stage of application. But we are developing the technology for tunnelling, finding out the stress of rocks in areas, etc. so that we will be able to determine whether the tunnelling has to take place and how mining has to be conducted, etc. And at this stage it is too early to say how with the help of this technology we can determine the locations of our major dams, mines and industry. We have not developed to that stage of technological development with the help of German equipments and technology that we have received.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Sir, how many surveys have been conducted by the German Finance Company and Indo-German Chamber of Commerce involving 130 ventures during 1985-86 as they have shown import substitution yielding about 88.89 Crores net inflow of foreign exchange. In view of this, have any projects been finalised or studied? What is the Government's stand; whether there is a report or survey, something should be told. In that sense may I know from the Government

what steps have been taken for these projects; or whether there are no projects at all?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Based on this technology, there are some projects in the sense that the Kashmir Government for example has asked NGRI to conduct a survey in order to enable them to dig tunnels etc. This is a kind of preparatory thing. But I am afraid that based on this technology itself, it is much too premature to say that they are going to establish an industry, etc.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: At least, whether they have submitted the report, that could be told.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: I have already said that we have concluded the first phase of the experiment which is to find out the stress in rocks and we have already reached some conclusions with regard to tectonic movement of rocks. But, as I said, this is enough to get indications for such operations of tunnelling and for mining etc. but at this stage we cannot say that we can undertake projects, etc. based on this technology.

Exploration of Sea Wealth

*951. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any special steps recently to explore minerals from the ocean;

(b) if so, the work done so far by the Indian Marine Scientists;

(c) whether Government have come across interference from any foreign countries in this exploration work;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the new technology being introduced for the exploration of sea wealth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT,

ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN):(a) to (e). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Department of Ocean Development has been deploying two oceanographic vessels GAVESHANI and SAGAR KANYA to explore minerals of the economic zone and the deep seabed. In addition, several vessels have been chartered from time to time for this purpose. As a result of the work done by the Indian marine scientists, a mine site has been allotted to India by the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority in the Central Indian Ocean basin for the exploration of minerals in the deep seabed.

Within the Exclusive Economic Zone, the marine scientists of the Geological Survey of India and National Institute of Oceanography have intensified survey and exploration activities for locating areas rich in placer deposits like ilmenite, rutile, zircon, monazite, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

(e) For survey and exploration work, the Department of Ocean Development has been upgrading the required technology from time to time by obtaining most modern ship-board equipment and by promoting the installation of new shore based facilities.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Sir, today there are a lot of questions for Narayanan ji, but I hope he will answer in detail to my question which is very important as far as the mineral wealth is concerned. Sir, it is a common knowledge that the mineral wealth, whatever is existing on the earth surface in Indian sub-continent, is going to be exhausted in the near future. So, we have to explore for the wealth which is lying at the bottom of the sea. There was a scheme to purchase about three research vessels from European countries for conducting research at the bottom of the sea

regarding the availability of minerals like Copper and Molybdenum and other minerals so also the research about the flora and fauna. Here in the statement, it has been mentioned that two vessels are being employed. I want to know whether the third vessel is purchased or not and if it is not purchased, whether there are plans to purchase it.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: We are planning to purchase the third vessel.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If these are the details, then what would be the short reply?

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have got a large sea coast, not only on the Indian main land but also we have got Islands like Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep. Near these Islands we can have exploration.

We congratulate our Scientists for their expedition to Antarctica. But nothing much, as was expected had come out of this research. For the last so many years, we are undertaking this expedition. I would like to know from you what is the outcome, what are the details of that and what are the findings other than from the Scientists?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Sir, the Antarctica research has led to...

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: I am asking you about the research done on the sea bottom.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: The research we have been conducting in the Oceans have resulted in many concrete benefits. One of the major benefits has been that India has been proved as a pioneer investor in the Indian Ocean for the exploration of the mineral wealth. We have been assigned 1,50,000 sq. kms. as our own for exploration purposes.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: That is very less. According to the international standards, we have to have more command on sea. Upto 250 nautical miles, we have to go.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: In the Exclusive Economic Zone also, we have conducted research. For example we have conducted surveys for the fishing wealth of the Oceans. We have conducted surveys for finding mineral deposits nearer our own shore. Vast quantities of Ilmenite, Zirconium and other minerals have been detected as existing. We have also picked up nodules which are being analysed from the point of view of extraction purposes in our laboratories.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any rough estimate has been made about the availability of different metals that we hope to get from the polymetallic nodules from under the Sea that has been allotted to us as a pioneer investor!

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: How much exactly there is, to be got from these mid-Oceans, we have not assessed yet. But all that we have so far succeeded is to pick up samples -- I think about 40 tonnes -- which are being analysed in our laboratories for extraction purposes. But we know that we have through surveys detected large areas where there are concentration of nodules, mineral wealth, but the technology of mining itself has not been fully developed in the world as a whole. We are developing it. The technology of mining for commercial purposes has not yet been fully developed, though it has been developed at the laboratory stage. All that I would like to say is that there are very considerable resources hidden under the sea and they can be recovered. They can be processed and used for economic development.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, was any offer made by the Government of Japan for exploiting the sea wealth of India or is there any proposal to have collaboration with Japan for the purpose of exploiting our sea wealth? Was any offer made in the past by the Government of Japan -- there were some Press Reports that Japan had offered some billions of money -- for exploiting the sea wealth of India? Is there any truth in that report; or

is there any scope for collaboration with Japan for exploiting our sea wealth?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: There is certainly scope for collaboration with Japan. As far as concrete offers are concerned, I think there are offers for projects concerning fisheries; but concerning the extraction of mineral wealth, I am not aware of any offer from Japan.

Fake Arms Licence Racket

*952. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-
SEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Crime Branch has recently unearthed a racket in forged arms licences operating in several parts of the country as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated 8 April, 1988;

(b) if so, the number of arrests made in this regard;

(c) the details of the illegal arms and ammunitions recovered from the arrested persons; and

(d) further action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three.

(c) No illegal arms/ammunitions have been recovered. However, fake arms licences and fake rubber stamps of District authorities have been seized.

(d) A case under various sections of IPC and other special laws has been registered.

Sir, with your permission, I would like to add this. After this answer was fur-

nished, we have recovered five arms from two other persons, not from the three arrested persons.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: I would like to know from the hon. Minister that as a result of enquiry conducted by the police regarding the forged arms licenses, how many forged arms licenses have been found to be issued and weapons purchased on the basis of these licenses and also the number of such weapons recovered by the police so far?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: During the raid on one of the accused's houses, we have recovered 18 such licences. Seventeen licences had the stamp of District Magistrate, Ferozepur on them, and one licence had the stamp of District Magistrate, Gurdaspur. We did not recover any arms from the places raided on that day, or from any of the three arrested persons. As I had added to the answer, with the permission of the Chair, we have recovered five arms from two other persons whose identity was established during the investigations.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is really a matter of concern under the present circumstance since it has been reported in a newspaper that the police has recovered a file which contains recommendatory letters from VIPs. I want to know from the hon. Minister the names of those VIPs whose recommendatory letters have been found in the file on the basis of which these people could procure weapons from Phillaur police armoury. I want the hon. Minister to clarify the position as it is a matter of concern to all of us.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I can hardly comment on the newspaper reports. I am not saying everything there is wrong, but the correct position is that we recovered

18 fake licences; we recovered round and oblong rubber stamps. We have arrested three persons. The persons who were arrested have admitted to the issue of 35 licences. We have established the identity of two more persons. They have been arrested. Five arms have been recovered. The matter is under investigation, and I am sure the investigation will throw up further information.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection. There is no satisfactory reply to my question. My question is whether the police have recovered a file which contains recommendatory letters from VIPs. You should ask the Minister to give a categorical reply because it is a matter of concern to all. How can he ignore such an important question. The question should be categorically replied here in the House. I want your protection in this regard. I have asked a specific question whether any such file was recovered which contained recommendatory letters from V.I.Ps. I want to know the names of those V.I.Ps whose recommendatory letters have enabled people to procure arms from Phillaur Armoury. How far this news item is correct?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: One letter purported to be a letter issued to the Phillaur armoury was seized, and that letter appears to be a forged letter.
(Interruptions)

Indo-Soviet Meeting for Implementing the Joint Programmes

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*953. SHRIMATI BASAVA-
RAJESWARI:
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first meeting of the Indo-Soviet for the implementation of the integrated programme of cooperation in science and technology has been held;

(b) if so, whether this meeting took place after signing of agreement between the two countries;

(c) if so, what are the Soviet projects that will be undertaken; and

(d) by what time the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) To (d). A Statement is given below:

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

An Integrated Long term Programme (ILTP) of Cooperation in Science and Technology between Indian and USSR was signed in Moscow on July 3, 1987. The first meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Council for the implementation of the ILTP was held in New Delhi on March 30-31, 1988.

(c) A number of projects have been jointly identified for bilateral cooperation in the areas of:

- Biotechnology and immunology
- Materials Science and Technology
- Laser Science and Technology
- Catalysis
- Space Science and Technology
- Synchrotron Radiation Sources
- Water Prospecting
- Computers and Electronics
- Mathematics
- Theoretical and Applied Mechanics
- Earth Sciences
- Radiophysics and Astrophysics
- Ecology and Environment
- Chemical Sciences
- Biology

(d) It is a long term programme of co-operation upto the year 2000. Under this programme projects will be identified from time to time and the progress reviewed pe-

riodically. The programmes are of a continuing nature.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: The hon. Minister has been pleased to state that an integrated long-term programme of cooperation in science and technology between India and USSR was signed in Moscow on July 3, 1987, and that a number of projects have been jointly identified.

Will the hon. Minister be pleased to say whether a plant to manufacture oral polio vaccine is going to be set up in India; if so, when it is going to be set up and what will be its total capacity? From which countries are we getting vaccines as on today?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Under the Indo-Soviet Scientific Cooperation Programme, there is a plan to set up an oral polio vaccine manufacturing plant. This plant most probably will be located in U.P. in the Bulandshahr District. Already we have chosen a site for it. The capacity would be 100 million doses of polio vaccine. This collaboration is well on foot. I cannot say by which date the factory would be set up, but within a few years it would be completed and it would be providing oral polio vaccines to the people. As the hon. member probably knows, we are importing oral vaccines at present from the Soviet Union and killed vaccine from France and other countries.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Is there any proposal to set up or develop water prospecting technique to take water upto the depth of 100 metres? Is there also another proposal before the Government to send our scientists to USSR and Libya on reciprocal basis and also to have some training programme to take up identified joint sector ventures?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: There is a proposal for getting from the Soviet Union a new equipment for the prospecting of water called Hydro scope. We have tried this equipment in several parts of India, over 20 sites, and we have found that it is very effective in detecting the presence of water without boring actually wells. We

propose to have a joint collaboration in water prospecting between the Soviet Union and India. I think it is one of the most important effective instruments invented so far which would be very useful in the solution of our water problem. As regards the visits of scientists between India and the Soviet Union, it is one of the integral parts of the cooperation. This is an agreement covering in every field of collaboration. Indian scientists would be visiting the Soviet Union and Soviet scientists would be visiting India. Not only that, they would be spending short time or even long term period for joint research projects.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Is there any in built mechanism or provision in this agreement, which is a long term agreement of cooperation in science and technology with USSR? Is there also any in built arrangement in this that when we start a project, during this period or after that, if the latest technology is developed in USSR, have you made any arrangement to transfer it or get it transferred to you? Then also if there is some correction to be done in our project, have they assured us that they will make all the spare parts available to us? Is there also any proposal regarding agriculture and allied sciences?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: This agreement visualises not only the transfer of existing technology but also the technology which would be developed in the future. As a matter of fact, Indian and Soviet scientists would be jointly developing some of these technologies for the future; while in the process of development itself, the Indian scientists would be imbibing the technology that is transfer of technology would be constantly taking place in the process of implementation of these technologies. As regards spare parts, I think this is not an agreement which involved spare parts so much as developing technologies together not only spare parts, basic technology itself would be jointly developed and shared. If we need spare parts, there is provision for getting them from the Soviet Union.

As regards the agricultural part, there are very important bio-technological aspects, bio-technological projects, involving

tissue culture and other agricultural projects.

Survey for Uranium deposits

*957 SHRI D. N. REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an experimental aerial survey for uranium deposits has been conducted in Rayalaseema district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of promising uranium anomalies have been identified in parts of Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh. Ground checking and evaluation of these anomalies are in progress.

SHRI D.N. REDDY: May I know from the hon. Minister whether only aerial survey has been done or any more tests for any other minerals have been examined and if so what are the results?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: Not only aerial surveys were done but they have been supplemented by ground tests, in order to establish what they call ground tests, that is whether actually the minerals do exist in the areas which have been covered by the aerial surveys. The results are, that in Kurnool district it has been assessed that there is an area of around 13640 sq. km. where there are minerals and in Cuddapah and also in Anantapur districts some reserves have been indicated.

SHRI D.N. REDDY: Has any survey been done in Veeraboyinapalli of Nalgonda district, and if so what are the results? I am asking about uranium.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: That district is not in the list, unfortunately.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: That has already been surveyed. Nalgonda has also been surveyed. You mentioned earlier.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: What is the total quantum of mineral reserved found in this area and what is the geological formation of uranium if it is found there. I want to know categorically from the Minister, what is the percentage of uranium content in that particular strategic area and the content.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: I am afraid, at this stage, it is not possible to decide what percentage of uranium will be there but our surveys have shown that great deposits exist. It is only after we start exploiting we will be able to say what percentage of uranium will be present. But it has been established that there are fairly rich deposits of uranium in Andhra Pradesh in Rayalaseema districts and also in other places like Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: May I know about the strategic area and the geological formation.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN: I am afraid, I am not able to give that specific information.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati D.K. Bhandari. Absent.

Question Hour is virtually over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Quality of TV Programmes

*919. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently there have been reports of a decline in the quality of serials and other programmes on Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to bring about improvements in TV programmes?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Doordarshan puts out programmes on a variety of subjects and themes to cater to various categories of viewers. Viewers' reactions to these programmes, by and large, are favourable.

Improvement in the quality of Doordarshan programmes is a continuous process. Efforts are always made for better planning, production and presentation.

Coastal Sites for Setting up Thermal Power Projects

*920. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has finalised a plan for exploring various coastal sites for feasibility of setting up thermal power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal;

(c) the sites selected for this purpose;

(d) the funds allocated for the same by Government; and

(e) the capacity of power generation of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (e). The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) are working in close coordination with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) who have commissioned a study, through M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Limited (RITES), on the least cost solution in regard to transportation of coal to various sites for

coastal thermal stations. Specific proposals could be formulated in the light of the findings of the study and keeping in view the availability of necessary inputs.

STD Facility to Tribal Areas of Andhra Pradesh

*921. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether requests have been made for granting STD facility to some towns located in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of such pending requests; and

(c) when these requests will be acceded to?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A request has been received for provision of STD facility at Polavaram in West Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh.

Polavaram is a very small exchange. In view of limitation of resources, Polavaram has not been included in the Seventh Plan for providing STD facility.

Cadre Review of Junior Engineers in Civil Wing of Telecommunications Department

*922. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cadre review has been conducted in respect of the Junior Engineers of the Civil Wing of the Department of Telecommunications as per the recommendations of the Third and Fourth Pay Commissions;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow up steps taken or proposed to be taken in that regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not conducting the cadre review as yet?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). There is no stagnation in the cadre of Junior Engineers of the Civil Wing. The promotional prospects of the Junior Engineers in Civil Wing of Telecom Department are for the time being better than those of Junior Engineers in the Ministry of Urban Development. In fact, vacancies have been available which could not be filled up due to resistance of the Junior Engineers to appearing at prescribed departmental qualifying examination for promotion as Assistant Engineer. This issue has now been settled through the verdicts of Calcutta and Madras benches of Central Administrative Tribunal in the year 1987. The process for holding meeting of DPCs for promotion to the grade of Assistant Engineers has been initiated. With this the Junior Engineers with about 12 years of service as Junior Engineer (Electrical) and about 14 years of service as Junior Engineer (Civil) can expect to be promoted.

Criteria for Financing Rural Electrification Schemes

*923. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present criteria of financing the rural electrification schemes by the Rural Electrification Corporation; and

(b) the details of the target fixed by Rural Electrification Corporation for energising pumpsets in States during the Seventh Plan period and the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) In order to be eligible for financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), rural electrification projects are required to achieve the minimum Economic Rate of Return (ERR) prescribed for different categories of projects.

However, no specific ERR has been prescribed in the case of loans for Rural Electric Cooperative Projects, electrification projects of Harijan Bastis and Special Loans for improving the quality of rural power supply.

(b) A target of energisation of 22,25,885 pumpsets has been envisaged in the Seventh Plan under the rural electrification projects financed by the REC. The total number of pumpsets energised during the first three years of the Plan is 13,43,754.

Handling of LPG by Haldia Port in Eastern Region

*924. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to allow the Haldia Port to handle bulk LPG to remove its shortage in the eastern region;

(b) if so, since when the proposal is under consideration;

(c) the main reasons for not clearing the proposal; and

(d) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (d). The Indian Oil Corporation has plans to set up LPG import handling facilities at Haldia Port to meet the overall shortfall in LPG availability. The cost of the Project being within the sanctioning authority of IOC, it was approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation in August, 1987.

Shortage of LPG

*925. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of LPG for domestic users; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken to maintain its supply to consumers without difficulty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) A backlog in supply of LPG refills had temporarily developed in the last few months in several markets in the country, on account of shortfall in the bulk availability of LPG, apart from movement, industrial relations and other operational constraints;

(b) With the steps already taken, the supply situation has since considerably improved. Also, efforts are being made to maximise indigenous LPG production and also augment supplies through imports to the extent feasible. The situation is being closely monitored by the oil industry with a view to ensuring regular LPG supplies to the consumers.

Manufacture of Potable Alcohol Based on Non-Molasses Raw Material

*926. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to allow creation of additional capacity for the manufacture of potable alcohol based on non-molasses raw material; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objective in view?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Final decision has also been taken and announced.

(b) Considering the shortage of alcohol in the last few years, Government has decided to relax the ban, imposed in 1975, on manufacture of alcoholic drinks, if raw materials other than molasses are used. List of agricultural raw-materials which can be used, has been specified and guidelines for licensing procedure have been issued through a Press Note, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6263/88]

Cess on Salt Production

*927. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration a proposal for scrapping the Central Cess on Production of salt, particularly in the light of the Dandi March undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930 and its recent re-enactment on 12 March, 1988; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for which Government still continue to levy Central Cess on production of salt?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Government is not considering any proposal for abolishing the Central Cess on salt. Cooperative Societies and Private Manufacturers whose individual holdings are less than 10 acres are exempted from payment of cess. Similarly salt exported to foreign countries is also not liable to cess. In other words, cess is levied only on salt manufactured in areas exceeding 10 acres. Nearly 93% of cess is collected from large manufacturers operating in areas exceeding 100 acres.

2. The proceeds of salt cess, reduced by cost of collection, are utilised on meeting the expenditure incurred in connection with the Salt Organisation, development of Salt Industry, welfare of labour, etc.

[*Translation*]

Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited

*928. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI RAM DHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited which manufactures LPG cylinders, is running in loss;

(b) if so, the position in this regard for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Company is working to its full production capacity;

(d) if not, its production capacity and the capacity actually utilised during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) the reasons for not utilising the full capacity; and

(f) the total production capacity proposed to be utilised in the coming year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) to (f). This company has several Divisions such as Barrels & Drums Units, Greases Division, Marine Freight Containers Divisions, Leather Chemicals Units, LPG Cylinder Units, etc. While all the other Divisions have been running practically at full production capacity, the LPG Cylinder Units have not been operating at full capacity for want of adequate demand for LPG cylinders. It is expected that the capacity utilisation of the LPG Cylinder Units of the Company would improve in the coming year.

[*English*]

NRIs Based Consultancy Authority

*929. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally decided to set up a Non Resident Indian based consultancy authority with equity holding by the core public sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). The Government have approved the formation of a Joint Venture Company of six selected public sector enterprises and NRI Company, with equity participation of 51% by the NRI Company. The Joint Venture

Company is to provide modern management and technological services to the Indian public sector enterprises. The consultancy jobs to the JVC would be given against its technological and cost competitiveness without any price preference.

Telephone Advisory Committee for Bombay Telephones

*930. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many members were on the Telephone Advisory Committee of Bombay Telephones prior to Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. came into existence; and

(b) how many members who were appointed on this Telephone Advisory Committee after MTNL came into existence after June 1986 and how many members have not accepted their nomination of this Committee and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited came into being from 1st April, 1986. Its jurisdiction comprises of the telephone systems of Delhi and Bombay.

Bombay Telephone Advisory Committee which was constituted on 9.10.1984 for two years upto 31.10.86 continued to function even after formation of the Nigam. This Committee had 35 members as on 31.10.86. No Members were nominated on this Committee after June, 1986. None of the members nominated on this Committee refused the membership.

On the expiry of this Committee on 31.10.1986, new Telephone Advisory Committee for Bombay has been constituted on 26.02.1987 for a period of two years upto 28.02.1989.

One of the members nominated on this Committee did not accept the nomination without assigning any reason. One more member resigned after ten months because of his transfer out of Bombay.

There are 53 members on this Committee at present.

Licences for Slitting and Confectioning of Photographic Materials

*931. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some units have applied for Carry on Business (COB) licences for slitting and confectioning of photographic materials;

(b) if so, how many units have applied for the same and for what products and how much capacity;

(c) whether these units are part of big Industrial/Business Houses or their subsidiaries; and

(d) what is the status of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 15 applications were received for COB licences for slitting/confectioning of photo-sensitized goods like Photographic Colour Paper, Graphic Art Film, Cinematographic colour film (unexposed), X-ray films, roll films, etc. The monthly capacity indicated varies from unit to unit and product to product.

(c) Three units are registered with DGTD and 12 are small-scale units registered with State Directorates of Industries.

(d) The three units registered with DGTD have been granted COB licences. No final view has been taken in respect of other applications.

Petrol Consumption

*932. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how do Government propose to keep under check the consumption of

petrol in view of the increasing and multiplying number of vehicles;

(b) whether the matter has been taken up or is proposed to be taken up with the Ministry of Industry for a coordinated approach for realising the national goals;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) the actual consumption of petrol during 1987-88 and expected for 1988-89 together with its value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (c). Besides fiscal measures, other measures taken in coordination with the Ministry of Industry to conserve the consumption of petrol include upgradation of technology to manufacture fuel efficient vehicles, revision of fuel efficiency norms and creating public awareness for petroleum conservation.

These measures have helped in containing the growth in the consumption of petrol inspite of rapid increase in the vehicular population.

(d) The consumption/demand of petrol during 1987-88 and 1988-89 together with its value is estimated as under:

Year	Consumption/ Demand (million tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1987-88	2.80	3103
1988-89	3.11	3445

[Translation]

Memorandum from AISNEC

*933. SHRI RAM KUMAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1987, the Delhi Unit of All India Small Newspaper Editors Conference submitted a memorandum to his Ministry about their problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

New Central Investment Subsidy Scheme

*934. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme for industrially backward districts extended upto 31 March, 1988 is proposed to be replaced by a new scheme to help growth of industries in backward districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when the new scheme is likely to be announced and implemented; and

(d) what will be the fate of small scale industries which have planned their finance according to the old subsidy scheme and are presently in the installation stage?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d). In consonance with Government's policy of generating more employment throughout the country, it is proposed to announce a package of measures for encouraging industrialisation of backward areas. All relevant issues will be taken into account while finalising the revised scheme. Meanwhile, the existing Central Investment Subsidy Scheme for backward areas has been extended upto 30th September, 1988.

Power Schemes in West Bengal

*935. SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any power schemes have been sanctioned in West Bengal during the last two years upto date; and

(b) if so, the location of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). During the last two years (1986-87 & 1987-88) Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station (3x210 MW) in Birbhum district has been cleared by the Planning Commission, 'in principle', for implementation.

Recognition to Newspapers, Weeklies, Etc.

*936. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(c):-

(a) how many cases of recognition to small newspapers, magazines, weeklies, etc. for release of Government advertisements are pending in the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity and since when;

(b) the steps taken to expedite the grant of recognition; and

(c) the break up of amount of advertisements during the last one year into advertisements released to big, medium and small newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) During the period from 1.1.87 till 28.4.88, 787 requests for empanelment were received. Of these 116 were found to be incomplete and the applicants have been asked to give the requisite information. 142 are pending in various stages of processing.

(b) Steps are being taken to streamline the procedure for rate fixation, etc.

Category	Break up of the amount of advertisements during the year 1987-88 (April -- December, 1987)
Small	Rs. 87,95,435.00
Medium	Rs. 1,65,17,461.00
Big	Rs. 3,72,18,292.00

[Translation]

Setting up of Cement Industry in Madhya Pradesh

*937. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to find out the quantity of stone for

manufacturing Cement available in Morena district in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to set up a cement factory there; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). A statement is given below:

STATEMENT

(a) According to a publication of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, the reserves of cement grade limestone occurring in Morena District of Madhya Pradesh are as under:

Measured reserves:	8.82 Million tonnes
Inferred reserves:	280.55 Million tonnes

(b) and (c). There is no proposal pending before the Government for establishing a new cement unit in Morena district.

Project Report Target	Annual Plan Target	(Figures in Nos./Vehicles)
		Actual Production
80,000	1,00,000	92,750

(b) and (c). Maruti Udyog Ltd. are making continuous efforts to further strengthen their marketing by undertaking regular market surveys to ascertain demand and market position of Maruti vehicles and to take appropriate measures for product development and improvement, expansion of distribution channels and greater customer's satisfaction based on such market surveys.

Guidelines for Holding Meetings of DPC

*941. SHRI M. R. SAIKIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines prescribed for holding meetings of Departmental Promotion Committees in Central Government Departments;

(b) whether a candidate fulfilling the conditions for promotion to a higher post can be deprived of promotion due to

*[English]***Production in Maruti Udyog Limited**

*938. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the target and actual production of the Maruti Udyog Limited during 1987-88;

(b) whether the Maruti Udyog Limited has any proposals for further modernisation to improve and upgrade its marketing; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) the target and actual production of Maruti Udyog Ltd. during 1987-88 was as follows:--

(Figures in Nos./Vehicles)

Project Report Target	Annual Plan Target	(Figures in Nos./Vehicles)
		Actual Production
80,000	1,00,000	92,750

non-holding of the Departmental Promotion Committee Meeting; and

(c) if not, what are the instructions issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to the existing guidelines, Departmental Promotion Committees should be convened at regular annual intervals to draw panels for promotions for vacancies occurring during the course of a year. Ministries/Departments have also been advised to consider prescription of time schedules for the DPCs under their control.

(b) and (c). Promotions to higher posts are made only after the panels drawn up by the Departmental Promotion Committees

are approved by the appointing authorities. As non-holding of the DPC in time can delay promotions, the existing instructions in the matter lay adequate emphasis on the timely holding of the DPC.

'Crimes Against Women' Cell

*943. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of complaints received per day by the 'Crimes against Women Cell' of Delhi police; and

(b) the number of cases which are presently under investigation by the cell and since when these are pending?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): (a) 10 to 15 complaints are received daily by the Cell.

(b) 33 cases are presently under investigation. Four of them are pending for over six months, two over three months and 17 below three months. Challans have been filed in the remaining cases.

Research Projects funded by the Planning Commission

*945. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of research projects funded by the Planning Commission during the year 1987-88; and

(b) the names of the organisations under whose supervision these projects have been sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b). The information is given below in the Statement-I and II.

STATEMENT I

I. Research Projects funded by Planning Commission during 1987-88 under the scheme of Grants-in-aid to Universities/Research Institutions

Sl. No.	Research Project	Institute/University
1	2	3
1.	Extent, Forms and Linkages of Common Property Land in Kosi Embankment Area in North Bihar.	Deptt. of Geography, University of Delhi, Delhi.
2.	Economic Evaluation of the Role of Women in Dairy Development in Rajasthan.	Vikram Research and Development Centre, Jaipur.
3.	Tax Rates and Revenue: A Qualitative Study.	Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Research, Dharwad.
4.	Estimation of Feed, Seed and Wastage Rates in Foodgrains.	Techno-Economic Research Institute, New Delhi.
5.	Factors of Low Productivity of Crops and Livestock in Rajasthan.	Centre for Agricultural & Rural Development Studies, New Delhi.

1	2	3
6.	Developing a Functional Model of Child Welfare Programme.	Institute of Social Studies Trust, New Delhi.
7.	Prospects for Improvement in Production and Productivity of Pulse in India with particular reference to U.P.	Institute of Applied Statistics and Development Studies, Lucknow.
8.	Evaluation of Studies relating to energy, Forestry, Health and Environment in Eastern India.	Centre for Regional, Ecological and Science Studies in Development Alternatives, Calcutta.
9.	Evaluation of Anti-poverty programmes in Eastern India	Centre for Regional, Ecological and Science Studies in Development Alternatives, Calcutta.
10.	Role of Women in Tribal Cooperatives as an Income Generating Effort in Gujarat (Distt. Valsad) and Maharashtra (Distt. Jalgaon).	Jigyansu Tribal Research Centre, Delhi
11.	Regional Model of Agriculture	Indian Statistical Institute Calcutta.
12.	Study to evolve Suitable Participative and Environment Revival Programmes in U.P. Ganga Catchment.	National Centre for Human Settlement and Environment, New Delhi.
13.	An Economic Survey of Lathyrus Cultivation and its probable Substitutes in M.P.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa-vidyalaya, Jabalpur.
14.	Management of Irrigation and its Effects on Productivity under Different Environment and Technical Conditions.	Madras Institute of Development Studies, Madras.
15.	A Study of Regional Imbalance in Vocational Education and Manpower Planning in Maharashtra.	Swami Ramanand Teerth Research Institute, Aurangabad.
16.	Water Management Problems in Kerala - A case Study of Periyar Valley Irrigation Project.	Indian Institute of Regional Development Studies, Kottayam.

1	2	3
17.	Monetary & Fiscal Policies in Planning Model	Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi.
18.	Development Strategies for Less Developed Regions - Studies in Western U.P. and Bundelkhand Districts of U.P. and M.P.	Govind Ballabh Pant Social Sciences Institute, Allahabad
19.	Study of Handicrafts and Tribal Crafts of Orissa with Special reference to their marketing.	National Institute of Social Social Work and Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar.
20.	Technological Changes in Traditional Village Industry: A case study of Coir Industry in Kerala.	Centre for Tropical Studies, Trivandrum
21.	Irrigation Projects and their Utilisation in West Bengal.	Centre for Studies in Economic Appraisal, Calcutta.
22.	Economic Impact Modern Industries in the Hill Areas of U. P.	Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad
23.	Study of Mass Media as Input into the Plan Implementation	Mass Communication Research Centre, New Delhi
24.	Problem & Prospects of Soyabean production, Marketing and Processing in M. P.	Institute of Development Studies, Bhopal
25.	Alleviation of Urban Poverty	National Centre of Human Settlements, Bhopal
26.	Evaluation of 'Wool Development Programmes in relation to Sheep Breeding, Wool Production and Supply.	Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
27.	Development and Alternative Planning Strategies for India Livestock Resources	Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
28.	Evaluation of Low Cost Sanitation Scheme	Council for Social Development, New Delhi

1	2	3
29.	Fertiliser Response for Field Crops in Different Agro Climatic Regions	Centre for Agricultural And Rural Development Studies, Delhi
30.	Productivity Improvement Study for Groundnut in Gujarat	National Productivity Council, New Delhi
31.	Productivity Improvement Studies on Research Mustard and Soyabean in U.P., M.P. & Rajasthan	National Productivity Council, New Delhi
32.	Rural Development Planning for Participatory Development Process	Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
33.	Study of the Adverse Effects of Development Works With Spl. Reference to Rail and Road Embankment	National Instt. of Social Work & Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar

In addition, block grants are being given to four institutions viz.

- i) Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
- ii) Department of Economics, University of Bombay
- iii) Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics, Pune and
- iv) National Institute of Public Finance & Policy, New Delhi

for studies relating to planning and development on a continuing basis.

STATEMENT - II

II. Studies funded by the Planning Commission under the Scheme "Payments for Professional & Special Services" and "Special Central Assistance for Border Area Development".

Sl. No.	Name of the Study	Name of the University/Institutions
1	2	3
1.	Adaptability of flexible manufacturing system in Indian Industry.	National Industrial Development Corporation, New Delhi.

1	2	3
2.	Study on the Financial Performance of the State Level Public Sector Enterprises.	Osmania University
3.	Status of Records of Rights in Land.	Gokhale Instt. of Politics and Economics, Pune.
4.	Implementation of 6th Plan in Bihar.	Centre for Policy Research.
5.	Abolition of Octroi.	National Instt. of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi.
6.	Status Paper on Income and Wealth Distribution in the country.	Uma Roy choudhary (Consultant)
7.	Status of Land Reforms in the Country	Govind Vallabh Pant Instt.
8.	Energy Planning Model for Rural India	IIT, New Delhi
9.	Special Aspects on Cooperation in the Field of Trade & Technology	Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi
10.	Setting up of an Information Centre for Development of Consumer Industry	N.C.A.E.R., New Delhi
11.	Total Transport System Study Model Costs, Traffic Flows & Transport Demand Forecasts	RITES, New Delhi (Share of Planning Commission) (50:50)
12.	Task of Guarding against environmental degradation due to constructions maintenance & operation of transport infrastructure	Dr. Jagjit Singh, New Friends Colony, Mathura Road, New Delhi
13.	Evaluation of mobility levels in certain urban cities	C.E.R.I., New Delhi

1	2	3
14.	Study of the development of economy of Kerala	Institute of Financial Management & Research, Madras.
15.	Study on "Rental Housing in Urban Areas"	National Institute of Urban Affairs
16.	Study of Some aspects of water resources development in India	I.I.T. Delhi
17.	District-wise study of Agriculture	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development
18.	8th Plan Studies (i) Analysis of market shares (ii) Study of Export Performance at the Firm Level	National Council of Applied Economic Research (N.C.A.E.R.) New Delhi
19.	Study on Textile Industry	Policy Group, W-17, Greater Kailash, New Delhi
20.	Industrial Restructuring in Kanpur	Giri Instt. of Development Studies, Lucknow
21.	Study Group on Fuel & Fodder	Indian Instt. of Sciences, Bangalore.
22.	The proposed National Urban Infrastructure Financial Corpn.	Prof. Abhijit Datta, I.I.P.A.
23.	Housing Finance System for Urban Poor	Institute of Public Finance & Policy, New Delhi
24.	Study on "Delivery & Financing of Urban Services"	Operation Research Group
25.	Study on "Investor Profile - A Survey	Corporate Investment Research and Consultancy Bureau
26.	Documentation, analysis & reporting of the Hardoi Pilot Project on the reclamation of Usar land in U.P.	Society for Promotion of Wasteland Development, New Delhi

1	2	3
27.	Rehabilitation of displaced tribals in the Upper Indravati & Rengali Multipurpose projects of Orissa	Operation Research Group, Bhubaneswar
28.	Study on "Delinking of University Degrees from Government jobs."	I.I.P.A., I.P. Estate, New Delhi.
29.	Identifying Desirable Improvement in Data Base Parameters of the Consumption Sub-model as part of the 8th Five Year Plan (Estimation of IES Parameters)	Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Nizamia Observatory Campus, Begumpet, Hyderabad.
30.	Energy Options for Rural Development - An Analysis	Faculty of Extension and Transfer of Technology, NIRD, Hyderabad.
31.	Main Thrust on Increasing Irrigation Utilisation under revised 20-Point Programme.	Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow.
32.	Research Study for Border Area Development	Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh.

Use of Hindi in Defence Training Institutes

*946. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRI R. M. BHOYE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of defence training institutes, schools and other institutions in which medium of instruction is Hindi and of those where medium of instruction is English, separately; and

(b) the arrangements made by Government to enrich the Hindi literature with books on Defence and original works in Hindi on defence?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Out of 131 training schools/institutes, the medium of training in 40 is Hindi, in 61 both Hindi and English are used, whereas the medium in the remaining 30 institutes is English.

(b) An incentive scheme has been introduced by the Ministry of Defence since 1981 under which books on Defence subjects written in Hindi or translation in Hindi of books on Defence subjects are awarded prizes. 17 books have so far been awarded prizes.

Architectural Design for Ezhimala Naval Academy

*948. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the architectural design of Ezhimala Naval Academy in Kerala has been approved;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the aspect on which main emphasis has been given in the architectural design?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c). An all India competition is in progress to select the architectural design for the Naval Academy being established at Ezhimala, in Kerala. This is likely to be finalised by mid-November, 1988. Government have constituted a Jury, consisting of architects and engineers, under the chairmanship of the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, for conducting the competition and furnishing its recommendations to Government after considering all the relevant aspects.

Piracy in the Computer Industry

*954. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the software package piracy in the computer industry in the country besides individual smuggling going on without any check;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any assessment has been made about its impact on the development of software in the country, and the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c). Government is concerned over the issue of the piracy of the computer software.

The following measures have been taken to protect the software:

(1) Software is protected under

Copyright Act 1957 as amended by Copyright (amendment) Act, 1984.

(2) Computer Software in any media (excluding Software in floppy diskette with average c.i.f price of Rs.50 or less per diskette) is permitted for import under Open General Licence for the following Categories:

(i) Actual users including Government Departments and computer manufacturers;

(ii) Software Houses registered with the Department of Electronics for the purposes of stock and sale; and

(iii) Department of Electronics for stock and sale.

(3) "Software India" newsletter a publication of Department of Electronics is regularly giving the details of the registered software units authorised for Stock & Sale of software.

(4) Major Government users have been advised to advertise tenders separately for computer hardware and software packages.

(5) R & D project proposals in the area of computer software have been invited from industry as an import substitution activity.

Rural Water Supply Plan of SAARC

*955. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether discussions were held recently among the countries of SAARC to pool their expertise and resources to tackle the problem of providing safe drinking water in rural areas of these countries which are not so far having that provision;

(b) if so, the outcome of those discus-

sions and the details of the joint action plan, if any, drawn up in this regard; and

(c) the role to be played by India under that plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) A SAARC Seminar-cum-Workshop on Rural Water Supply was held in Kathmandu from the 3rd to the 5th April, 1988.

(b) The Seminar-cum-Workshop made several recommendations to address problems of operation and maintenance of rural water supply in SAARC countries. The member countries have not drawn up any joint action plan.

(c) Does not arise.

Manufacture of Silicon

*956. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any study for the production of Silicon required for manufacture of the important electronic component called 'chip'; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to import technology for manufacture of Silicon for use in the electronic components in the country as also export purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Government have made a study on production of silicon which is the basic material required for the manufacture of semiconductor devices such as diodes, transistors, integrated circuits and the large scale integrated circuits which is generally known as the "chip".

(b) The Government do not propose to

import technology for manufacture of silicon material.

Development of Himalayan Region

*958. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting to discuss the problem and prospects of development of the Himalayan Region was held in August, 1987; and

(b) if so, the details of issue discussed and prospective programmes drawn up for development of the Himalayan Region?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b). A meeting with the Members of Parliament representing the Himalayan Region, was held on 19th August, 1987 in context of the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Seventh Plan and for initiating exercise in relation to the Eighth Five Year Plan. The programme content of the Hill Areas Development Programme was viewed and suggestions were sought for (i) its improvement during the current plan; (ii) approach and strategy for the Eighth Five Year Plan; and (iii) relaxation of norms required to overcome special disabilities of the Himalayan region. No prospective programme was, however, drawn up. The suggestions made by the Hon'ble Members have been communicated to all the concerned State Governments and the Central Ministries for appropriate action. These were specifically taken note of while drafting Chapter 11 of the Mid-Term Appraisal for the Seventh Plan document laid on the Table of the House on 22nd March, 1988.

Export of Diesel Engines by Auto Tractors

*9338. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Auto Tractors, a public sector enterprise, is engaged in manufacture of diesel engines and has received an

export order for engines and cylinder heads from the United Kingdom for marine application as reported in the 'Times of India' dated 31st March, 1988;

(b) whether the company is manufacturing a high fuel-efficient diesel engine, Autoland 4000, with low maintenance cost and vibration free operation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the foreign exchange earning therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Auto Tractors Limited is a public enterprise of the Government of Uttar Pradesh. According to the information furnished by the Company, it has received an export order for 24 nos. of engines and 5 nos. of cylinder heads from England for a total value of 30325 Pounds.

High Technology Bulk Drugs

9339. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of bulk drugs for which high technology certificates have been given to foreign drug companies to enable them to submit proposals for industrial licence;

(b) what are the considerations and the basis on which the clearances have been given;

(c) the details regarding the clearances which are still pending with his Ministry as on date; and

(d) the names of the companies involved and the bulk drugs for which they have sought clearance?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d). No such high technology certificates are issued by this Ministry. However under the "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and

Growth of Drugs & Pharmaceutical Industry in India" announced in December, 1986, sixty six bulk drugs are available for licensing to FERA companies.' The names of these drugs are given in Annexure-I to the 'Measures' referred to above.

Ceiling on Bonus in Public Sector

9340. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal of removing the ceiling on bonus eligibility as a gesture of recognition for the contribution of all officers in the performance of the public sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to remove the ceiling of bonus eligibility for the officers of public sector Undertakings.

(c) The Payment of Bonus Act applies equally to the private sector and competitive public sector units.

[Translation]

Ban on Recruitment and Training of Junior Engineers in Madhya Pradesh

9341. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 5 April, 1988 to Unstarred Question No.5697 regarding ban on recruitment and training of Junior Engineers in Madhya Pradesh and state the time by which the training of Junior Engineers is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Arrangements are being made to depute selected Junior Engineer candidates of 1984 for the training. Commencement of the training of these candidates will depend on the availability of seats in various training centres.

[English]

Utilisation of Installed Capacity in Public Sector Industrial Units

9342. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production in public sector industrial units is much less than the capacity;

(b) whether this is one of the reasons for these units running in loss;

(c) whether a task force was appointed to go into the reasons for under utilisation of installed capacity in those industries;

(d) if so, the details of the results achieved;

(e) the recommendations made; and

(f) the steps being taken to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The pattern of capacity utilisation in public sector production units during the year 1986-87 was as under:--

(i) Number of units recording capacity utilisation more than 75%	90
(ii) Number of units recording capacity utilisation between 50-75%	56
(iii) Number of units recording capacity utilisation less than 50%	29

(b) Lower utilisation of capacity can be one of the reasons for losses in some units.

(c) No, Sir. The administrative Ministries monitor from time to time, utilisation of capacity in the production units under their administrative control.

(d) to (f). Do not arise.

Consumer Goods Collaborations Policy

9343. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government regarding use of foreign trade marks for consumer goods collaborations;

(b) whether the Registrar of Trade Marks has refused certain registered users agreements for foreign trade marks;

(c) if so, the names of the companies and the trade marks; and

(d) the reasons for not gazetting the policy of not allowing foreign trade marks for consumer goods as has been gazetted for televisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The policy of the Government is not to encourage the use of foreign brand names on consumer products meant for domestic sales. While approving foreign collaboration proposals, Government lays down a standard condition that the use of foreign brand names would not be allowed for products meant for internal sale.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is given below.

(d) It is not considered necessary to do so, in view *inter-alia* of the standard condition referred to in part (a) of the question.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Trade Mark		Names of the Companies R.P.: Registered Proprietor R.U.: Registered User	
1	2		3	
1.	WILLIAMS	517	R.P.:	J.B. Williams & Co. U.S.A.
			R.U.:	L.D. Seymour & Co. (I) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
	ESQUIRE	518		
	GLIDER	137240		
	AQUAVELVA	137241		
	CONTI & DESIGN	103429		
2.	ERASMIC (Word)	87281	R.P.:	Unilever Ltd., England
	ERASMIC CUPS (LABELS)	93150	R.U.:	Hindustan Lever Ltd., Bombay
3.	PEARS	129552		-DO-
	PEARS (TALCUM) POWDER(LABEL)	149930		
	LIRIL	181284		
	SIGNAL	182075		
4.	HISTA PRED	221983	R.P.:	American Home Products, USA
	DOUFEM	221984	R.U.:	Wyeth Laboratories Ltd., Bombay.
5.	HELLA	193948	R.P.:	West Falischmetal Ind. Gmbh. Germany
	HELLA	194225	R.U.:	J.M.A. Industry Ltd., New Delhi.
6.	210994 & 12 others		R.P.:	Singer Co. USA
	4228 & 94 others		R.U.:	Singer Sewing Machine Co. USA.
7.	KARDX	125225	R.P.:	Sperry Rand Corpn. USA
	KARDX	125226	R.U.:	Remington Rand of India Ltd., Calcutta
	KARDX	125227		
	REMINGTON	125999		
8.	SEISMEX	171636	R.P.:	Imperial Chem. Ind. Ltd., U.K.
	GEOPHX	149570	R.U.:	Indian Explosives Ltd., Calcutta.
	VIKING	181361		
9.	ERASMIC (WRAPPER)	223931	R.P.:	Unilever Ltd., Delhi
	ERASMIC	199565	R.U.:	Sharpedge Ltd., Delhi
10	PARKER	95692	R.P.:	Parker Pen Co. USA

1	2		3
	QUINK PARKER 51 EVERSHARP SOLV-X	95695 163359 100247 101122 106130	R.U.: Parker Pen (Australia) Pvt. Ltd., Australia
11.	VICKERS VICKERS	240644 240646	R.P.: R.U.: Sperry Rand Corpn. USA Vicker Sperry (I) Ltd., Bombay Now changed to Vicker System International Ltd., Bombay.
12.	AA ARBOUI ACCESS & DEVICE -DO-	204656 208293	R.P.: R.U.: Arbor Acres Farm Inc. UA Arbor Acres Farm Corpn. (I) Ltd., Calcutta
13.	UNION CARBIDE HEXAGON -DO- -DO- -DO-	185191 185192 185193 185370	R.P.: R.U.: Union Carbide Corpn. USA Union Carbide Corpn. (I) Ltd., Calcutta
14.	CAMY	179145	R.P.: R.U.: Camy Wath Co., Switzerland Camy India Ltd., Bombay.
15.	181712 & 53 others		R.P.: R.U.: Colgate Palmolive Co. USA Colgate Palmolive (I) Ltd., Bombay.
16.	TRICLOLYL STERIFLEX BENTNOVAL	211160 206915 217396	R.P.: R.U.: Glaxo Operations (UK) Ltd., U.K. Glaxo Laboratories India, Bombay.
17.	THOR WINCFOOR	12132 12135	R.P.: R.U.: Good Year Tyre & Rubber Co. USA Good Year India Ltd., New Delhi.
18.	ALBERT & DEVICE	244859	R.P.: R.U.: Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft, West Germany. Hoechst India Ltd., Bombay.
19.	FACIT FACIT FACIT ASIA FACIT ASIA	145199 181176 209031 209032	R.P.: R.U.: Facit Aktieobolog, Sweden. Facit Asia Ltd., Madras

Paris Convention

9344. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under
consideration of Government regarding the
question of India's accession to Paris Con-
vention for the protection of Industrial
property;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and

(d) if so, when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The question of India joining the Paris Convention for protection of Industrial Property Rights is under study in all its aspects. No decision has been taken in the matter.

Promotion of Junior Telecom. Officers

9345. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Junior Telecom. Officer and T.E.S. group 'B' Officers are not getting promotion even after serving more than 15 years in their respective grades;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the action taken to reduce their stagnation;

(d) whether any action has been taken to conduct cadre review for them in view of general guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training; and

(e) if so, when the proposal is likely to get through?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) As per Recruitment Rules the posts of TES Group 'B' are filled through two streams i.e. two thirds of the vacancies by promotion from amongst JTOs who have passed departmental Qualifying Examination on the basis of seniority and fitness and one third of the vacancies promotion from amongst JTOs who are selected in the Departmental Competitive Examination. It may take more than 15 years to promote persons in the qualifying

examination stream, but JTO's who are successful in the competitive examination get promoted much earlier.

In so far as TES Group 'B' officers are concerned, they are considered for promotion against 50% of the vacancies to ITS Group 'A' and generally get promotion to ITS Group 'A' with less than 15 years service in their grade.

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

(c) Possibilities for improving the rate of promotion by way of one time bound promotion/selection grade or by cadre review are being explored.

(d) As (c) above.

(e) It is difficult to indicate any time limit.

Assistance to Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.

9346. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 1 December, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 3660 regarding steps to revamp Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. and state:

(a) whether any specific assistance has been given to Engineering Project (India) Ltd. to secure more orders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Engineering Projects (India) Limited (EPI) bid for orders in the field of their activities. Whenever, on specific request of EPI, it is considered appropriate on merits with the user sector.

Telephone Mechanics for Repairs of Push Button Telephone

9347. PROF. MADHU DANDAYATE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone mechanics from the Telecommunications Department have

adequate knowledge of repairing the modern push-button telephones in the event of dislocation of telephone service;

(b) if not, whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by subscribers including Members of Parliament; and

(c) what corrective steps are being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The instruments are presently under the guarantee of one year and the suppliers are under the contractual obligation to replace the faulty instruments. The faulty instruments are being replaced.

(c) It is planned to impart training to the concerned field staff to enable them to undertake the repair of these instruments.

Decline in Profits of Public Sector Units

9348. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any decline in the profits of Public Sector Units in the first two quarters of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been any profit or loss in the public enterprises in the first three months of 1988 upto-date; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO):(a) and (b). Profitability of Public Sector Enterprises for the first two quarters of 1988-89 will be available only after the end of the above period.

(c) and (d). Provisional flash results have been received from 112 Public Sector Enterprises for the first three months of 1988. 73 public sector enterprises have shown

net profits amounting to Rs. 1713.55 crores and 39 public sector enterprises have incurred losses amounting to Rs. 280.93 crores.

[Translation]

Development Charges for Getting New Electricity Connections from DESU

9349. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether development charges are required to be paid for getting new electricity connection from the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking in some areas at the rate of Rs. 12/- per square yard;

(b) if so, the basis thereof and the rules in this regard;

(c) whether these charges are also applicable in urbanised villages and rural areas;

(d) if so, the rules in this regard; and

(e) whether development charges are also required to be paid for getting loop connections and the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). According to DESU, electrification of any colony is the responsibility of the concerned colonising agency. The cost of electrification of a new colony/area has got to be shared by the colonising agency and DESU on 50:50 basis. Once an approved colony is electrified by realising the cost on the above basis no development charges are payable by the individual prospective consumer. However, in the case of regularised colonies and unauthorised colonies having come up upto 1.1.81, the cost of electrification of a colony is recovered in the shape of development charges at the rate of Rs. 12/- per sq. yard from each plot holder at the time of seeking individual electric connection after the work of electrification of the colony is completed.

(c) and (d). According to DESU, no development charges are payable for taking electric connection with the original limits of the urbanised and rural villages where electrification had already been undertaken long back under rural electrification programme.

(e) No development charges are recovered in the case of loop connection needed in a portion having been constructed on the plot for which development charges have already been recovered.

[English]

Polish Cooperation in Field of Energy

9350. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered delegation of Poland recently visited India and had discussion with Indian Delegation over the possibilities of mutual cooperation in the field of energy, etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Work on Bangalore-Salem Section of Ramagundam-Salem Transmission Line

9351. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the latest progress of the work on Bangalore-Salem section of the Ramagundam-Salem direct transmission line; and

(b) the progress made so far in Salem-Udumalpet and Udumalpet-Trichur sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Bangalore-Salem section of the Ramagundam -- Salem trans-

mission line is being constructed by the National Thermal Power Corporation and the Salem -- Trichur section by Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

Stringing work on 165 Kms of the Bangalore - Salem line has been completed as against the total length of 181.5 Kms. In respect of the Salem -- Trichur section, the contract for fabrication/erection of towers, and stringing of the line has been awarded; and preliminary work for the construction of the line has begun.

T.V. Relay Centre at Satna in Madhya Pradesh

9352. SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a TV relay centre at Satna in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Site for its location has been finalised and orders for the required equipment have been placed on the manufacturers.

Publication of Books in Malayalam by Publications Division

9353. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of books in Malayalam brought out by Publications Division since 1980, year-wise;

(b) whether the percentage of books in Malayalam which remain unsold is less as compared to other languages; and

(c) whether Government propose to publish more books translated from Malayalam to other languages through the Publications Division?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Publications Division has brought out 23 books in Malayalam since 1980 as indicated below yearwise:

Year	No. of Books
1980-81	Nil
1981-82	4
1982-83	6
1983-84	3
1984-85	3
1985-86	5
1986-87	2
1987-88	Nil
Total	23

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Not at present.

Carborate Factory at Kurnool

9354. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Carborate factory at Kurnool is lying idle for the last three years due to the short supply of electricity;

(b) whether Union Government propose to take over the factory keeping in view the output capacity of the factory; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be taken over?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Calcium Carbide plant of M/s. Andhra Pradesh Carbide Limited located at Kurnool. This unit is lying closed due to disconnection of power supply to the factory by the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board for non-payment of outstanding electricity bills.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Production and Import of Polymers

9355. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Polymers consumed in the country during the last three financial years; year-wise;

(b) the quantity produced during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the quantity imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the major sources of supply for imported Polymers; and

(e) the major production units for Polymers under installation with their projected capacities and the estimated year of coming on-stream?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). The estimated demand and actual production of polymers in the country during the last three years have been as follows:—

Year	Estimated Demand	Domestic Production	'000 MT
			Cap
1	2	3	4
1985-86	492	290	202

1	2	3	4
1986-87	516	297	219
1987-88	563	293	270

Although the precise figures of imports are not available, the gap between demand and domestic availability was by and large met through imports.

(d) Brazil, France, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Yugoslavia.

(e) In the Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex, scheduled for mechanical completion in 1989, the following polymers will be produced:--

LDPE	80,000 TPA
LLDPE/HDPE	135,000 TPA
Polypropylene	60,000 TPA
Total	275,000 TPA

Polyester Filament Yarn Plant of M/s. Petrofils Cooperative Ltd.

9356. SHRI N. SUNDARARAJ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the date of commissioning of Polyester Filament Yarn plant of M/s. Petrofils Cooperative Ltd., with its initial licensed capacity;

(b) whether the Company has expanded its capacity to 7,000 tonnes per annum;

(c) whether the Company took Government's permission to expand the capacity if so, on what date; and

(d) the actual production of Polyester Filament Yarn by the Company year-wise, since its inception till March 1988?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Petrofils Cooperative Limited (PCL) commenced production of Polyester Filament Yarn (PFY) on 3.12.1977 against the initial licensed capacity of 3500 tonnes per annum.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes Sir, the Industrial Licence for expanded capacity of 7,000 tonnes/annum was issued to the Company on 4.9.81.

(d) The actual production of PFY by PCL was as under:--

Year (cooperative year July-June)	Production in tonnes
1977-78	878
1978-79	3231
1979-80	3332
1980-81	4049
1981-82	4019
1982-83	5074
1983-84	7401
1984-85	7981
1985-86	8445
1986-87	8721
1987-88 (July '87 to March '88)	6620

Deterioration in Telecommunication Services in Delhi

9357. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has taken note of the deterioration in the quality of telecommunication services, local and STD and trunk in Delhi and also in the service of such general numbers like 197, 199, 180, 181 and the rising incidences of dropping of ring, non-formation of speech, wrong dialling, telephones going dead and also over-billing in the Union Territory of Delhi after the formation of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this deterioration and the steps proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of the system?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There has been no deterioration in quality of telecommunication services in Union Territory of Delhi after formation of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited. There may be few cases of dropping of ring, non-formation of speech, wrong dialling and telephones going dead. Some are promptly attended to.

Regarding over billing, there is no deterioration.

(b) As referred to above, question does not arise.

Suggestions for Industrial Growth

9358. SHRI H.C. RAMULU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested a number of fiscal incentives to step up industrial growth;

(b) if so, full details of the suggestions made; and

(c) to what extent Government propose to adopt these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) submitted a paper on fiscal incentives for industrial growth to Minister of Finance recently. A number of measures have been suggested in the paper which include (i) waiving of tax on inter-corporate dividends paid to shareholders; (ii) waiving of tax on capital gains if re-invested in equities of new companies within a reasonable period; (iii) permission to invest provident/pension funds moneys in public & private sector bonds; (iv) option to companies for buying their own shares from market; (v) permission to private sector to establish mutual funds; (vi) nursing of new equities; (vii) abolition of gift tax; (viii) reduction in tax rates; (ix) lower taxation of incremental profits; (x) lower excise duty on incremental production; (xi) 100% write off of the capital expenditure incurred on R&D; (xii) dropping of the proposed amendment in the Companies (Amend.) Bill, 1987 to Sections 370 and 372; (xiii) lowering of interest on bank loans; (xiv) foreign exchange insurance cover.

The budget for 1988-89 have given a number of fiscal incentives for boosting industrial growth.

Committee to Review Drug Policy

9359. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to have a high powered committee to review its Drug Policy; and

(b) if so, by what time the committee is proposed to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reopening of Titagur Paper Mills and Bengal Paper Mills

9360. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
SHRI. SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the proposal to re-open Titagur Paper Mills and Bengal Paper Mills of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Titagur Paper Mills is a sick industrial company in terms of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. As required under the Act, the company has made a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in June, 1987. The Board has so far conducted two hearings in the Company's case. With regard to West Bengal, the Financial Institutions, in consultation with the Government of West Bengal, have been engaged in working out modalities for reopening of the mills. The Institutions have also sought the assistance of Government of West Bengal in locating a suitable entrepreneur, who can run the mills.

Lockout in Balmer-Lawrie Unit at Aroor, Kerala

9361. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Balmer-Lawrie Unit at Aroor, Kerala is under lockout;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken to lift the lockout;

(d) whether the Marine Freight Container Division at Aroor will be expanded;

(e) whether the order for bunk houses for Oil and Natural Gas Commission is completed;

(f) if not, what steps will be taken to supply the full order for bunk houses;

(g) whether there is order for bunk houses from the Shipping Corporation of India, Defence department and Russia; and

(h) if so, the action proposed to be taken to fulfil these orders?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The company was forced to declare lock-out with effect from the 18th February, 1988 at this unit to protect life and property, threatened by a section of striking workmen belonging to one of the two unions.

(c) Besides holding meetings at tripartite level in the office of the Labour Commissioner, efforts are being made through the State Government also to resolve the problems by arriving at a mutually acceptable settlement.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir. Some orders for Bunk Houses for the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have not been completed.

(f) Production will be taken up after the situation returns to normalcy at the plant.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.

Applications from NRIs for Setting up Industrial Projects in India

9362. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from Non-resident Indians for setting up

different industrial and other projects in India during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of applications cleared by Government, year-wise and time taken for giving clearance to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DE-

PARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The number of industrial licence applications; received from the non-resident Indians, during the last three years and the number of letters of intent issued to them during the same period are as follows:--

Year	No. of applications received	No. of letters of intent issued
1985	156	87
1986	98	33
1987	69	28

Government have laid down a time-limit of 45 days to decide the applications received from non-resident Indians. Every effort is made to decide these applications within this period. However, in some cases it takes longer to decide the proposal if it is incomplete or if some policy matter is involved.

Agreement on Reduction of Prices of Drugs

9363. SHRI H.N. NANJE COWDA:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have convened a meeting with twelve manufacturers who have raised bulk drug prices over 100 per cent;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been made with any company to reduce the prices;

(c) how many companies have not yet reduced the prices;

(d) whether Government have issued any guidelines in this regard to the manufacturing companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e). The Drug manufacturers are free to revise the prices of their non-scheduled items under the provisions of DPCO, 1987. However, Government is keeping watch on these non-scheduled items and acts wherever necessary to intervene. The related details, to the extent of information available are given below in the statements I and II.

STATEMENT - I

Sl No.	Name of the company	Name of the formulation	Pack size	Price fixed by the company after increasing it	Reduced after Govt.'s intervention	% change
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	M/s. Burroughs Wellcome	Amino-phylline Tabs	1000's	147.50	90.55	-38.6
2.	M/s. Burroughs Wellcome	Neosporin tabs	10gm	10.71	9.51	-11.2
3.	M/s. Sarabhai Chemicals	Clothalton tabs	10X10's	30.00	23.00	-23.3
4.	M/s. IEL	Fluothane	50ml bot.	120.62	65.00	-46.1
5.	M/s. IEL	Fluothane	250ml bot.	577.86	299.00	48.3
6.	M/s. Glindia Ltd.	Dilosyn Expt.	450ml	27.74	23.00	-17.1
7.	M/s. Glindia Ltd.	Fersolate Tabs	500's	25.37	22.00	-13.3

1	2	3	4	.5	6	7
8.	M/s. Glindia Ltd.	Prepaline Forte Inj.	6X2ml	43.98	30.00	-31.8
9.	M/s. Glindia Ltd.	Kapillin Inj.	6X1ml	12.00	9.00	-25.0
10.	M/s. Boehringer Knoll	Neostinum Amps	5X1ml	12.50	11.00	-12.0
11.	M/s. Rallies India	Emitine Hcl		35000.00	26000.00	-25.7
12.	M/s. Tamil Nadu Dedha	Calcium Lactate		29.75	28.75	-3.4
13.	M/s. KSDPL	Vitamin A Acetate 0.5 MIU/gm, Dry powder		2600.00	2100.00	-19.2
14.	M/s. KSDPL	Vitamin A Palmitate 1MIU/gm dry powder		1500.00	1300.00	-13.3
15.	M/s. Roche Products	Vitamin A Acetate 0.5/gm		2400.00	2200.00	-8.3
16.	M/s. Roche Products	Vitamin A 1MIU/gm		1500.00	1300.00	-13.3
17.	M/s. Roche Products	Vitamin A Palmitate 1.7 MIU Per gm		1500.00	1300.00	-13.3

18.	M/s. Serum Institute	ATS 790 IU	7.26	5.40	-25.6
19.	do	do	341.90	254.54	-25.6
20.	do	ATS 1500 IU	12.42	9.24	-25.6
21.	do	do	600.50	452.72	-24.6
22.	do	ATS 10,000 IU	65.26	40.54	-25.6
23.	do	ATS 20,000 IU	127.60	94.95	-25.6
24.	do	ATS 50,000 IU	312.74	232.60	-25.6
25.	do	Anti-snake Venom Serum (ASVS)	126.02	(a)90.00	-25.6 (Govt. Supply)
				(b)108.00	-1433 (Trade sale)
26.	M/s. Ethnor Ltd.	N. N. Dithydroxy methylcarbamide	1204.00/Kg	243.61/kg	81.0

STATEMENT - II

Sl. No.	Name of the formulation	Pack size	Price fixed by the Co. under, DPCO 1987	Reduced price after Govt.'s intervention	Change
1.	Arovit Chewable tabs	8's	5.32	4.0	- 24.8
2.	Arovit Amp. 100000 IU	2 ml.	27.60	18.10	- 34.8
3.	Arovit Drops	7.5 ml. B	15.47	10.76	- 30.4
4.	Beflavin 10 mg. tabs	100's B	18.47	13.0	- 29.6
5.	Benedon 40 mg. tabs	20's B	9.43	6.48	- 31.2
6.	-do-	100's B	32.81	21.00	- 36.0
7.	Benedon 100 mg. Amp.	2 ml.	180.26	142.00	- 21.2
8.	Dehydroemitine 10 mg.	10's S	7.80	6.56	- 15.9
9.	Dehydroemitine 30 mg. Amp.	1 ml.	24.78	20.90	-15.7
10.	Madribon 500 mg. tab	10's	14.14	11.95	- 15.5
11.	Prostigmin 15 mg. tab	20's B	34.43	22.70	- 34.1
12.	-do-	250's B	387.61	257.40	- 33.6
13.	Prostigmin 0.5 mg Inj. Amp.	50 x 1 ml.	122.18	78.60	-35.7
14.	Redoxon Chewable tabs	20's B	14.63	8.05	- 45.8
15.	Redexon amp	25 x 5 ml/	106.21	87.45	- 17.7
16.	Romiler Expt.	100 ml. B	19.46	10.32	- 47.0
17.	Saridon tabs	10's S	4.92	3.32	- 32.5

Licences for Producing Industrial Penicillin

9364. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of pharmaceutical units which have made application to Govern-

ment for producing Industrial Penicillin and for foreign collaboration before 15 July 1987; and

(b) the number of units which have been given the licence and the criteria being observed for grant of licences?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Five parties registered their composite applications for Penicillin-G with the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals upto 15.7.1987. These are:--

1. M/s. S. U. Mehta
2. M/s. Fermentapharma Biodil
3. M/s. Eskayef
4. M/s. SOL Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
5. M/s. V. C. Nannapaneni

However, five more such applications have also been filled after 15.7.1987. The names of these parties are:--

1. M/s. SPIC
2. M/S. Ranbaxy Labs.
3. M/s. Essar Investments Ltd.
4. M/s. J. K. Industries
5. M/s. Lalit Kumar Jain

(b) All such applications are considered on merits. However, no licence has been given so far.

Waiting List for LPG Connections with LPG Agencies in Delhi

9365. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of consumers on the waiting list for LPG connections with M/s. Tanwar Gas Service, Lawrence Road, Delhi and M/s. Delhi State Civil Supplies Gas Agency, Ashok Vihar, Delhi and since when;

(b) whether release of connections from the waiting lists has since been started from both the agencies;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the specific instructions for the dealers and the consumers for purchase of gas stove;

(e) whether no complaint/suggestion book is available at M/s. Tanwar Gas Agency; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on the 31st March, 1988 the waiting lists for LPG connections with M/s. Tanwar Gas Service, Delhi and M/s. Delhi State Civil Supplies Gas Agency, Delhi are as under:

S. No.	Name of the Distributor	Waiting List	Last Date Cleared
1.	M/s. Tanwar Gas Agency	435	31.12.1986
2.	M/s. Delhi State Civil Supplies Gas Agency	1670	14.1.1985

(b) M/s. Tanwar Gas Agency have started releasing LPG connections from their waiting list;

(c) Connections are released through distributors who have not reached the pre-

scribed ceiling and also meet the eligibility norms of release for new connections;

(d) Under the existing policy, a consumer is free to purchase a gas stove from anywhere he likes and the distributor is re-

quired to ensure that a prospective customer has an ISI marked stove before releasing the connection. These instructions are clearly printed on the intimation letter sent to prospective consumers. All distributors are also required to display in their showrooms the MRTP notification in this regard.

(e) Complaints/suggestions books are available with M/s. Tanwar Gas Agency;

(f) Does not arise in view of the (e) above.

[Translation]

Linking of Ranikhet Electronic Telephone Exchange with Bareilly and Agra Telephone Exchange by S.T.D.

9366. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether electronic exchange has started functioning in Ranikhet Uttar Pradesh,

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to link or give priority in linking such telephone exchanges with other telephone exchanges in the country through S.T.D. system; and

(c) if so, the time by which Ranikhet is likely to be linked with other main telephone exchanges in the country via Bareilly or Agra through S.T.D.?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal at present to link Ranikhet (A Tehsil Headquarter) with other telephone exchanges in the country through STD system in the 7th plan period.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[English]

Import of Rubber for Tyres

9367. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of rubber products, particularly motor tyres, have gone up very high over the last three years contributing to a hike in transportation cost and finally to the cost of products carried by road transport;

(b) if so, the rate of increase in each year and the break up of this amount over the material cost, cost of production and the increase in taxes; and

(c) whether Government have considered the desirability of importing rubber at a cheaper cost and get tyres made by the manufacturers at a price cheaper than the present price and if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Net Dealers Price of tyres and tubes were increased by manufacturers by 8 to 9.5% in March, 1985, by 5% in April-May 1986, and 7% in July 1987. As tyre prices are only one of the factors in the over-all cost of transportation of goods, it is difficult to estimate the exact impact of a hike in tyre prices on cost of transportation. The rates of specific excise duties on tyres have not been revised since 1984.

Indigenous rubber production being inadequate, the gap between demand and supply is met through imports. Government are operating a Buffer Stocking Scheme for natural rubber to ensure regular supply of rubber to user industries at reasonable prices while simultaneously safeguarding remunerative returns to the rubber growers.

Issue of Industrial Licences

9368. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of applications for industrial licences and letters of intent of public sector, private sector and joint sector undertakings awaiting clearance of Union Government with details of proposed investments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): As on 26.4.1988, 635 Industrial Licence applications including 98 received from various public sector undertakings for grant of letters of intent were at various stages of processing. The details of pending applications including proposed investments are not divulged till the Government have taken final decisions thereon.

TV Programme in Honour of Sindhi Kavi Hundraj Dukhayal

9369. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to produce a full length programme to be telecast on National Network in honour of Sindhi Kavi Hundraj Dukhayal, a freedom fighter and associate of Acharya Vinoba Bhave, who has been rendering yeoman service to many lost public causes in Gandhidham and Adipur, Kutch in Gujarat and elsewhere in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A programme with Shri Hundraj Dukhayal under the series "Kavi Aur Kavita" in the National Programme of Doordarshan is envisaged.

[Translation]

Schemes for Development of Communications in Bihar

9370. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes for development of communications in Bihar, particularly in Samastipur district, accorded approval this year;

(b) the number of schemes which are under consideration;

(c) the number of approved schemes on which work is in progress; and

(d) the time by which those schemes are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d).

POSTAL SCHEMES:

89 new post offices are likely to be opened in Bihar Circle including 4 in Samastipur District during the current year. Subject to ban on creation/filling up of posts being granted by Ministry of Finance, these post offices are likely to be opened at different stages upto 31.3.89.

TELECOM SCHEMES

The capacity of Telephone Exchanges in Bihar Circle is proposed to be enhanced by about 16,000 lines during the current year (1988-89). There is no expansion proposed in Samastipur City as there is no waiting list. However there are proposals to provide 128 port electronic exchanges (RAXs) at Patori, Pusa, Rosora and Wani in Samastipur District during this year 1988-89 subject to receipt of equipment in time, which will replace the existing MAX-III exchanges working there. These four places are proposed to be connected to Samastipur by better and reliable transmission media. Besides there are several approved schemes for providing high-grade transmission media of Optical Fibre, Digital Microwave and UHF in Bihar on which the work is in progress. These schemes are likely to be completed during the seventh Plan period subject to availability of equipments in time.

[English]

Energisation of Pumpsets in Gujarat

9371. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pumpsets energised in Gujarat during the last three years and amount spent thereon, year-wise;

(b) whether Government have suggested to maximise the energisation of pumpsets and simplifying the formalities in

view of the urgent necessity to increase area under irrigation owing to recurring drought; and

(c) if so, the details of the suggestions made to respective State Governments and target fixed, if any, for energisation of pumpsets in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The number of pumpsets energised in Gujarat during the last three years and amount spent thereon, year-wise is as under:--

Year	Achievement	Amount disbursed by REC* (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	25016	1928
1986-87	20643	1711
1987-88 (Provisional)	40293	2901

*Includes funds for village electrification, system improvement programme, etc.

(b) and (c). In view of unprecedented drought in the country, the State Electricity Boards and State Govts. were advised to speed up release of new pumpsets connections so that entire plan target of 1987-88 for pumpsets was not only completed by November, 1987 but exceeded by conserving materials for pump for meeting the requirement for Rabi Crops. The State Authorities were also advised to take immediate steps for replacing damaged transformers so that associated pumpsets could become operational immediately. The Rural Electrification Corporation also extended full assistance to the State Electricity Boards as required by them. As a result of these efforts, 40293 pumpsets were energised in Gujarat against the target of 20,000 during 1987-88.

Development of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

9372. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to promote the development of non-conventional energy sources, Government have taken any steps or issued any guidelines to the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what further steps are contemplated to effectively develop non-conventional energy sources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have taken steps to intensify research and development, undertake demonstration projects and support extension activities in respect of matured technology through various forms of incentives and subsidies for extensive utilisation of non-conventional energy sources such as bio-gas, bio-mass, solar energy, wind energy etc. through out the country.

The State Governments/nodal agencies,

public institutions and non-governmental organisations have been actively involved in these programmes, which have become popular and effective, particularly in rural areas where they have been taken up. These programmes are being expanded throughout the country to the extent the financial resources made available permit. Intensification of research and development efforts is also underway towards improvement in performance of systems and devices as also the cost effectiveness of such devices.

Petrochemical Complex at Barauni

9373. DR. G. S. RAJHANS:
SHRI MADHUREE
SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-member Central team visited Bihar recently and held discussions with the officials of Barauni Refinery and State Government for setting up a Petrochemical complex in the Begusarai-Barauni area;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held with the officials in this regard; and

(c) the outcome thereof and the steps Government propose to take for speedy implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Discussions were broadly held on Techno-Economic considerations such as, demand/supply, feedstock availability, product pattern, viability, expansion of refining capacity etc. Decisions on such projects are normally taken on various Techno-Economic considerations.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Petrol/Diesel Pumps in Ajamgarh, U.P.

9374. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications for setting up of petrol/diesel pumps at a number of places in district Ajamgarh of Uttar Pradesh were invited during 1987;

(b) if so, the reasons for not holding interviews for these places so far; and

(c) the action being taken by Government for setting up the said pumps at the earliest in all these places?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation had invited applications during 1987 for setting up retail outlet (petrol/diesel) dealerships at Bilariganj and Brahmasthan Ki Chungi in district Azamgarh, U.P.

(b) and (c). The Oil Selection Board (North) had become inoperative after June 1986 on expiry of the term of its incumbents. The Board has since been reconstituted in May 1987 and the pending cases are being processed expeditiously.

[*English*]

Electrification of Villages in Aligarh

9375. SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no electricity in Bhowapur village of Chandaus Block, district Aligarh (U.P.);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). According to the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board, the main village Teekri (Code No. 118) of which Bhowapur is a hamlet has been electrified on 31.3.1984.

[*Translation*]

Survey for Electrification of Villages in Rajasthan

9376. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted survey of those areas in Rajasthan where electricity is required;

(b) if so, the names of the areas in Rajasthan identified during this survey where electrification is possible;

(c) whether most of the villages in Rajasthan have still not been provided with the facility of electricity; and

(d) if so, the norms prepared by Government therefor and the number of villages in the State proposed to be provided with electricity during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Survey work is being conducted regularly for preparing schemes in the State of Rajasthan for electrification of villages. By and large, areas of all the Panchayat Samities of 27 districts of Rajasthan have been surveyed.

(c) Out of a total of 34,968 villages in Rajasthan as per 1981 census, 23016 villages have been electrified by 31.3.1988 leaving 11,952 villages to be electrified.

(d) Norms for electrification of villages are decided by the State Electricity Board at the time of formulating the schemes. For the Seventh Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission had fixed a target of 7515 villages for electrification in the State.

[*English*]

T.V. Serials

9377. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of TV serials which have completed 13 episodes on the Doordarshan so far;

(b) the names of TV serials out of them which have been permitted more than 13 episodes;

(c) whether the producers have sought permission for making more than 13 episodes, but their cases are pending, the details in each case; and

(d) the criteria for restricting the serials to 13 episodes only?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The information is given in the statement given below.

(c) No such case is pending.

(d) Normally serials are given approval for 13 episodes to enable scheduling on a quarterly basis. However, the number of episodes depends on the story/treatment.

STATEMENT

Names of TV Serials which have completed 13 episodes on Doordarshan and also those permitted more than 13 episodes out of them

-
1. Humlog*
 2. Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi*
 3. Show Theme*
 4. Mashoor Mahal*
 5. Idhar Udhar
 6. Apradhi Kaun
 7. Khandaan*
 8. Ados Pados*
 9. Quiz Time

- | | |
|--|--|
| 10. Paying Guest* | 38. Dada Dadi ki Kahani |
| 11. It is a Women's world | 39. India Alive |
| 12. Mr. Ya Mrs. | 40. Chapte Chapte |
| 13. Barrister Vinod | 41. Ajube |
| 14. Titliyan | 42. Katha Sagar* |
| 15. Natkhad Nurad | 43. Satyajit Ray Presents* |
| 16. Babaji Ka Byscope | 44. Pankhon Se Panjo Tak |
| 17. Bante Bigarte | 45. Air Hostess |
| 18. Wah Janab | 46. Khari Khari* |
| 19. Dekho Magar Pyar Se | 47. Rag Darbari* |
| 20. Karamchand* | 48. Buniyaad* |
| 21. Ek Kahani* | 49. Shrikant* |
| 22. Darpan* | 50. Police File Se |
| 23. Terah Panne | 51. Pratham Pratishruti* |
| 24. Newslime | 52. Adalat* |
| 25. Apne Aap* | 53. Poomima |
| 26. Jane Alam | 54. Aapu Aur Pappu |
| 27. Aa Bail Mujhe Maar | 55. Char Jamai |
| 28. Rajni* | 56. Naqab |
| 29. Chhote Badey (Virasat) | 57. Amrita |
| 30. Nukkad* | 58. Kabir |
| 31. Rishte Naate | 59. Pradakshina |
| 32. Baital Pachisi (Vikram Aur Baital) | 60. Zindagi Zindagi |
| 33. Lena Dena* | 61. Rakshak |
| 34. Telefun* | 62. Sara Jahan Hamara |
| 35. Khazana* | 63. Chhote Babu |
| 36. Ek Do Teen Char* | 64. Short Stories of Gurudev
Rabindra Nath Tagore |
| 37. Chhoti Badi Baten* | |

65. Ascharya Dipak
66. Aur Bhi Hai Rahen*
67. Kalajal*
68. Munshi Premchand Ki Kahaniyan
69. Ramayan*
70. Sau Baat Ki Ek Baat
71. Subah
72. Shakti
73. Khoj
74. Rath Chakra
75. Contact Quiz*
76. Apne Paraye
77. Esi Bahane*
78. Mathemagic Show
79. Sinhasan Batisi
80. Sunil Gavaskar Presents
81. Zindagi*
82. Chunati*
83. Swyam Sidha
84. Kashmakash*
85. Nai Dishayen
86. Kabhi Door Kabhi Paas
87. That is Cricket
88. Hum Hindustani*
89. Stri
90. Malgudi Days*
91. Manoranjan*

92. Bahadur Shah Zafar*

93. Chere

94. Honi Anhoni

*those permitted more than 13 episodes.

Incentives for Modernisation of Industries

9378. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to modernise industry in the country;

(b) whether Government have introduced any incentives in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):(a) to (d). The technology Upgradation Scheme for modernisation, technology upgradation and accelerated growth of certain selected Capital Goods Industries was announced by the Finance Minister in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th August, 1987. A copy of the Scheme, indicating the details, is available in the Parliament Library. In Addition, Government have recently announced further liberalisation in the Technical Development Fund Scheme in order to encourage modernisation and upgradation of technology by existing industrial Units. A copy of the Press Note dated the 22nd April, 1988, issued in this behalf is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6264/88]

Hiring of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery by Coal India Limited

9379. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. has been hiring Heavy Earth Moving Machinery continuously without calling tenders for the last six years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for engaging Heavy Earth Moving Machinery continuously without calling tenders from the contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). Hiring of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery has been resorted to in Eastern Coalfields Ltd., and in North Eastern Coalfields of Coal India Limited. Hiring of HEMM in ECL started in 1978-79 and tenders have been called thrice in 1978, 1980 and 1984. In NEC, tenders were invited in 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1987-88.

Since it was anticipated that fresh tendering would result in substantial increase in the rates, the existing contracts were, on

occasions, extended after allowing for reasonable escalation in prices of petrol etc.

Setting up of Air Stations and Relay Centres

9380. SHRI R. M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the location and capacity of the principal radio stations and relay centres in the country; state-wise; and

(b) the details of new radio stations and relay centres proposed to be installed during 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Details are given in the statement-I given below.

(b) 25 new radio stations are envisaged to be installed during 1988-89. Details are given in the Statement-II given below.

STATEMENT - I

Existing Radio Station and Relay Centres

Sl. No.	State and Places	Power of the Transmitters	No. of AIR Stations in the State
1	2	3	4
	<i>ANDHRA PRADESH</i>		5
1.	Hyderabad	50 KW MW 10 KW MW 10 KW SW 1 KW MW	
2.	Adilabad	1 KW MW	
3.	Vijayawada	20 KW MW	
4.	Vishakapatnam	100 KW MW	
5.	Cuddapah	100 KW MW	

1	2	3	4
	<i>ARUNACHAL PRADESH</i>		4
6.	Passighat	150 W MW	
7.	Tawang	500 W MW	
8.	Tezu	350 W MW	
9.	Itanagar	1 KW MW	(Interim set up)
	<i>ASSAM</i>		3
10.	Guwahati	50 KW MW 10 KW MW 50 KW SW 10 KW SW	
11.	Silchar	10 KW MW	
12.	Dibrugarh	300 KW MW	
	<i>BIHAR</i>		4
13.	Patna	20 KW MW 1 KW MW	
14.	Ranchi	100 KW MW 1 KW MW 2 KW SW	
15.	Bhagalpur	10 KW MW	
16.	Darbhanga	10 KW MW	
	<i>GOA</i>		1
17.	Panaji	10 KW MW 5 KW MW	
	<i>GUJARAT</i>		4
18.	Ahmedabad	50 KW MW 1 KW MW	
19.	Vadodara	1 KW MW	
20.	Bhuj	10 KW MW	
21.	Rajkot	300 KW MW 1 KW MW	

1	2	3	4
	<i>HARYANA</i>		1
22.	Rohtak	20 KW MW	
	<i>HIMACHAL PRADESH</i>		1
23.	Simla	100 KW MW 2.5 KW SW	
	<i>JAMMU & KASHMIR</i>		3
24.	Srinagar	200 KW MW 7.5 KW SW 1 KW MW (2 Nos.)	
25.	Jammu	50 KW MW 1 KW MW 1 KW SW	
26.	Leh	10 KW MW	
	<i>KARNATAKA</i>		6
27.	Bangalore	50 KW MW 1 KW MW	
28.	Bhadrawati	20 KW MW	
29.	Dharwad	200 KW MW 1 KW MW	
30.	Gulberga	10 KW MW	
31.	Mangalore/Udipi	20 KW MW (Udipi) 1 KW MW (Mangalore)	
32.	Mysore	1 KW MW	
	<i>KERALA</i>		4
33.	Alleppey	100 KW MW - (RELAY CENTRE)	
34.	Calicut	10 KW MW 1 KW MW	
35.	Trichur	20 KW MW	
36.	Trivandrum	10 KW MW 1 KW MW	
	<i>MADHYA PRADESH</i>		9
37.	Ambikapur	20 KW MW	

1	2	3	4
38.	Bhopal	10 KW SW 1 KW MW (2 Nos.)	
39.	Chhatarpur	20 KW MW	
40.	Gwalior	10 KW MW	
41.	Indore	100 KW MW 1 KW MW	
42.	Jabalpur	20 KW MW	
43.	Jagdapur	20 KW MW	
44.	Raipur	100 KW MW	
45.	Rewa	20 KW MW	
	<i>MAHARASHTRA</i>		9
46.	Aurangabad	1 KW MW	
47.	Bombay	50 KW MW 20 KW MW (2 Nos.) 10 KW MW 15 KW (ERP) FM	
48.	Jalgaon	20 KW MW	
49.	Nagpur	100 KW MW 1 KW MW	
50.	Parbhani	10 KW MW	
51.	Pune	100 KW MW 1 KW MW	
52.	Ratnagiri	20 KW MW	
53.	Sangli	20 KW MW	
54.	Sholapur	1 KW MW	
	<i>MANIPUR</i>		1
55.	Imphal	50 KW MW	
	<i>MEGHALAYA</i>		2
56.	Shillong	100 KW MW	
57.	Tura	10 KW MW	(Interm Set Up)

1	2	3	4
	<i>MIZORAM</i>		1
58.	Aizwal	20 KW MW 10 KW MW	
	<i>NAGALAND</i>		1
59.	Kohima	50 KW MW 2 KW SW	
	<i>ORISSA</i>		3
60.	Cuttack	100 KW MW 1 KW MW	
61.	Jeypore	10 KW MW	
62.	Sambalpur	20 KW MW	
	<i>PUNJAB</i>		1
63.	Jalandhar	100 KW MW 50 KW MW 1 KW MW	
	<i>RAJASTHAN</i>		7
64.	Jaipur	1 KW MW (2 Nos.)	
65.	Kota	1 KW MW	
66.	Ajmer	200 KW MW	(RELAY CENTRE)
67.	Bikaner	10 KW MW	
68.	Udaipur	10 KW MW	
69.	Jodhpur	100 KW MW 1 KW MW	
70.	Suratgarh	20 KW MW	
	<i>SIKKIM</i>		1
71.	Gangtok	10 KW MW	(Interim Set Up)
	<i>TAMIL NADU</i>		6
72.	Coimbatore	10 KW MW	
73.	Madras	200 KW MW 10 KW SW 1 KW MW 2.5 KW MW 15 KW (ERP) FM	

1	2	3	4
74.	Madurai	10 KW MW	
75.	Tiruchirapalli	100 KW MW 1 KW MW	
76.	Tirunelveli	10 KW MW	
77.	Nagarcoil	1 KW MW	
	<i>TRIPURA</i>		1
78.	Agartala	20 KW MW	
	<i>UTTAR PRADESH</i>		9
79.	Lucknow	300 KW MW 10 KW SW 1 KW MW	
80.	Almora	1 KW MW	
81.	Allahabad	1 KW MW (2 Nos.)	
82.	Varanasi	10 KW MW	
83.	Rampur	10 KW MW	
84.	Kanpur	1 KW MW	
85.	Mathura	1 KW MW	
86.	Gorakhpur	100 KW MW	
87.	Najibabad	100 KW MW	
	<i>WEST BENGAL</i>		3
88.	Calcutta	100 KW MW 50 KW MW 20 KW MW 10 KW SW 2.5 KW MW 15 KW (ERP) MW	
89.	Kurseong	20 KW SW	
90.	Siliguri	200 KW MW	
	<i>UNION TERRITORIES</i>		
91.	Port Blair (A & N)	20 KW MW	1
92.	Chandigarh	1 KW MW	1

1	2	3	4
93.	Delhi	100 KW MW (2 Nos.) 10 KW MW (2 Nos.) 10 KW SW 15 KW (ERP) FM	1
94.	Pondicherry	1 KW MW	1

STATEMENT - II*New Radio Stations envisaged for installation during 1988-89*

Sl. No.	State and Places	Power of Transmitter
1	2	3
<i>ANDHRA PRADESH</i>		
1.	Kottagudam	2 X 3 KW FM
2.	Warangal (Local)	2 X 5 KW FM
<i>ASSAM</i>		
3.	Jorhat (Local)	2 X 5 KW FM
<i>BIHAR</i>		
4.	Jamshedpur	1 KW MW
5.	Purnea (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
<i>JAMMU & KASHMIR</i>		
6.	Kathua (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
<i>MADHYA PRADESH</i>		
7.	Shivpuri	2 X 3 KW FM
8.	Shahdol	2 X 3 KW FM
9.	Bilaspur (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
10.	Raigarh (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
11.	Khandwa (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
12.	Chindwara (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM

1	2	3
13.	Balaghat (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
14.	Betul (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
	<i>MAHARASHTRA</i>	
15.	Beed (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
16.	Nagpur (National Channel)	1000 KW MW
	<i>ORISSA</i>	
17.	Keonjhar (Local)	1 KW MW
18.	Baripada (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
	<i>PUNJAB</i>	
19.	Bhatinda (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
20.	Patiala (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
	<i>RAJASTHAN</i>	
21.	Chittorgarh (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
22.	Alwar (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
23.	Jhalawar (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM
	<i>UTTAR PRADESH</i>	
24.	Agra	10 KW MW
	<i>WEST BENGAL</i>	
25.	Murshidabad (Local)	2 X 3 KW FM

LPG Bottling Plants

9381. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG bottling units in production;

(b) the State-wise location of those units; and

(c) unit-wise production capacity of each unit?

DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). The required information is given below in the Statement.

STATEMENT

Name of the Oil Co.	Location	Capacity (MTPA)
1	2	3
<i>IOC:</i>		
1.	Gauhati (Assam)	5,000
2.	Duliajan (Assam)	30,000
3.	Bongaigaon (Assam)	15,000
4.	Barauni (Bihar)	20,000
5.	Koyali (Gujarat)	1,00,000
6.	Rajkot (Gujarat)	37,000
7.	Kanpur (Panki) (Uttar Pradesh)	25,000
8.	Kanpur (Mini Plant) (Uttar Pradesh)	10,000
9.	Mathura (Uttar Pradesh)	96,000
10.	Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh)	35,000
11.	Jalandhar (Punjab)	40,000
12.	Kalyani (West Bengal)	35,000
13.	Haldia (West Bengal)	25,000
14.	Durgapur (West Bengal)	10,000
15.	Madras (Tamil Nadu)	1,00,000
16.	Salem (Tamil Nadu)	40,000
17.	Cochin (Kerala)	35,000
18.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	10,000
19.	Sawai Madhopur (Rajasthan)	10,000
20.	Shakurbasti (Delhi)	50,000
21.	Sawai Madhopur (Rajasthan)	25,000
<i>BPC:</i>		
22.	Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)	37,500

1	2	3
23.	Bombay (Refinery) (Maharashtra)	1,50,000
24.	Shakurbasti (Delhi)	40,000
25.	Mangalore (Karnataka)	18,500
26.	Jalgaon (Maharashtra)	12,500
27.	Sholapur (Maharashtra)	12,500
28.	Bhitoni (Jabalpur) (M.P.)	25,000
29.	Lalru (Ambala) (Haryana)	25,000
30.	Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh)	6,500
31.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)	6,500
<i>HPC:</i>		
32.	Bombay (Maharashtra)	90,000
33.	Vizag (Andhra Pradesh)	25,000
34.	Khapri (Maharashtra)	34,000
35.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	34,000
36.	Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	34,000
37.	Manglia (Madhya Pradesh)	34,000
38.	Surat (Gujarat)	12,000
39.	Miraj (Maharashtra)	10,000
40.	Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)	12,000
41.	Calcutta (West Bengal)	12,000
42.	Cuttack (Orissa)	3,000
43.	Raipur (Madhya Pradesh)	3,000
44.	Pune (Maharashtra)	20,000
45.	Jodhpur (Rajasthan)	12,500
46.	Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir)	2,000
47.	Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir)	2,000
48.	Ludhiana (Punjab)	3,000

1	2	3
49.	Shakurbasti (Delhi)	15,000
50.	Mysore (Karnataka)	12,500
51.	Goa (Goa)	12,500
52.	Hubli (Karnataka)	12,500
53.	Aurangabad (Maharashtra)	12,500
54.	Chandrapur (Maharashtra)	12,500
55.	Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir)	7,000
56.	Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir)	7,000
57.	Khurd Road (Orissa)	25,000
58.	Jind (Haryana)	12,500
59.	Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)	12,500
60.	Raipur (Madhya Pradesh)	25,000
61.	Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	25,000
		16,21,000

[Translation]**Foreign T.V. Programmes Received in Gujarat**

9382. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Gujarat where TV transmission is not visible clearly and the action being taken to ensure the clear visibility of TV transmission there;

(b) whether TV transmission of other countries is also visible in many areas; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which action for removing this fault will be completed; and

(d) the reasons for which Doordarshan programmes are not visible there?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The performance of TV transmitters operating in Gujarat is generally satisfactory within their respective service areas subject to terrain conditions. However, the performance of the Dwarka transmitter has been adversely affected because of excessive corrosion caused by its proximity to the sea and highly humid air containing appreciable salt content. The steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the performance of transmitter include dehumidification of air in transmitter hall, special paint for the tower, construction of protection wall in front of the transmitter building, periodic repairs/replacements of the defective antenna branch feeder cables, etc.

(b) to (d). Weak and irregular foreign TV signals are reported to be received in

Jamnagar during some parts of the day and subject to seasonal variations. These signals propagate through anomalous atmospheric conditions and are not dependable. These signals in any case are weaker than the local TV signals.

[English]

Licences for Petrochemical Industry

9383. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial licences issued so far to set up petrochemical units in the country; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Issue of industrial licences for setting up of petrochemical units is a continuous process. Details of letters of intent/industrial licences issued for the setting up of major petrochemical units, which are at present in the process of being implemented, are as follows:

Project/Item of Manufacture	Number of letters of Intent/ Industrial licences
Naphtha/Gas cracker complexes	2
Polymers	2
Synthetic fibres	15
Intermediates	5
Total	24

Low Power Transmitters in Andhra Pradesh

9384. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the places at which low power transmitters are expected to be commissioned in Andhra Pradesh during 1988-89; and

(b) the places where low power transmitters were commissioned in Andhra Pradesh during 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Whereas a low power (100 W) TV transmitter each at Khammam and Ramagundam is expected to be installed and commissioned into ser-

vice during 1988-89, one such transmitters was commissioned at Ongole during 1987-88.

Conversion of Branch Post Office into Sub-Post Office at Herangadi in Karnataka

9385. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a Branch Post Office at Herangadi, Honnavar Taluk in North Kanara District in Karnataka and the people of Herangadi and nearby villages are experiencing great hardship due to inordinate delay in getting mails; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to convert the existing Branch Post Office at Herangadi into Sub-post Office?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) It is not true that the people of Herangadi are experiencing hardship on account of delay in receiving mail. Mail is received daily at 9.30 a.m. from Honnavar Port sub-post office through State transport bus and delivered the same day.

(b) There is no proposal at present to upgrade Herangadi branch office.

[*Translation*]

Acquisition of Land for Damodar Valley Corporation, Bihar

9386. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the area of agricultural land acquired by Damodar Valley Corporation so far in Bihar for various projects;

(b) the total area of land on which trees have been planted and the percentage of trees actually remained live;

(c) the total area of land on which soil conservation work has been taken up; and

(d) the amount spent on afforestation and soil conservation every year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Automatic Telephone Exchange at Vuyyuru in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh

9387. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new building is being constructed for Telephone Exchange at

Vuyyuru in Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Telecommunications Department proposes to instal automatic equipment in it and provide S.T.D. facility to the subscribers; and

(c) if so, the likely date by which these facilities will be available to the subscribers at Vuyyuru?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir, the new building is already constructed at Vuyyuru in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The department has programmed for installation of four hundred lines MAX-II exchange during the year 1988-89 with STD facility.

Exploitation of Coal as Energy Source

9388. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has suggested that the exploitation of coal as an energy source should be abandoned;

(b) if so, the reasons advanced by that body in their observations; and

(c) whether there is any re-thinking on the Government's energy policy in the light of the above observations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices (BICP) has suggested, *inter-alia*, a policy orientation towards substitute of coal by greater use of hydrocarbons such as fuel oil and natural gas as the primary energy source. According to BICP, the cost of production and transportation of domestic coal has been rapidly increasing and its quality has been deteriorating.

(c) The Planning Commission has initiated a study on long-term energy mod-

elling and Government will take a view in the matter after the result of the Planning Commission's study is available.

IFC Funds for Oil Exploration in Krishna-Godavari Basin

9389. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Finance Corporation (IFC) has offered any funds for oil exploration work in the Krishna-Godavari offshore region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

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

Manufacture of Chandonium Iodide by Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited

9390. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chandonium Iodide developed at Punjab University has been clinically tested at CDRI, Lucknow for use as neuromuscular agent and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether this drug will be manufactured by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGAL RAO): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

Report of Andhra Pradesh on Rural Electrification

9391. SHRI P. PENCHALLAIH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Andhra Pradesh Government on rural electrification is satisfactory; and

(b) if not, the drawbacks therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). As per the latest progress report available with the Central Electricity Authority, 970 villages have been electrified and 77824 pumpsets have energised in Andhra Pradesh during 1987-88 upto February, 1988 against the targets of 815 villages and 75000 pumpsets fixed by Planning Commission for the year 1987-88.

Energy Conservation Organisation

9392. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether nodal energy conservation organisation with Planning and enforcement powers has been recommended to Government by the Indian Law Institute;

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

(c) for how long the supply of commercial energy will be available at the existing rate of consumption according to the estimates of the Planning Commission and Energy Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Advisory Board on Energy had commissioned the Indian Law Institute to prepare the draft of an energy conservation legislation which would be suitable for India. The Institute has prepared the first draft and is giving it a final shape before presenting it to the Advisory Board on Energy. This draft, inter-alia, contains provisions relating to the

setting up of a nodal energy conservation organisation. The Government will take a view in the matter at the appropriate time.

(c) The estimates given by the Planning Commission in the Seventh Plan Document indicate that the recoverable reserves of coking coal will, at the projected production level for 1994-95, last 93 years and that of non-coking coal, 116 years beyond 1994. The Advisory Board on Energy had estimated in 1985 that the coal reserves would, subject to certain assumptions, last till about the middle of the next century and the known recoverable reserves of crude oil as on 1.1.83 could sustain a production rate of 30 million tonnes per year till 2000 A.D. In actual practice, however, the period up to which such non-renewable commercial energy will be available would depend both upon the success of our exploration efforts in establishing new reserves and the actual demand for such forms of energy.

Waiting List for LPG Connection in Jamnagar, Gujarat

9393. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present waiting list for LPG connections in Jamnagar district of Gujarat;

(b) to what extent the demand is likely to be met in the current financial year; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase new LPG connections in this district?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on April 1, 1988 there were around 1800 persons on the waiting list for LPG connections in Jamnagar district of Gujarat;

(b) and (c). New LPG connections will continue to be released by the oil industry all over the country, including in Jamnagar district, in a phased manner under its annual programme for enrolment of customers, subject to augmentation in availability of LPG and bottling capacity.

Conversion of Branch Post Offices into Sub-Post Offices in Jaisalmer, Barmer and Jodhpur Districts of Rajasthan

9394. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branch post offices in Jaisalmer, Barmer and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan which are proposed to be converted into sub-post offices during the current and next financial years;

(b) what will be the total number of sub-post offices thereafter;

(c) the number of such sub-post offices out of them for which buildings have been constructed; and

(d) the number of buildings proposed to be built therefor during the current and next financial years?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There are no proposals at present for conversion of any of the branch post offices in the three districts as Sub offices.

(b) There are at present 115 sub post offices in the three districts. This number is likely to continue.

(c) Out of 115 sub post offices 11 are functioning in departmental buildings.

(d) Subject to availability of funds there are proposals for construction of departmental buildings for 3 more sub post offices during 1988-89 and 1989-90

Backlog of Posts Reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Public Undertakings

9395. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a huge backlog of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in different cate-

gories at the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited at Visakhapatnam and HMT Limited, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and Electronics Corporation of India Limited at Hyderabad;

(b) whether any representations have been made by the employees and others and action taken thereon; and

(c) the time-bound programme of Government not fill up all these vacancies by conducting special training courses?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) According to the information available, as on 1.1.1987, the representation of Scheduled Tribes in all groups of posts in Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd., HMT Ltd., Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. and Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., was below the prescribed level of representation in respect of Scheduled Castes in the services of these five undertakings was mainly in Group 'A' and 'B' posts.

(b) The representations received from time to time from welfare associations of Scheduled Castes/Tribes employees and others are normally forwarded to the concerned administrative Ministers for appropriate action.

(c) While the percentage of Scheduled Castes/Tribes employees in various groups of posts in public sector undertakings has been rising steadily over the years, it may not be realistic to lay down a time frame in which the backlog in the representation of Scheduled Castes/Tribes can be fully wiped out.

Criteria for Setting up AIR Station and TV Centre

9396. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for setting up an All India Radio station and television centre in a State;

(b) whether this criteria is being strictly followed; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether keeping in view the backward population of Andhra Pradesh, the provision of AIR stations and Doordarshan kendras is far less than the requirements; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to set up more A.I.R. stations and Doordarshan kendras to educate the backward population of the State?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The criteria being followed in setting up of All India Radio station and TV centre comprises of various factors, like providing of coverage to the areas not covered by the signals from any other existing stations, provision of service to hilly, backward, tribal and border areas, technical feasibility, extent of resultant coverage to rural and urban population, availability of programme production and linkage facilities, the linguistic and cultural needs and the availability of financial resources.

(c) and (d). At present radio coverage in Andhra Pradesh is available to 95% by population as against the national coverage of 94.5% by population. After completion of VII Plan the All India Radio coverage in Andhra Pradesh will be 99% by population, in comparison to national coverage of 97.5% by population.

The present TV coverage is available in Andhra Pradesh to 65.7% by population as against national coverage of 72.1% by population. After completion of VII Plan the Doordarshan coverage in Andhra Pradesh will be 77.0% by population, as against national coverage of 82.8% of population.

During the 7th Plan, new radio stations are proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh at Kottagudam, Warangal, Kumool, Tirupati, Nizamabad, Markapuram and Anantapur. Besides, the power of the

20 KW MW transmitter at Vijayawada is to be upgraded to 100 KW.

As regards TV, replacement of the existing low power transmitter at Anantapur and Tirupati by high power (10 KW) TV transmitters and establishment of additional low power transmitters at Adilabad, Khammam, Ramagundam and Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh are under implementation as part of the VII Plan. Two transmitters are also proposed to be set up at Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada for providing TV service to areas falling within the shadow zone. With the implementation of the above mentioned schemes, TV service is expected to be available to about 69% of rural and backward population of the State.

Upgradation of Technology in Small Scale Sector

9397. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the recommendations of the Experts' Working Group set up for upgradation of technology in small scale industrial sector in selected areas has been implemented by Government; and

(b) the steps taken to modernise small rubber based industries and marine products processing industries in Kerala by upgradation of technology in small scale sector as recommended by the above working group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Action has been initiated to implement recommendations of the Expert Working Group set up for upgradation of technology in the small scale sector in selected areas.

(b) Rubber based industries and marine products processing industries were not considered by the above working group specifically. However, these two industries have been included in the group of the industries for modernisation in Kerala:

(i) A Field Testing Station for rubber

products has been set up at Changanacherry Industrial Estate to provide testing facilities to small scale sector for upgradation of quality. Special studies and seminars have been organised for upgradation of Rubber based industries and liquid rubber product industry has been selected as one of the industries for modernisation during 1988-89.

(ii) Marine Products Export Development Authorities (MPEDA) is providing Sea food processing units in Kerala assistance like financial subsidies, maintenance grant and payment to technologists, for modernisation.

Payment of Productivity Linked Bonus in National Hydroelectric Power Corporation

9398. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether productivity linked bonus for 1983-84, 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 to the supervisors and executives of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) has been denied;

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

(c) whether similar benefits had been extended to employees in Railways and P & T Departments who were on the same D.A. formula and whose pay structure was then being looked into by the Fourth Pay Commission;

(d) if so, the reasons why the same practice was not made applicable to the supervisors and executives of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation;

(e) whether the issue regarding productivity linked bonus to these categories has been committed to the Higher Power Pay Committee; and

(f) if so, when it will be decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The National Hydroelectric Project Corporation (NHPC) had formulated two Productivity Linked Incentive Schemes for its employees which, it was envisaged, would be valid initially for two years from 1.4.1985. It was also envisaged that a lumpsum award could be paid to the employees for 1983-84 and 1984-85. The Schemes and the lumpsum payment were applicable to the employees of the Corporation who have accepted the Industrial D.A. pattern. These benefits would also become available to the employees of NHPC in the scales of Rs. 550-900 and above when they accept the Industrial D.A. pattern.

(c) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Utilisation of Incentives Provided to Private Sector

9399. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

	<i>Unit</i>	1982-84	1985-87
Letters of Intents	Nos.	3162	3576
Registrations for de-licenced industries	Nos.		5423
Total		3162	8999

* Started in May, 1985.

Recession in Engineering Industry

9401. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the engineering industry

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite various incentives given by Government to private cooperate sector, investment has lagged far below expectations;

(b) if so, whether any study in this regard has been made by Government; and

(c) if so, the main reasons for the failure of the private sector to utilise the incentives provided by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The Private Sector has been making full use of the incentives for promotion of industries. One indication is that, as far as new investment is concerned, there has been a significant increase as may be seen from the following table:

has warned Union Government that there is a fear of recession which will hit the industry in the near future;

(b) if so, the main reasons put forward by the engineering industry in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to

take any action in the matter and if so, the details of the remedial measures proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). No Sir. According to the Confederation of Engineering Industries (CEI), they had conducted a Business Outlook Survey in November 1987 based on 255 Engineering units which revealed anxiety and concern on various counts like general business situation, value of output, order position and rate of return on capital employed. The reasons responsible for the above are lack of orders, power shortage, lack of credit/finance, materials/components deficiency, labour unrest, shortage of skilled labour etc.

The Engineering Industry has recorded a growth of 15.9 per cent during April-December 1987, on top of a growth of 13.2 per cent during 1986-87. Government have provided a number of fiscal and financial incentives to stimulate industrial production in the Engineering sector.

During 1987-88, a special programme of technological upgradation for selected capital goods industries has been launched by financial institutions for three years period up to the end of the Seventh Plan to

induct the latest technology, to improve indigenous R&D facilities for constant upgradation, and to reduce costs in selected capital goods industries.

Participation of People in TV Programmes

9402. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Doordarshan has been telecasting certain programmes where participation of people is directly involved;

(b) if so, the names of such programmes with criteria of such participation;

(c) whether Delhi Doordarshan proposes to telecast more such programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (e). It has been the endeavour of Doordarshan to telecast programmes with people's participation. Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi are also telecasting such programmes, some of which are as follows:-

I. Channel 4

(i) Prashna Manch

(ii) Sports Quiz

(iii) Children's programme

II. Channel 7

(i) On the Spot

(ii) Suniye, Sochiye, Boliye

(iii) Children's programmes

Requests for participation in various programmes received from the viewers are scrutinized on the basis of their interests and participants invited as per the requirements of the programme.

Decline in Hydel Power Generation

9403. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether hydel power generation had declined in some States during 1987-88;

(b) if so, the States where hydel power generation had declined in the above financial year; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY

OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State/Organisation-wise information about hydel generation target vis-a-vis ac-

tual generation during 1987-88 is given below in the statement.

(c) The shortfall in hydel generation is mainly on account of low reservoir levels due to inadequate rainfall and delayed commissioning of some Hydro Electric units.

STATEMENT

States/Organisations Where Hydro Generation Declined During 1987-88 as Compared to Programme

State/Organisation	Programme 1987-88 (Million Units)	Actual Generation 1987-88 (Million Units)	Shortfall MUs	%
1	2	3	4	5
1. N.H.P.C.	2318	1674	644	27.8
2. Haryana	130	127	3	2.3
3. Himachal Pradesh	620	494	126	20.3
4. Rajasthan	1060	1015	45	4.2
5. Uttar Pradesh	4930	4701	229	4.6
6. Gujarat	715	355	360	50.3
7. Madhya Pradesh	475	434	41	8.6
8. Maharashtra	5330	4047	1283	24.1
9. Andhra Pradesh	7195	6080	1115	15.5
10. Karnataka	7935	5159	2776	35.0
11. Kerala	4875	4087	788	16.2
12. Tamil Nadu	3512	2200	1312	37.4
13. Orissa	2850	2300	550	19.3
14. West Bengal	120	87	33	27.5
15. Tripura	50	45	5	10.0
16. NEEPCO	245	16	229	93.5

Manufacture of Sprinkler Sets

9404. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of companies in the country have been granted licences to manufacture sprinkler sets, etc.;

(b) if so, the names of the firms granted licences and are manufacturing sprinkler sets in the country;

(c) whether there is any quality control and price check on these manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). There are only two units in the organised sector manufacturing sprinkler irrigation equipments namely, M/s. Premier Irrigation and Equipment Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta and M/s. Jindal Aluminium Ltd., Bangalore. These two units are registered with DGTD.

(c) and (d). Government have not issued any order regarding quality or price control in respect of this item.

Oil and Gas Deposits in Rajasthan and Arunachal Pradesh

9405. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large deposits of oil and natural gas have been found in Rajasthan and Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the areas surveyed in the above States; and

(c) the details of the oil and natural gas deposits found in the above States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). ONGC

have discovered two gas fields at Manhera Tibba and Ghotaru in Rajasthan. The total estimated reserves of gas in Rajasthan is about 1381 million cubic metres.

In Arunachal Pradesh, crude oil has been discovered at Kumchai and Kharsang structures by Oil India Limited. The Kumchai structure is still under delieation. The geological reserves of crude oil established in Arunachal Pradesh, excluding Kumchai, is about 15 million tonnes.

Geophysical surveys have been carried out by ONGC in Jaisalmer and Bikaner-Nagaur in Rajasthan. Oil India Limited have also carried out seismic surveys in Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan. In Arunachal Pradesh, seismic surveys have been carried out in Kharsang and Kumchai by Oil India Limited. In addition, seismic surveys have also been carried out in adjacent areas of Kharsang, Kumchai, Jairampur, Shonking, Pasighat and Bordumsa.

[Translation]

Filling up of Non-gazetted Posts in KVIC

9406. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the non-gazetted posts, which had fallen vacant in Khadi and Village Industries Commission and its sales centres, etc. have lapsed due to not taking any action in time to fill them up; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the revival of the lapsed posts so that these posts may be filled up at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The vacant Non-gazetted posts under the regular establishment of Khadi and Village Industries Commission have not lapsed due to not taking timely action to fill them. However, some temporary posts in the Departmental Khadi Gramodyog Bhavans and Vastragars

of Khadi & Village Industries Commission have lapsed because of being vacant for a period of more than six months.

(b) In so far as regular establishment of Khadi & Village Industries Commission is concerned, this does not arise.

As regards trading establishment, revival of vacant posts in Departmental Gramodyog Bhawans and Departmental Vastragars is considered every year, keeping in view the need and economic viability of the units.

[English]

Allocation of Molasses to Orissa

9407. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Orissa is facing acute shortage of molasses;

(b) the quantity of molasses reserved for cattlefeed units out of the total internal production of the State and whether it will be sufficient to meet their requirements;

(c) whether any proposal to step up the allocation of molasses to Orissa is under consideration of Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENKAL RAO): (a) to (d). At the meeting of the Central Molasses Board held on 4th February, 1988, the Orissa State Govt. indicated the total requirement of molasses for the current year (Dec., 87-- Nov., 88) at 35,000 tonnes including for cattle feed manufacturing units. Against this the local availability was indicated as 22,000 tonnes, showing a short fall of 13,000 tonnes. Inter-State allocation for supply of 6,000 Tonnes of molasses to Orissa, primarily for cattle feed manufacturing purposes has already been made during the first half of the current alcohol year. This

would be in addition to the unlifted quantities against the allocations made in the last year which are also valid for delivery. Any further quantities needed for cattle feed purpose will also be allotted by the Government of India.

Promotion of Bee Keeping

9408. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have introduced any scheme to promote bee keeping in the States, particularly in the tribal area;

(b) if so, the details of assistance extended to different States for the purpose during the last three years; and

(c) if not, whether any such central scheme is proposed to be sponsored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Khadi and Village Industries programmes including the development of bee keeping are being implemented in all the states and also in hill, border and tribal areas of the various states which benefit the tribal and other weaker sections inhabiting these areas. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) provides financial assistance on concessional terms and technical guidance for the development of bee keeping industry to State Khadi and Village Industries Boards, registered institutions and bee keepers cooperatives. For hill, border, tribal and drought prone areas liberalised pattern of assistance is provided by KVIC. Details regarding nature of assistance for development of bee keeping are given below in Statement I.

The financial assistance extended to different states in the country for promotion of bee keeping industry under KVIC during the last three years is as follows:--

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Grant	Loan
1984-85	9.48	31.51
1985-86	23.94	27.50
1986-87	33.45	47.99

Statewise details are given below in statement II.

STATEMENT I

*Details Regarding Nature of Assistance for
Development of Bee Keeping Under
Khadi & Village Industries
Commission*

Assistance is being extended for the development of bee keeping under Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the form of distribution of bee-equipment (bee boxes and honey extractors etc.), providing funds to set up medium scale and semi-commercial apiaries and construction of honey houses. KVIC encourages bee migration to increase honey production and agro-horticulture harvest. Graded courses of training are conducted. Besides, institutions/societies are assisted in the marketing of honey including providing working

capital loan for purchase of honey from bee-keepers. Guidance is also provided in the matter of quality control of honey and ensuring test facilities.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission has formulated liberalised pattern of assistance for hill, border, tribal and weaker section areas under which capital expenditure assistance for equipment and machineries is given at 75% grant and 25% loan both to institutions and individuals which would cover all approved implements, equipment and machineries (bee-boxes honey extractors etc.). For all types of construction work under the scheme of KVIC in hill, border and weaker section areas the assistance is given in the form of 50% grant and 50% loan.

STATEMENT-II

Rs. in Lakhs

Sl. No.	States & UTs	Disbursements for Book keeping under KVIC					
		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
		Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	STATES						
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.09	0.13	0.42	0.49	0.18	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Assam	0.64	3.48	0.88	3.22	2.73	4.23
4	Bihar	0.01	0.28	0.32	0.50	0.51	0.19
5	Goa (inc. U.T. of Daman & Diu)	0.17	0.06	0.11	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 ^f
6	Gujarat	-	-	0.02	-	0.01	-
7	Haryana	-	0.05	0.19	0.29	0.34	0.33
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.28	3.89	1.37	2.45	6.28	6.04
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.10	1.93	1.57	2.22	0.96	0.72
10	Karnataka	1.90	1.45	2.13	4.02	7.17	15.03
11	Kerala	1.10	11.40	2.70	1.71	1.06	7.45
12	Maharashtra	0.08	1.00	0.38	1.80	0.57	0.72
13	Madhya Pradesh	0.04	0.15	0.02	-	0.22	1.79
14	Manipur	0.38	-	0.59	0.36	-	-
15	Meghalaya	0.11	0.68	0.24	0.10	0.69	-
16	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Nagaland	0.42	0.10	0.61	1.10	1.85	0.73
18	Orissa	0.17	1.65	2.44	2.90	5.29	3.94
19	Punjab	-	-	0.01	0.36	0.38	2.01
20	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Sikkim	0.20	-	0.22	-	0.25	-
22	Tamil Nadu	1.77	4.35	2.00	3.05	5.93	3.99
23	Tripura	0.25	-	0.68	0.75	0.23	-
24	Uttar Pradesh	0.80	0.42	2.93	1.62	1.38	0.74
25	West Bengal	0.94	0.09	0.81	0.46	2.12	0.08
		9.45	31.11	20.64	27.40	38.15	47.99

II. *UNION TERRITORIES*

1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Delhi	-	-	-	-	0.06	-
5	Pondicherry	0.01	0.4	0.04	0.1	0.02	-
		0.01	0.4	0.04	0.1	0.08	-
III. MISCELLANEOUS							
1	Departmental	0.02	-	3.26	-	0.22	-
2	Other Schemes	-	-	-	-	-	-
		0.02	-	3.26	-	0.22	-
TOTAL: I+II+III		9.48	31.51	23.94	27.50	38.45	47.99

Oil and Gas find in Godavari Basin

9409. SHRI YASHWANT RAO
GADAKH PATIL:
SHRI B. N. REDDY;

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil and gas has been recently struck at another place in the Godavari basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total potential thereof;

(c) the total potential of oil and gas so far established in the Godavari basin;

(d) whether the reserves established so far in this basin will lead to an annual production of atleast a million tonnes of oil if advanced production techniques are applied; and

(e) if so, the measures taken to accelerate the production of oil and gas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). In April, 1988, gas has been discovered at Chintalapalli. The well is located at a distance of about 2.5 kms from Razole town. During initial testing, the well flowed gas at the rate of about 6 lakhs cubic meter per day through 24/64" choke. The exact potential of this discovery will be known only after the prospect is fully delineated.

(c) As on 1.7.87, geological reserves of 13.20 million tonnes of oil and 12878 million cubic meters of gas, have been established in the basin.

(d) and (e). The basin is still in the exploratory stage and the ultimate potential will be known only after the delineation of various prospects is complete. However, oil is being produced from Kaikalur-3 well and gas from Narsapur-Razole areas through early production system:

One offshore structure, namely, GS-16, is also planned to be put on Early Production System by the end of 1988.

Report of Prof. Narasimha Committee on R & D Division of BHEL

9410. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the inquiry report of Prof. Narasimha Committee regarding R & D division of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited;

(b) if so, the conclusions in the report; and

(c) the action Government propose to take on the conclusions?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister constituted a Committee to look into the functioning of research and development work in BHEL. The Committee in its Report, *inter alia*, has suggested the constitution of an Engineering Research and Development Council to suggest various measures for improving the R & D activities of BHEL.

(b) and (c). The Report is under consideration of Government

Import and Export of Films

9411. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of foreign films imported during the last two years, language-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange involved;

(c) the details of Indian films exported to other countries, country-wise and language-wise; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange earned?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The number of foreign feature films (language-wise) imported into the country during the financial years 1986-87 and 1987-88 is given below:

Language	1986-87	1987-88
1	2	3
English	194	173
Russian (dubbed in Eng.)	11	7
French (Sub-titled in Eng.)	2	1
Turkish (Sub-titled in English)	1	-
Chinese (Sub-titled in English)	1	-
Hungarian (Sub-titled in English)	1	-

1	2	3
Cuban (Sub-titled in English)	.	4
Swedish (Sub-titled in English)	-	1
Polish (Sub-titled in English)	-	1
Bulgarian (Sub-titled in English)	-	1
Spanish (Sub-titled in English)	-	2
Italian (Sub-titled in English)	-	1
	210	191

(b) The amount of foreign exchange involved in the import of foreign feature films during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 was Rs. 160.20 lakhs and Rs. 168.39 lakhs respectively.

(c) The details of Indian feature films and video rights of feature films exported to other countries - country-wise and language-wise during the years 1986-87 and

1987-88 are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(d) The foreign exchange earned from the export of feature films and video rights of feature films on the basis of shipping bills passed during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 was Rs. 718.42 lakhs and Rs. 906.74 lakhs respectively.

STATEMENT-I

The number of feature films exported (country-wise) during 1986-87 & 1987-88

S. No	Territory/Country	1986-87	1987-88
		No. of Films	No. of Films
1	2	3	4
1.	Afganistan	7	4
2.	MIDDLE EAST		
	Iran	-	2
	Iraq	1	-

1	2	3	4
	Jordan	25	28
	Lebanon	2	1
	Syria	-	1
	Egypt	6	5
	Turkey	4	-
	Greece	1	3
3.	ARABIAN GULF	184	181
4.	<i>FAR EAST</i>		
	Singapore	31	27
	Malaysia	27	34
	Hong-Kong	1	3
	Indonesia	28	42
	Taiwan	3	8
5.	SOUTH KOREA	1	-
6.	JAPAN	-	3
7.	MONGOLIA	4	-
8.	BURMA	13	16
9.	SRI LANKA	35	35
10.	MALDIVES	8	22
11.	<i>EASTERN EUROPE</i>		
	Yugoslavia	1	4
	Bulgaria	1	-
	Czechoslovakia	2	-
12.	<i>WESTERN EUROPE (Excluding UK & Ireland)</i>		
	Portugal	1	1
	Switzerland	1	-
	France	1	2

1	2	3	4
	West Germany	3	4
	Holland	1	-
	Scandinavian Countries (includes Sweden, Denmark, Finland & Norway)	9	4
	Italy	1	5
13.	UK & IRELAND	47	68
14.	U.S.S.R	9	18
15.	USA/CANADA	2	3
16.	SOUTH/LATIN AMERICA	4	13
17.	WEST INDIES	9	13
18.	FIJI ISLANDS	35	29
19.	<i>EAST AFRICA</i>		
	Kenya	13	22
	Tanzania	25	29
	Sudan	23	31
	Lesotho	-	1
	Angola	1	-
20.	<i>WEST AFRICA</i>		
	Nigeria/Lagos	20	10
	Ghana	1	5
	Gambia	2	11
	Sierra-Leone	1	-
	Liberia	9	10
21.	<i>NORTH AFRICA</i>		
	Morocco	37	36
	Senegal	1	2
	Gibraltar	4	6

1	2	3	4
22.	MAURITIUS & MADAGASCAR	55	61
23.	YEMEN/DJIBOUTI/SANNA	19	13
24.	AUSTRALIA	1	8
25.	CHINA	1	1
26.	NEW ZEALAND	1	4

	TOTAL	722	829

	Video Rights	113	137

	GRAND TOTAL	835	966

STATEMENT-II

The number of feature films (titles) (Language-wise) during 1986-87 and 1987-88

Sr. No.	Language	1986-87	1987-88
1	2	3	4
1.	Hindi	241	300
2.	Tamil	74	74
3.	Malayalam	61	67
4.	Bengali	13	16
5.	Telugu	12	5
6.	English	6	3
7.	Kannada	-	1
8.	Punjabi	-	2
9.	Gujarati	-	1
10.	Marathi	5	3
11.	Rajasthani	-	-
12.	Urdu	-	-
13.	Bhojpuri	1	-

1	2	3	4
14.	Assamese	-	-
15.	Konkani	-	-
16.	Sinhalese	-	-
17.	Sanskrit	-	1
Total:		413	473

VIDEO RIGHTS

1.	Hindi	56	43
2.	Tamil	34	30
3.	Malayalam	20	63
4.	Punjabi	1	1
5.	Telugu	1	-
6.	Gujarati	1	-
7.	Sindhi	-	-
8.	Marathi	-	-
9.	Urdu	-	-
Total:		113	137

Billing for Domestic Consumption of Electricity in R. K. Puram

9412. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether billing for domestic consumption of electricity by the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU), particularly in R. K. Puram area, is in utter shambles;

(b) whether the DESU authorities issue bills for 4 months and even more at a time thus causing considerable financial embarrassment to the consumers;

(c) what is the billing cycle, if any, laid

down and the reasons why it is not being adhered to; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to discipline the DESU to regulate its billing cycle properly and ensure that the bills are sent to the consumers within the prescribed time-limit and not allowed to accumulate in its offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). According to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking electricity bills are normally sent once in two months in the case of domestic, non-domestic and small industrial power (with load upto 5

KW) consumers. For industrial and bulk supply consumers bills are sent on monthly basis. The billing cycle is normally adhered to. However, there has been some dislocation in sending bills to the consumers mainly on account of certain procedural/Administrative constraints. To clear the back-log, bills for 4 months are sent to the consumers and the facility of payment in instalments is extended.

(d) In order to streamline its billing operations DESU has installed its in-house computer. The work of billing through the computer has already started in some districts and will gradually be extended to all the districts.

Clearance to Thermal Power Station at Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh

9413. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the feasibility report submitted by Andhra Pradesh Government for obtaining techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority to the proposed thermal power station in Rayalaseema area of Andhra Pradesh has been considered;

(b) the total requirement of coal for the project;

(c) whether the request made in May 1985 to Union Government to confirm availability of coal to the proposed power station was favourably considered; and

(d) if so, the present stage of the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The proposal in regard to installation of a thermal power station comprising of two units of 210 MW each at Rayalaseema (Muddanur) in Andhra Pradesh has been techno-economically approved by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and sanctioned by the Planning

Commission. The coal requirements for the proposed two units of 210 MW station are 1.75 million tonnes per annum. The Standing Linkage Committee has confirmed the availability of coal for the proposed station from Singareni Collieries Company Limited.

Production in Hindustan Newsprint Limited

9414. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "HNL achieves record output" appearing in the "Times of India" dated 5 April, 1988 stating that the Hindustan Newsprint Limited, a subsidiary of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, has achieved a record production of 81,513 tonnes of finished newsprint during the financial year 1987-88;

(b) whether the high production in 1987-88 was attained despite various problems caused by severe power cut and shortage of raw materials including coal; and

(c) if so, the incentives Government propose to give to maintain its record production in future also?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A productivity linked incentives scheme has been introduced w.e.f. 1.4.1987.

Revision in Royalty Rates of Coal

9415. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revision in the royalty rates of Coal has become due since February, 1985 with the result, the efforts of the State Government of Orissa to mobilise additional resources have been seriously jeopardised;

(b) whether the prices of coal are notified by Union Government;

(c) if so, whether Union Government propose to fix royalty rates at ad valorem basis;

(d) whether Union Government propose to fix the rate at 10 per cent of the administered price of Coal at pit-mouth; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) The revision of royalty rates on coal has become due in February, 1985. However, as royalty on coal is not very significant compared to total resources of State Government its non revision has not seriously jeopardised the efforts of the Orissa Government to mobilise additional resources.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). To consider the question of revision of rates of royalty on coal, a study group was constituted in November, 1984. The group considered the views/proposals of various State Governments. Some of the State Governments suggested the fixation of rates of royalty on coal on ad-valorem basis. The State Government of Orissa proposed that the royalty for different grades of coal should be fixed @ 10 % of the prices of coal notified by Government of India from time to time.

No decision has yet been taken by the Government on the report of Study Group.

Concessions/Incentives for setting up of Industries in Backward Areas

9416. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to establish new industries in industrially backward areas of the country in private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of concessions/assistance to the private industrial units being given for establishing new industries in backward areas; and

(c) the names of the industrial units which have offered their services in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The industrialisation of a specific district/area is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, the Central Government supplements their efforts by providing incentives/concessions to the entrepreneurs for setting up industries in the industrially backward districts/areas identified by the Central Government. These backward districts/areas have been classified into three categories, viz., 'A', 'B', and 'C'. The entrepreneurs setting up industries in Category 'A', 'B', and 'C' are eligible for central investment subsidy @ 25 %, 15 % and 10 % subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs (Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up Electronic Industry in hill districts of Category 'A', Rs. 15 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs respectively, besides other concessions like concessional finance from financial institutions, income-tax concessions under the income tax Act, etc. The above mentioned incentives, concessions etc. have encourage the entrepreneurs to set up industries in the industrially backward districts.

Setting up of Oil Terminal at Irimpanam near Bangalore

9417. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the oil terminal proposed to be set up at Irimpanam near Bangalore;

(b) the total allocation made for this project; and

(c) the number and locations of such oil terminals existing in the country and their respective capacities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Bharat Petroleum Corporation proposes to construct a new oil terminal at Irimpanam near

Cochin port in Kerala with a tankage capacity of 1,54,200 KL.

(b) The cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 65.21 crores (at January, 1988 prices).

(c) The details of similar existing port oil installations/terminals of various oil companies are given below:--

Sl. No.	Location	Tankage Capacity (KLs)
1	2	3
<i>Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.</i>		
1.	Sewree (Bombay)	122043
2.	Ermaculam	45881
3.	Tondiarpet (Madras)	44586
4.	Kandla	85373
5.	Budge-Budge (Calcutta)	82257
<i>Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.</i>		
6.	Haybunder (Bombay)	22000
7.	Wadala Sewree (Bombay)	90000
8.	Kandla	125000
9.	Vasco	42000
10.	Cochin, Ernakulam	29000
11.	Cochin	40000
12.	Madras	38000
13.	Vizag	62000
14.	Calcutta (Budge-Budge)	68000
15.	Ram Nagar	10000
<i>I. B. P. Company Limited</i>		
16.	Sewri/Wadala	19800
17.	Budge-Budge	20600

1	2	3
	<i>Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.</i>	
18.	Budge-Budge	41847
19.	Haldia	126768
20.	Port Blair	30273
21.	Kandla (Main)	117591
22.	Kandla (Foreshore)	75370
23.	Okha (in Bombay)	41955
24.	Sewree (in Bombay)	45490
25.	Wadala/Antop Hill (in Bombay)	51540
26.	Vasco	101830
27.	Kurrukupet (in Madras)	56995
28.	Madras (Jetty) (in Madras)	119937
29.	Royapuram (in Madras)	7450
30.	Tondiarpet (in Madras)	91118
31.	Mangalore	97614
32.	Tuticorin	67640
33.	Vizag	107025
34.	Wellington Island	39705

Demand of Natural Gas and Petroleum Products for Chemicals and Fertilizers

9418. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made to assess the possible demand for gas and

petroleum products for production of chemicals and fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). A recent study on demand projections of petroleum products has estimated the demand of petroleum products for production of petrochemicals and fertilizers as follows:

('000 TONNES)

PRODUCT	1989-90	1994-95
Naphtha	3883*	6271*
FO/LSHS	2432	2834

* (Including demand for the plants to be met internally by refineries)

As regards natural gas, the Planning Commission has constituted an Advisory Group on Perspective Plan for Natural Gas, who would, *inter-alia*, go into the demand for natural gas for specific industries and sectors of the economy. The report of the Group has not yet been received.

Salt Production

9419. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the salt production at the salt town of Khara-godha and other salt pans in Gujarat which provide 60 per cent of the country's salt requirements, has been hit badly with reduced flow of water from the saline water wells in the area;

(b) whether the salt production of the Hindustan Salt Ltd. has gone down tremendously;

(c) if so, the production during the year 1987-88 as compared to the last two years;

(d) whether owing to the drought, the production in the Sambhar Lake area in Rajasthan has also considerably gone down; and

(e) if so, the concrete steps Government propose to take to meet the salt famine during the current year and thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is decrease in the production of salt by M/s. Hindustan Salts Limited. The production at Khargodha Unit of Hindustan Salts Limited during 1987-88 is estimated to be around 97000 M.T. (provisional). The production for this unit during the years 1985-87 (extended financial year October, 1985 to March, 1987) and 1984-85 was 1,58,503 M.T. and 1,35,014 M.T. respectively.

(d) Due to failure of monsoon Sambhar Lake is completely dry which has affected production adversely.

(e) M/s. Sambhar Salts Limited have made efforts to tap sub-soil brine to maximum possible extent. 13 bore wells have already been sunk to supplement brine supply. However, sub-soil brine is also depleted. Intensive efforts are being made by M/s. Sambhar Salts Limited to locate more brine bearing areas.

There is no salt famine in the country as is evident from the figure of production and stocks at the end of the year for the last three years as under:--

Year	Production	Stock
	(Quantity in lakh M.T.)	
1985	98.75	47.44
1986	101.16	63.46
1987	99.00	77.44

Take over of Sick Industries by MRTP and FERA Companies

9420. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are evolving a package of legal and administrative relaxations and fiscal and financial relief to make it easier for MRTP and FERA Companies to take over the sick units; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). In order to promote rehabilitation of sick industrial units, Government are exploring the feasibility of liberalising procedural and other related issues in cases where MRTP/FERA Companies take over such units. Details of the exercise are being worked out and as such it is too early to indicate broad features thereof.

Changes in Doordarshan News Set up

9421. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some major changes are on the anvil in the Doordarshan's news set up in order to improve the quality of its bulletins;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) the additional manpower proposed to be put into operation and the approximate cost thereof per annum?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). Some changes are being effected to streamline Doordarshan's news set-up by acquiring modern electronic hardware and inducting news professionals etc. So far 82 posts have been approved involving an Annual Expenditure of Rs. 35 lakhs approximately.

Selection of Journalists for Official Visits of Prime Minister

9422. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given on 7th December, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 4581 regarding selection of pressmen for official visits and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Press Council of India for selection of journalists for officially sponsored visits apply to the visits sponsored by the Prime Minister's Office;

(b) the number of visits sponsored by the Prime Minister's Office during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the number of press persons included in these visits, year-wise, with their regional, linguistic and paper-wise/group-wise break-up; and

(d) the names of persons who were selected more than once during the last 3 years with the name of the paper/group.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The Press Council of India has recommended guidelines for the selection of Journalists for officially sponsored visits. These guidelines are only advisory in nature and not binding on the Government. The media teams accompanying Prime Minister on his visits abroad do not come under the category of sponsored visits.

(b)

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
	10*	5*	7*

(*the figures pertain to foreign visits only. During official visits within the country, usually a representative of the national news agencies is alternately taken. On rare occasions newspapers/periodicals are also included on their requests, subject to availability of accommodation on the helicopter/plane).

(c) Statement-I giving details is given below.

(d) The details are given in Statement-II below.

STATEMENT - I

Sl No.	Newspaper Group/ Agency	Region	Language	Number of Visits		
				1985-86	1986-87	1988
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	P.T.I.	All India	English	10	5	7
2.	P.T.I. Bhasha	All India	Hindi	-	-	2
3.	U.N.I.	All India	English	9	5	7
4.	Univarta	All India	Hindi	-	-	2
5.	Gamma	Inter-national	Photo Agency	1	-	1
6.	I.N.F.A.	All India	English	2	-	-
7.	P.O.T.	All India	English	1	-	-
8.	Aaj Kal	Eastern	Bengali	-	-	2
9.	Africa Dairy	Northern	English	-	1	1
10.	Aj	Northern	Hindi	-	1	2
11.	Akbar-e-Mashriq	Northern	Urdu	-	-	1
12.	Amrita Bazar Group	N/E	Eng/Beng	4	2	3
13.	Ananda Bazar Group	N/E	Eng/Beng	7	5	10
14.	Ananda Vikatan	Southern	Tamil	1	-	-
15.	Andhra Jyoti	Southern	Telugu	-	-	1
16.	Aryavarta Group	Northern	Eng/Hindi	1	1	-
17.	Assam Tribune	Eastern	English	1	-	-
18.	Azimabad Express	Northern	Urdu	1	-	-
19.	Bhaskar	Northern	Hindi	1	-	1
20.	Blitz	All India	Multi-Ling	2	2	2
21.	Business India	All India	English	1	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Business World	All India	English	1	-	-
23.	Daily Thanthi	Southern	Tamil	1	-	2
24.	Dainik Sambad	Eastern	Bengali	-	-	1
25.	Deccan Chronicle	Southern	English	1	-	2
26.	Deccan Herald	Southern	Eng/Kan	2	-	2
27.	Dinamalar	Southern	Tamil	-	1	1
28.	Economic & Political Weekly	All India	English	1	-	-
29.	Free Press Journal	Western	English	1	-	-
30.	Gentleman	All India	English	-	2	-
31.	Gomantak	Western	Marathi	-	-	1
32.	Gujarat Samachar	Western	Gujarati	-	1	-
33.	Hind Samachar Group	Northern	Multi-Ling	1	-	2
34.	Hindur	N/S	English	2	3	6
35.	Hindustan Times Group	Northern	Multi-Ling	6	5	8
36.	Hitavada	Western	English	1	-	-
37.	Idayan Pesukirathu	Southern	Tamil	-	-	1
38.	India Today	All India	Eng/Hin	4	-	4
39.	Indian Express Group	All India	Multi-Ling	4	3	1
40.	Jagran	Northern	Hindi	2	1	3
41.	Jai Hind	Western	Gujarati	1	-	-
42.	Janma Bhoomi Group	Western	Gujarati	1	-	1
43.	Kerala Kaumudi	Southern	Mal	2	-	2
44.	Kesari	Western	Marathi	1	-	1
45.	Lokmat	Western	Marathi	-	1	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
46.	Lok Satta	Western	Marathi	1	-	-
47.	Makkal Kural	Southern	Eng/Tamil	1	1	2
48.	Malayala Manorama Group	Southern	Eng/Mal	2	1	2
49.	Mathrubhoomi	Southern	Mal	2	1	2
50.	Mid-Day Group	W/N	Eng/Urdu	1	-	1
51.	Mussalman	Southern	Urdu	1	-	-
52.	Mizo Aw	Eastern	Mizo	-	-	1
53.	Nagaland Observer	Eastern	English	-	-	1
54.	Nai Duniya	Northern	Hindi	1	1	3
55.	National Herald Group	Northern	Mult-Ling	4	-	4
56.	Navbharat	Northern	Eng/Hindi	-	1	-
57.	Navhind Times	Western	English	1	1	-
58.	Navjeevan	Northern	Hindi	-	-	2
59.	Navjyoti	Western	Hindi	-	-	1
60.	Paribartan	Eastern	Bengali	1	-	-
61.	Patriot	Northern	English	3	3	3
62.	Pratap	Northern	Hindi/Urdu	1	-	-
63.	Preet Lari	Northern	Punjabi	1	-	-
64.	Punjabi Digest	Northern	Punjabi	1	-	-
65.	Qaumi Ekta	Northern	Punjabi	1	-	1
66.	Rahnuma-e-Dekkan	Southern	Urdu	1	-	-
67.	Rajasthan Patrika	Northern	Hindi	1	-	-
68.	Reader's Digest	Internat.	English	1	-	-
69.	Sakal	Western	Marathi	1	-	1
70.	Samaj	Eastern	Oriya	1	-	-
71.	Sandesh	Western	Gujarati	-	1	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
72.	Sentinel	Eastern	English	1	-	1
73.	Shama	Northern	Urdu	1	1	-
74.	Siasat	Southern	Urdu	1	-	1
75.	Statesman	N/E	English	3	* 2	-
76.	Sunday Mail	All India	English	-	-	1
77.	Sunday Observer	All India	English	-	1	-
78.	Taranga	Southern	Kannada	-	1	-
79.	Tarun Bharat	Western	Marathi	1	-	-
80.	Tej	Northern	Hindi	1	-	-
81.	Times of India Group	All India	Multi-Ling	10	6	7
82.	Tribune	Northern	Multi-Ling	-	-	2
83.	Udayam	Southern	Telugu	-	1	-
84.	Udaya Vani	Southern	Kannada	-	-	1
85.	Vyapar	Western	Gujarati	1	-	-
86.	Free Lance Journalists	-	-	1	-	1

STATEMENT - II

Sl. No.	Name of Correspondent	Organisation
1	2	3
1.	Shri A. K. Tandon	P.T.I.
2.	Shri Harihar Swarup	P.T.I.
3.	Shri C. V. Vaidyanathan	P.T.I.
4.	Shri H. S. Rao	P.T.I.
5.	Shri K. Dharmarajan	P.T.I.
6.	Shri V. S. Karnik	P.T.I.
7.	Shri T. R. Ramachandran	U.N.I.

1	2	3
8.	Shri C. K. Arora	U.N.I.
9.	Shri Virendra Mohan	U.N.I.
10.	Shri Ramesh Arora	U.N.I.
11.	Shri U. R. Kalkur	U.N.I.
12.	Shri Pablo Bartholomew	Gamma
13.	Shri Inderjit	I.N.F.A.
14.	Shri C. S. Pandi	Amrita Bazar Group
15.	Shri H. S. Chhabra	Africa Diary
16.	Shri Sunit Ghosh	Ananda Bazar Group
17.	Shri Udayan Sharma	Ananda Bazar Group
18.	Shri Suman Chattopadhyay	Ananda Bazar Group
19.	Shri M. J. Akbar	Ananda Bazar Group
20.	Shri R. K. Karanjia	Blitz
21.	Shri Joga Rao	Blitz
22.	Shrimati Sivasankari	Daily Tanthi/Ananda Vikatan
23.	Shri T. Venkatarama Reddy	Deccan Chronicle
24.	Shri N. Ram	Hindu
25.	Shri K. K. Katyal	Hindu
26.	Shri M. K. Dhar	Hindustan Times Group
27.	Shri Samir Pal	Hindustan Times Group
28.	Shri Vinod Mishra	Hindustan Times Group
29.	Shri Raghu Rai	India Today
30.	Shri Aroon Purie	India Today
31.	Shri Prabhu Chawla	India Today
32.	Shri Narendra Reddy	Indian Express Group
33.	Shri K. Sriram	Indian Express Group
34.	Shri Narendra Mohan	Jagran

1	2	3
35.	Shri V. N. Nair	Kerala Kaumudi
36.	Shri T. R. Ramaswamy	Makkal Kural
37.	Shri K. Gopalakrishnan	Malayala Manorama
38.	Shri V. K. Madhavan Kutty	Mathrubhumi
39.	Shri Khalid Ansari	Mid-Day Group
40.	Shri Ram Sharan Joshi	Nai Dunia
41.	Shri Abhay Chajlani	Nai Dunia
42.	Shri A. K. Kidwai	National Herald Group
43.	Shri R. K. Mishra	Patriot
44.	Shri Vinod Taksal	Patriot
45.	Shri R. S. Bhatia	Qaumi Ekta
46.	Shri P. B. Barathakur	Sentinel
47.	Ms. Sadia Dehlavi	Shama
48.	Shri D. P. Kumar	Statesman
49.	Shri Subhas Chakravarty	Times of India Group
50.	Shri L. K. Sharma	Times of India Group
51.	Shri Rajendra Mathur	Times of India Group
52.	Shrimati Pushpa Bharati	Times of India Group
53.	Shri K. N. Nandan	Times of India Group
54.	Shri S. Viswam	Tribune/Deccan Herald

Corruption Cases in Public Sector Undertakings

9423. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take public sector employees out of the purview of the Central Vigilance Commission for dealing with corruption cases; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The bureau of Public Enterprises has issued instructions to the public sector undertakings stating that reference to Central Vigilance Commission may be made only in regard to such vigilance cases which pertained to Board level appointees in view of the fact that Government is the

appointing authority for Board level posts and as such the disciplinary proceedings against Board level appointees is the responsibility of the Government. Such references need not be made to CVC for below Board level appointees.

In amplification of this circular, Department of Personnel and Training have clarified that the jurisdiction of CVC in respect of general powers of prevention of corruption and supervision, direction and monitoring of vigilance work in the public enterprises will continue as before.

Handing Over of Sick Public Sector Units to Private Sector

9424. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to hand over the sick units to private sector and/or joint sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have fixed any norms for selecting private management; if so, what are those norms; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to ensure that the workers' interests are protected while handing over the management to private sector?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) There is no proposal to hand over the sick units to private sector and/or joint sector.

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

Irregularities in GAIL

9425. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI SRI HARI RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has

been drawn to the news item captioned "GAIL head 'pipes' out funds" appearing in the Blitz dated 9 April, 1988;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the action taken, if any?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The allegations of irregularities as contained in the news report dated 9.4.1988 are not tenable.

Power Shortage in Andhra Pradesh

9426. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a power shortage in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government has requested to allot power from Central Grid;

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

(d) whether Government are distributing power uniformly to all the States at uniform rates, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Andhra Pradesh has been allocated 25% of the unallocated share of power from the Central Sector Stations in the Southern Region. Assistance is also being provided to Andhra Pradesh from the Neighbouring systems to the maximum extent possible.

(d) The power generated by the Central Sector Power Stations is distributed to the States in the respective Regions in accordance with the Central formula for allocation of power. The cost of supply from different Central generating stations differs on account of various factors like capital

cost of the project, cost of fuel, O&M costs, etc.

Professionalism in Doordarshan

9427. SHRI RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI SRIHARI RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to re-structure Doordarshan by injecting professionalism in it and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also under consideration of Government to give more attention to regional news and programmes on the National TV Net-work;

(c) if so, the number and names of T.V. centres where such programmes will be telecast in regional languages on National T.V. Network; and

(d) the time by which it will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMA-

TION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Doordarshan has plans to re-structure the news set-up by injecting professionalism. Besides acquiring modern and more efficient equipment, it is envisaged to recruit talented persons and give them thorough training in the news gathering operations. It is also envisaged to augment the news gathering sources at various Kendras and other places.

(b) to (d). At present, news only in English and Hindi is telecast on the National TV net-work. Regional news is telecast by various full-fledged TV centres in their respective regional languages. The names of such Centres are given below in the Statement. In addition to the centres mentioned below in the statement, it has also been decided to start telecast of regional news bulletins from Jaipur and Cuttack. As regards telecast of programmes in regional language on the national hook-up, one regional feature film is telecast every week. One Chitramala programme consisting of song and dance sequences from regional language feature films is also telecast on fortnightly basis. Besides, one regional music concert and a programme from States is also telecast in regional language once a month with English sub-titles.

STATEMENT

Names of Doordarshan Kendras which Telecast Regional News Bulletins

Doordarshan Kendras	Language
1	2
1. Srinagar	Urdu, Kashmiri
2. Jalandhar	Punjabi
3. Delhi (Channel II)	Hindi
4. Lucknow	Hindi
5. Guwahati	Assamese
6. Calcutta	Bengali
7. Hyderabad	Telugu
8. Madras	Tamil

1	2
9. Trivandrum	Malayalam
10. Bangalore	Kannada
11. Bombay	Marathi
12. Ahmedabad	Gujarati

[Translation]

Opening of Office of Divisional Engineering Telephones for Almora and Pithoragarh Districts in U.P.

9428. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workload in Almora and Pithoragarh districts in Uttar Pradesh justifies the opening of an office of D.E.T. for these districts;

(b) if so, the reasons for not opening this office as yet; and

(c) the steps being taken or contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for opening an office of Telecom Distt. Engineer for the Almora SSA Comprising of Almora and Pithoragarh Revenue Districts.

(b) and (c). Post of a Telecom District

Engineer could not be created due to the ban on creation of posts.

Setting up of Public Sector Industries in Uttar Pradesh

9429. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up industries in the public sector by Union Government in Uttar Pradesh during the present plan period;

(b) if so, the places where these industries are proposed to be set up;

(c) whether the work on the setting up of these industries is going on as per schedule; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d). The Seventh Five Year Plan provides for setting up of new schemes of the following Central Public Sector Undertakings in Uttar Pradesh in industrial and mineral sector:

S.No.	Enterprises	Location
1.	Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	Rishikesh
2.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.,	Hardwar & Jhansi
3.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	Naini
4.	Triveni Structural Ltd.	Naini
5.	HMT Ltd.	Ranibagh

Action is being taken in setting up these units. Setting up of these new units on existing locations is not likely to pose much problem.

[English]

Derogatory Dialogues in Film 'Phagun'

9430. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vihar Manch, Delhi has protested against derogatory and insulting dialogues repeatedly used against 'Balmiki' community in Hindi feature film 'Phagun' telecast on T.V. on 6 March, 1988;

(b) if so, the reasons why the Screening Committee did not delete the caste-based derogatory dialogues in the film; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). A letter written by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vihar Manch, Delhi in this regard has been received. On enquiry, it was found that as the film moved towards the climax, the word 'Bhangan' came in a couple of sequences. However, it was not used in any derogatory manner.

[Translation]

Assistance for Micro-Hydel Projects in Uttar Pradesh

9431. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Micro-Hydel Corporation of Uttar Pradesh has sought any financial assistance for the implementation of its micro-hydel projects; and

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be given during 1988-89 and the names of micro-hydel projects on which work is proposed to be taken up this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Micro Hydel Projects are normally implemented in the State sector and allocations for them are made in the State Plans. Central assistance is given for State Plans in the form of block loans/grants and is generally not related to any specific programme such as the setting up of micro-hydel projects.

The Uttar Pradesh Micro-Mini Hydel Corporation has sought external assistance for four projects with a total capacity of 3.7 MW and an estimated cost of about Rs. 6.7 crores. The financial assistance to be given can be indicated after it has been tied up. For partly financing the Barar Mini Hydel Scheme of 0.9 MW, the Corporation has very recently submitted a proposal to Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources who will take a view in the matter.

[English]

Implementation of Approved Power Programmes

9432. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be provided by Union Government and the State Governments for implementing the approved power programmes during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The total amount proposed for Power Sector during the Seventh Plan period is Rs. 34273.46 crores excluding additional outlay estimated for advance action on the power projects planned for benefits in the Eighth Plan. The details are given below in the Statement.

STATEMENT

Tentative Break-up of Outlay for Power Sector for Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90)

S.No.	State	Generation					Rural Electrification			Renovation & Modernisation	Mis.	Total
		Ongoing	New	Total	T & D	State Plan	REC	MNP	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43018	4309	47827	51590	5474	5081	-	10555	287	221	110490
2.	Assam	6065	11194	17259	15000	6591	2874	5035	14500	241	1500	48500
3.	Bihar	44649	9000	53649	30000	1100	7723	9348	18171	3287	1393	106500
4.	Gujarat	72477	9514	81991	50000	2200	5040	-	7240	3939	530	143700
5.	Haryana	21555	39728	61283	29844	4500	2281	-	6782	2667	450	101025
6.	Himachal Pradesh	14250	1173	15423	6400	326	3026	286	3638	-	550	26011
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	8797	3325	12122	10000	316	3000	34	3350	1750	600	27822
8.	Karnataka	44476	500	44976	28000	2326	2948	-	5274	1250	500	80000
9.	Kerala	13266	7200	20466	16787	-	1947	-	1947	-	480	39680
10.	Madhya Pradesh	146723	32100	178823	60000	2401	11538	8174	22113	2686	978	264600
11.	Maharashtra	182267	4000	186267	85500	20024	6312	-	26336	1784	5000	304887
12.	Manipur	431	69	500	950	1096	121	843	2060	-	87	3597

Central Plan 1-4

Total All India	1714798	415465	2130263	919800	62385	99668	48757	210800	97191	69292	3427346
N.E.C.	16100	5000	21100	5393	-	-	-	-	-	694	27187

Exclusive of outlays for NEC, Special Project Agriculture (REC's share), Rural Cooperatives and System Improvement Schemes.

Power Generation Target and Achievement

9433. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total power generation target set and achievement made in 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 from different sources;

(b) the process made in reaching that target in power generation in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the steps taken to achieve the target; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Generation target, actual generation and percent achievement for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is as under:--

(Figures in MU)

Category	Generation target	Actual Generation	%age achievement
<i>1985-86</i>			
Thermal	110000	114119	103.7
Nuclear	4000	4985	124.2
Hydro	56000	50933	90.9
Total	170000	170037	100.0
<i>1986-87</i>			
Thermal	127800	128818	100.8
Nuclear	5200	5023	96.6
Hydro	57000	53764	94.3
Total	190000	187605	98.7
<i>1987-88</i>			
Thermal	143000	149350	104.4
Nuclear	5600	5029	89.8
Hydro	56400	47374	83.9
Total	205000	201753	98.4

(b) to (d). A capacity addition of 22245.25 MW is envisaged for the Seventh Plan. During the first three years, capacity totalling 11829 MW has been added.

The steps being taken to achieve the Seventh Plan targets to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of additional capacity, early sta-

bilisation of newly commissioned units, improving the performance of the existing thermal power stations, reducing transmission & distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and implementing short gestation projects.

Power Projects

9434. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects set up in Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh in the Central and State sectors during the Seventh Plan period so far;

(b) the capacity and cost of those projects, project-wise;

(c) how many of them have started commercial production;

(d) whether the Central Electricity Authority has been monitoring the implementation of those power projects;

(e) if so, the observation made by the

Central Electricity Authority on those power projects in the last three years; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The desired information is given below in the statement.

(c) All units mentioned in Annexure except Korba STPS stage-II Unit-5 (500 MW) and Vindhyachal STPS Unit-1 (210 MW) are in commercial operation.

(d) to (f), Yes, Sir. Construction Monitoring Cells have been set up in the Central Electricity Authority which has been very closely monitoring the progress of various power projects under construction in the country. As per the latest appraisal by CEA, North Koel (Bihar), Bansagar Tons (3rd Unit) (M.P.), Hasdee Bango (M.P.), Rengali Extn. (3rd Unit) (Orissa), and Petteru (Orissa) which were targeted for commissioning during the 7th Plan period, may be slipping to the 8th Plan.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Project & Unit No.	Capacity (MW)	Latest Cost* (in Crores)
1	2	3	4
MADHYA PRADESH			
<i>THERMAL</i>			
1.	Korba West Unit - 4	210	290.90
2.	Vindhyachal STPS Unit - 1	210	1349.90
3.	Korba STPS Unit 4 & 5	1000	1598.51
<i>HYDRO</i>			
1.	Bargi Unit - 1	45	74.31
BIHAR			
<i>THERMAL</i>			
1.	Patratu Unit 10	110	178.31

1	2	3	4
2.	Muzaffarpur Unit - 2	110	227.68
3.	Bokaro 'B' Unit 1	210	206.44

ORISSA*HYDRO*

1.	Rangali Unit 1, 2	100	139.77
2.	Upper Kolab Unit 1,2	160	198.00

Note:

* The cost given is that of the total project.

Long Range Plan for Energy Sector

9435. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan in the energy sector underlines the need for preparation of a detailed long range plan for the energy sector as a whole; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission have taken action to prepare a detailed perspective Plan in the Energy Sector including the use of mathematical modelling to determine the long run marginal cost and the most optimal fuel mix at minimal domestic resource cost. The following steps have been taken by the Planning Commission in connection with the formulation of the long range Plan for Energy Sector:

(i) An Energy demand Screening Group was set up to review the demand projections made by various agencies. The estimates given by the

Energy Demand Screening Group on Energy Consumption by sectors and fuel are to be used as initialisation numbers for the energy models.

(ii) A mathematical model is to be formulated for working out different scenarios of supply options at least cost to the economy. Different geological and technological options are being considered in the model.

(iii) Possibilities of inter-fuel substitution are likely to be explored through the use of energy model and a suitable pricing mechanism to be evolved.

(iv) A Steering Group has been set up to give directions to the Team working on the formulation of energy model.

Strengthening of Transmission Network in Northern Region

9436. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
SHRI S. M. GURADDI:
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation is taking up an ambitious scheme to strengthen the transmission network in the Northern region;

(b) if so, the total amount that will be spent for implementing the scheme;

(c) the main points of the scheme;

(d) the extent to which it will help to strengthen the transmission network; and

(e) whether the World Bank has been approached for financing the transmission system network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (e). The National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) have formulated a scheme, at an estimated cost of about Rs. 1065 crores, for the strengthening of the Northern Regional Transmission system. The scheme comprises construction of Extra High Voltage Transmission lines from Nathpa -- Jhakri (Himachal Pradesh) to Bhiwani via Kol Dam (Himachal Pradesh), Abdullapur (Haryana) and Bawana (Delhi); from Bhiwani to Jaipur (Rajasthan); and from Manpur (Jammu & Kashmir) to Bhiwani via Moga (Punjab). The proposed transmission system would facilitate the transfer of power from Hydroelectric projects located in the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, to other beneficiary States in the Northern Region. Preliminary discussions have been held between NHPC and World Bank representatives for financing the project through World Bank assistance.

Industrially Backward Districts Scheme

9437. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centrally declared industrially backward districts scheme has been scrapped;

(b) whether it has resulted in decrease

in the total population taking advantage of this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The Central Incentives Scheme for Industrialisation of backward areas is being extended upto 30th September, 1988.

[Translation]

Crisis in Cement Units

9438. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI SRI HARI RAO:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI RAM DHAN:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Cement units face crisis' appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 4 April, 1988;

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

(c) the new measures likely to be taken by Government to overcome crisis in this industry; and

(d) the scheme being implemented by Government to give relief to the industry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The news item appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 4th April, 1988 is based on the conjecture that the estimated production of 44 million tonnes for the year 1988-89 would have a surplus of about 3 million tonnes over the expected demand.

The target of cement production for the year 1988-89 has been fixed as 43.5 million tonnes in consultation with the major cement manufacturers. The Working Group on Cement Industry for 1985-90 had estimated the demand for cement in 1984-85 and 1989-90 as 37 million tonnes and 49 million tonnes respectively. On this basis, the demand for 1989-90 is estimated to be 46.3 million tonnes at a uniform growth rate of 5.78% per annum. Thus, it is not foreseen that the production of cement in 1988-89 will leave a surplus over the anticipated demand.

Representations have been received from the Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA), requesting for measures like complete decontrol of cement, complete exemption from excise duty in respect of post-1982 units, cash subsidy for captive power generation, increase in the retention price of levy cement due to cost escalation, etc.

(c) and (d). The Government have given a number of reliefs from time to time in order to improve the profitability of the cement industry and maximise cement production. The following are the important incentives and reliefs given to the cement industry:-

(i) Keeping in view the increase in the cost of inputs, the retention price of levy cement is increased from time to time and levy obligation on cement industry is progressively reduced. During 1986, retention price for levy cement has been increased by Rs. 24.50 per tonne, w.e.f. 15.12.86 and the levy obligation of all categories of cement units was reduced by 10% with the objective of providing relief to the industry.

(ii) During 1987, the levy obligation of cement units which commenced production between 1.1.82 to 31.3.86 was reduced from 30% of actual production to 20% of actual production and these units (including mini cement plants) were also given the benefit of rebate in

excise duty to the extent of Rs. 20 per tonne.

The levy obligation of cement units which commenced production on or after 1.4.86 was reduced from 30% of actual production to 15% of actual production and these units (including mini cement plants) were also given rebate in excise duty to the extent of Rs. 50 per tonne.

- (iii) The Cement Industry has been encouraged to set up captive power generating, capacity and appropriate relief by way of reduction in levy obligation is allowed to compensate for increased cost of cement production with the help of high cost DG captive power.
- (iv) The industry has been encouraged to convert wet process units into dry process units by giving suitable relief in levy obligation.
- (v) There is no price and distribution control on the production of mini cement plants upto a capacity of 300 MT per day.
- (vi) Mini cement plants are, subject to certain conditions, being permitted to expand their capacity to 600 TPD to improve their economic viability and maximise production.
- (vii) In order to encourage cement units to achieve more than 100% capacity utilisation, special dispensation in levy obligation is given for production beyond 100% upto 125%.
- (viii) Levy quota of pre 1982 units, including those declared as sick, has been reduced w.e.f. 1st March, 1988.
- (ix) Excise duty on Cement Industry has also been reduced from Rs. 225/- per tonne to Rs. 205/- per tonne w.e.f. 1.3.1988.

Distribution of Natural Gas in Bombay City

9439. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI RAM DHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided about the selection of the agency for the purpose of distribution of natural gas for domestic and industrial use in Bombay City;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). The Government of Maharashtra have decided to invite offers for taking up this work. A decision would be taken by the State Government after the offers are received and examined.

[English]

Setting up of Petro-Chemical Plants by HPCL in Eighth Plan

9440. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited Propose to set up a few more petrochemical and related plants in Visakhapatnam during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) whether the Naphtha-Hydrocracker Unit costing Rs. 800 crores and another petro-chemical plant are also proposed; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Hindustan Petroleum Corporation propose to make some studies regarding the feasibility of setting up certain naphtha based or gas based projects. Any proposal of the oil companies will be considered only when the exercises for the preparation of the Eighth Plan begin.

[Translation]

DAVP Advertisements to Newspapers

9441. SHRI RAM KUMAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the new newspapers included in the approved List of DAVP in the year 1987; and

(b) the names of newspapers out of them to whom advertisements were given by DAVP during the period from March, 1987 to February, 1988 and the value of advertisements given to them?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See N. L T 6265/88]

[English]

Power Generation Fluctuations in West Bengal

9442. SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any fluctuations in power generation by the different power units located in West Bengal during the last three quarters;

(b) if so, whether each of these units has been producing to its installed capacity; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to restore the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir. There were fluctuations in Generation and Plant Load Factor of thermal power stations of West Bengal during the quarter July, 87 - Sept. 87, Oct. 87 - Dec. 87 and Jan, 88 - Mar. 1988 as indicated in statement.

(b) and (c). Thermal generating units, by and large were not to achieve generation in accordance to the set programme/targets during 1987-88.

Measures taken to improve the performance of these thermal stations include implementation of a Centrally sponsored Renovation & Modernisation Scheme at Santaldih, Bandel, DPL/ Durgapur thermal stations; continued assistance to the West Bengal Electricity Board in training of personnel, procurement of spare parts from foreign and indigenous sources, and appropriate coal linkages related to quality and quantity. Field visits by task forces comprising engineers from CEA, BHEL, and Instrumentation Limited Kota also assist the project engineers in identifying problems leading to sub-optimal performance and evolving of improvement plans.

STATEMENT

Power generation by stations of WBSEB during IIInd quarter (July-Sept. 87), IIIrd quarter (Oct.-Dec., 87), and IVth quarter (Jan-March, 88) of 1987-88

Name of Station	IIInd Quarter		IIIrd Quarter		IVth Quarter	
	Gen. (MU)	PLF (%)	Gen. (MU)	PLF (%)	Gen. (MU)	PLF (%)
Bandel	699	59.7	510	43.6	419	36.2
Santaldih	280	26.4	235	22.2	317	30.2
Kolaghat	409	44.1	513	55.3	592	64.5
Gauripur	10		11	-	8	-
Gas Turbines	12	-	5	-	4	-
CESC (Pvt.)	594	51.9	532	46.5	547	48.4
Farakka (N.T.P.C.)	156	7.6	388	43.4	424	46.2
D.P.L.	244	28.3	240	27.9	288	33.8
West Bengal (Hydro)	22	-	30	-	20	-

Supply of Power to Agriculture and Industry

9443. SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of power now being supplied for agriculture, industry and lighting separately, keeping in view the power shortage; and

(b) the steps being taken by Govern-

ment to increase this percentage of power supply for agriculture and industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) The percentage of electricity supplied to Agricultural, Industrial and Lighting (domestic category) consumers during the year 1986-87 was 20.74%, 52.54% and 14.16% respectively.

(b) Various measures are being taken to improve the availability of power in the country which include expediting commissioning of new capacity, optimum utilisation of existing capacity, reducing transmission and distribution losses, commissioning of short gestation projects and implementation of load management and energy conservation measures etc.

States are advised from time to time to accord priority in supply of power to agriculture and core sector industries. However, supply to various categories of consumers is decided by the State authorities keeping in view the overall position regarding demand and availability of power in the State.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Doordarshan Kendra in Chambal Division

9444. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to State:

(a) whether the programmes telecast by Gwalior Doordarshan Kendra are received properly in the entire area covered by it;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a separate Doordarshan Kendra in Chambal Division; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMA-

TION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The low power (100 W) TV transmitter at Gwalior is providing satisfactory service within its coverage area subject to terrain conditions.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. While parts of the Chambal Division are already covered by the high power TV transmitter functioning at Agra, the high power (10 KW) transmitter under implementation at Gwalior in replacement of the existing low power one is expected to provide TV service to a substantial part of Chambal Division.

[*English*]

Award for Excellence in Quality and Reliability

9445. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any public sector undertaking has ever won the confederation of Engineering Industry's Award for excellence in quality and reliability;

(b) if so, the names of such public sector enterprises and the years of winning the Award; and

(c) the names of companies which have won the Award during the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (High Pressure Boiler Plant, Tiruchirapalli) has won the Award for the year 1986.

(c) 1984 - Bajaj Auto
1985 - Motor Industries Co.
1986 - Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (High Pressure Boiler Plant, Tiruchirapalli)

Manufacture of Defence Electronic Components by BHEL

9446. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is to be involved in the manufacture of defence electronic components;

(b) if so, the details of terms of manufacture;

(c) the time by which the BHEL is to commence production of these components;

(d) whether any other public, private or joint sector enterprise has been given permission to manufacture defence electronic components; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) BHEL has plans to manufacture defence related electronics equipment.

(b) to (e). It is not in public interest to furnish the details.

Production of Marathi Films

9447. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Marathi films produced during 1986 and 1987;

(b) how does it compare with other regional language films in Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu, Assamese and Oriya;

(c) whether Government provide special incentive for the growth of regional language films which attempt a good presentation of the regional culture and growth of language; and

(d) if so, the nature of facility, financial or otherwise, being to regional language film makers and those given to Marathi film makers during the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). Production of films in India is unregulated and overwhelmingly

in the private sector. As such information regarding the number of feature films produced is not available. However, the Central Board of Film Certification maintains statistics of feature films certified by them.

The number of feature films in Marathi language certified by the Central Board of Film Certification during the calendar years 1986 and 1987 was 17 and 27 respectively. Information relating to number of feature films certified in various languages by the Central Board Film Certification during the calendar years 1986 and 1987 is given below in statement I.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have established various institutions like National Film Archives of India, Children's Film Society, India and National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) to look after growth and development of all cinema including regional language cinemas. These institutions have devised special schemes for the growth of cinema.

2. National Film Archives of India is entrusted with the responsibility of acquisition, preservation, classification and documentation of films.

3. Film and Television Institute of India provides technical training in the art and craft of film making.

4. The Children's Film Society, India produces distributes and exhibits films for children.

5. The Directorate of Film Festivals organises, on behalf of the Government of India, every year a National Film Festival which aims at *inter alia* encouraging the production of films (including those produced in regional languages) of aesthetic and social relevance. Awards, including cash awards are given at such festivals. Besides, the Government selects 21 feature films and 21 short films for inclusion in the Indian Panorama Section of the International Film Festivals of India/Filmotsavs. National award winning films and films included in Panorama Section of International Film Festivals of India/Filmotsavs are exempt from payment of excise duty.

Those films are recommended to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for exemption from payment entertainment tax.

6. National Film Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking under the Government of India, has initiated many schemes to provide finances/facilities/services etc. to all films including those produced in regional languages with reasonable and development oriented rate

structures and interest rates. NFDC also provides loans on concessional interest for production of good quality films in all languages. Besides the Corporation produces films under 100% financing scheme. The details regarding (i) financial assistance given by NFDC for production of films in regional languages and (ii) films approved for production/completed by NFDC in regional languages under 100% financing scheme are given below in Statement II.

STATEMENT - I

Number of films certified by the Central Board of Film Certification

Language	1986	1987
1	2	3
Hindi	159	150
Gujarati	13	11
Bhojpuri	19	14
Marathi	17	27
Punjabi	7	8
Haryanvi	7	6
Brijbhasha	-	1
Nepali	-	6
English	-	1
Oriya	17	9
Manipuri	1	-
Assamese	11	8
Bengali	47	35
Tamil	154	167
Telugu	192	163
Kannada	59	88
Tulu	-	1
Malayalam	130	103

1	2	3
Rajasthani	-	4
Urdu	1	-
Garhwali	1	3
Sindhi	1	-
Avadhi	1	-
Bodo	2	-
Karbi	1	-
Kumauni	-	1
Total:	840	806

STATEMENT - II

A. Loans sanctioned/given by NFDC for production of films in regional languages during the financial years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88

S. No.	Name of the Film	Language	Amount Sanctioned (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Tabarana Katha	Kannada	7,00,000
2.	Himghar	Bengali	4,50,000
3.	Tuni Bow	Bengali	5,62,500
4.	Purushartham	Malayalam	6,00,000
5.	Ascharja Pradeep	Bengali	7,00,000
6.	Piravi	Malayalam	5,50,000
7.	Marthandavarma	Malayalam	5,00,000
8.	Oru Thooval Pakshikal	Malayalam	6,00,000
9.	Langtharai Mation	Manipuri	6,00,000
10.	Andha Diganta	Oriya	7,80,000
11.	Chakla Paikrabada	Manipuri	6,00,000

1	2	3	4
12.	Agni Veena	Oriya	6,00,000
13.	Kubi Mattu Iyala	Kannada	9,30,000
14.	Iswari Talar Rupokatha	Bengali	5,00,000
15.	Percy	Gujarati/ English	10,00,000
16.	Banani	Assamese	7,50,000
<i>B. Films in regional languages approved for production and/or completed by NFDC under 100 % financing scheme during the years 1985-86, 1986-87, and 1987-88</i>			
1.	Antaryali Yatra	Bengali/ Hindi	25,00,000
2.	Sati	Bengali/ Hindi	25,00,000

Completion of LPG Pipeline

9448. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residents of Bombay are not getting the full benefits of the cooking gas that is available as the pipeline has not been completed;

(b) when the scheme for laying pipeline will be completed; and

(c) whether Union Government propose to extend some soft loans to State Government to expedite the completion of the project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). The Government have committed 1.5 MMCMD natural gas on a sustained basis for distribution in the Bombay city. The Maharashtra Government have decided to call for offers for taking up the work of supplying this gas through pipeline in Bombay city. A decision would be taken by the State Government after the offers are received and examined.

(c) No request has been received in this from the Maharashtra State Government for financing the project for supply of piped gas in the Bombay city.

Survey for Gas in Maharashtra

9449. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to find out gas in Maharashtra on-shore and offshore areas;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether Government has all the necessary infrastructure to tap this source; and

(d) if so, when this work is likely to be taken up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Survey for hydrocarbons has been conducted in Maharashtra offshore areas.

(b) to (d). Gas has been discovered in

six prospects namely, D-12, B-55, B-48, B-174, Panna East, Bassein and B-51 in off the Maharashtra Coast. Of these, only Bassein field is under development and necessary infrastructure has already been created. Other prospects are under various stages of exploration and would be taken up for development, depending upon their techno-economic feasibility as also future requirement of gas.

Generation of Power from Tidal Waves

9450. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a survey to find out the potential of generating power from tidal waves;

(b) if so, the possibilities available on the Maharashtra coast;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated to exploit this resource and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) when this will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) A survey has been carried out to ascertain the potential of generating power from tidal waves in the country.

(b) No possibility was found for tidal power generation on the Maharashtra coast.

(c) and (d). Central Electricity Authority has undertaken investigations and studies for the techno-economic feasibility for a tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch. The techno-economic feasibility study has been completed and the project can be taken up for implementation after the feasibility report is available with the Gov-

ernment and an investment decision has been taken.

Drilling Operations at Cochin High

9451. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI K. MOHANDAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the drilling operation for oil and gas at Coching High;

(b) the total cost of this project; and

(c) the amount already spent thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The drilling of well CH-1-1 in Cochin High structure off Kerala coast has since been completed and the well is under production testing.

(b) and (c). The total of expenditure incurred on this well so far is Rs. 9.91 crores.

Vellore unit of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited

9452. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited unit at Vellore in Kerala is making a profit;

(b) if not, the details of the loss; and

(c) the steps taken to develop this unit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). The profit before interest and depreciation and net profit/loss of the Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. in the past three years are:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Profit before interest and depreciation	Net profit (+) / Loss(-)
1985-86	20.65	(-) 0.99
1986-87	15.78	(-) 4.93
1987-88	19.22	(-) 1.62

(c) The steps to develop the unit include increase in productivity and profitability through cost reduction by adherence to norms for consumption of inputs, economic procurement of inputs, optimisation of inventory holding and improved control measures in the short-term and capacity augmentation, captive plantations, increase in inhouse power generation and manpower development in the long term.

Demand of Passenger Cars

9453. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger cars and trucks manufactured during the last three years;

(b) whether the demand for passenger vehicles is increasing; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The production of these vehicles has been as under:--

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Passenger Cars	102805	124694	140028 (Apr.-Feb.)
Medium & Heavy Com. Vehicles	63944	60088	64814

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The demand of all categories of vehicles is being met through indigenous production. Adequate capacity has already been licensed to meet the increasing demand of various categories of vehicles.

Supply of Power from Korba to Gujarat State Electricity Board

9454. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise details of the power supplied to the Gujarat State Electricity Board from the National Thermal Power

Station, Korba, M.P. during 1987 against the share fixed; and

(b) the reasons for the short supply if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Monthwise details of share vis-a-vis actual supply of power from Korba STPS to Gujarat State Electricity Board during 1987-88 is given below in the Statement.

(b) Against its share of 771.6 MU from Korba STPS Gujarat received 1107.7 MU during 1987-88.

STATEMENT

Share vis-a-vis actual supply of power to Gujarat from Korba STPS

(Figures in Million Units)

Month	Share	Actual
1	2	3
April, 1987	55.3	31.0

1	2	3
May, 1987	58.9	26.3
June, 1987	53.8	78.0
July, 1987	40.4	41.4
August, 1987,	40.2	47.0
September, 1987	57.1	119.4
October, 1987	78.8	147.7
November, 1987	75.6	119.1
December, 1987	64.8	99.2
January, 1988	68.5	157.7
February, 1988	94.4	115.3
March, 1988	84.0	120.6
Total	771.6	1107.7

Power Generation in Gujarat

9455. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether owing to recession in timely supply of coal to the thermal power stations all over the country, all the Super Thermal Power Stations in each region have suffered setback in power generation during 1987-88;

(b) whether the State Electricity Board of Gujarat had also to take the problem of low generation by their thermal power plants during 1987-88 due to non-availability of coal on several occasions;

(c) if so, the details of supply of coal made to the thermal power plants in Gujarat and short supply made to the National Thermal Power Station, Korba, Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the steps taken to ease the situation for meeting the power requirement of Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) During 1987-88, the generation of power at the power stations of NTPC and Gujarat Electricity Board was 20827 MUs and 16805 MUs (Thermal) against the target of 18845 MUs and 15841 MUs respectively. The consumption of coal by the power stations of Gujarat Electricity Board and Korba Super Thermal Power Station of NTPC during 1987-88 and the closing stocks at the end of March, 1988 are given below:-

(Figures in Tonnes)

Name of Thermal Station		Consumption	Closing Stock
1.	Korba STPS of NTPC	3,314,000	103,000
2.	Ukai TPS of GEB	2,617,000	45,000
3.	Wanakbori TPS of GEB	3,487,000	67,000
4.	Gandhinagar TPS of GEB	699,000	48,000

(d) Steps taken to increase availability of power in the State of Gujarat include expediting commissioning of new capacity reduction of transmission and distribution losses; implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures; and providing assistance from the neighbouring system to the extent possible. In addition, the State also gets its share of power from the Central stations in the Western region.

undertaken during last three years has been is as follows:

1987-88	Rs.26.80 crores
1986-87	Rs.33.23 crores
1985-86	Rs.24.10 crores

(b) and (c). The information is as follows:

[Translation]

**Projects Undertaken by TCI Ltd.
in Foreign Countries**

+9456. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the value of projects undertaken by Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. (TCI) in foreign countries during the past three years;

(b) the names of the countries in which contract work of TCI Ltd. is in progress;

(c) the number of employees working in each country; and

(d) the names of the countries in which this company is likely to get further contracts?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The value of projects

Country	No. of Employees
Nigeria	1
Kuwait	138
Y.A.R.	125
Saudi Arabia	694
Oman	23
Zimbabwe	25
Mozambique	7
U.S.A.	3
Netherlands	3
Switzerland	3
1022	

- (d) Nepal
- Qatar
- Mauritius
- Angola

[English]

Head Post Office as Member of Local Clearing Houses for Speedy Clearance of Cheques

9457. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one hundred eighty Head Post Offices have been made members of local clearing houses to ensure speedy clearance of cheques;

(b) if so, the names of these Head Offices, State-wise;

(c) whether it is proposed to include more Head Offices under this scheme progressively and cover all Head Offices in the country ultimately; and

(d) if so, a brief outline of the extension/coverage of other Head offices, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir 180 Head Post Offices were enrolled as Members of the Local Clearing Houses till January 1988. This number has now increased to 202.

(b) The names of these Head Post Offices, State-wise, are given in the Statement-I laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6266/88]

(c) It is proposed to enrol more Head Post Offices under this scheme progressively. However, it may not be possible to cover all the Head Post Offices in the country. As per regulations of the Reserve Bank of India, membership of the local clearing house is restrict to on Head Post Office only in any city/big town even when there are several Head Post Offices located there. Local Clearing Houses are also not

available at all stations where there are Head Post Offices. Besides, Membership is granted on the basis of volume of cheques received for clearance and availability of vacancy in the Local Clearing House.

(d) 97 Head Post Offices are now proposed to be enrolled. Their names, state-wise are given in the Statement-II laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6266/88]

Memorandum from all India Association of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents of Post Offices

9458. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum has been received from the General Secretary, All India Association of Inspectors and Asstt. Superintendents of Post Offices, Central Head Quarters regarding the abolition of Group 'D' Assistants available to the Post of Sub-Divisional Inspectors and Asstt. Supdt. of Post Offices;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the memorandum the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which a decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government considered the memorandum carefully and has decided not to modify the orders already issued withdrawing the assistance of orderlies to the Inspectors of Post Offices.

Memorandum from All India Association of Inspectors and Superintendents of Post Offices

9459. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum dated 9 February, 1988 has been received from the All India Association of Inspectors and Assistants Superintendents of Post Offices regarding the grant of higher pay scales by the introduction of certain percentage of direct recruitment to the cadre of Inspectors and merger of Inspectors/Asstt. Superintendents of Post Offices and RMS;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government on the memorandum; and

(c) if no decision has been taken so far, the likely date by which a decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) No time limit can be given as the proposal is yet to be cleared by the Ministry of Finance.

Memorandum from all India RMS and MMS Employees Union Class III Branch, Kolhapur (Maharashtra)

9460. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India RMS and MMS Employees Union Class III Branch, Kolhapur (Maharashtra) has submitted a memorandum dated 9 February, 1988 requesting for discontinuing the system of booking insured parcels containing silver metal in Kolhapur RMS, Maharashtra on account of the leakage of Government revenue, possibility of transmission of smuggled goods and the refusal by the Railway authorities and the State Transport of Maharashtra for accepting the parcel bags containing silver metal;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the memorandum and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the necessary action will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) A memorandum dated 9.2.88 from the All India RMS and MMS Employees Union Class III Branch Kolhapur has been received requesting for discontinuance of booking insured parcels containing silver.

(b) and (c). The Government does not propose to discontinue booking of insured parcels containing silver since it will cause hardships to the public.

Compulsory Export Obligation on Polyester Filament Yarn

9461. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considerably relaxed the compulsory export obligation on polyester filament yarn (PFY);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the firms likely to be benefited and the extent of benefit in each case; and

(d) how far it will help in cutting down the prices of the finished product using PFY and benefit the consumers at large?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d). Industrial licences were issued to the following units for manufacture of Polyester Filament Yarn (PFY) with a condition that they would undertake the export of fabrics/filament yarn for double the value of imported capital goods:--

S.No.	Name of Unit	CIF value of imported capital goods (Rs.)
1.	M/s Orkay Silk Mills Ltd.	16,58,26,800
2.	M/s Reliance Industries Ltd.	21,61,17,880
3.	M/s J.K. Synthetics Ltd.	13,74,60,100
4.	M/s Indian Organic Chemicals Ltd.	8,89,58,600

These units have represented that they are unable to implement the export obligation mainly on the ground that cost of PFY manufactured in India is not competitive in the international market, financial assistance should be provided for export etc. Final view on the representations is yet to be taken.

Licences for New Industries

9462. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are re-considering the Industrial Policy and propose to issue more licences for opening new industries only in the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Industrial policy resolution of 1956 which inter-alia provides for a certain degree of flexibility in regard to manufacture of items reserved for public sector, continues to provide the basic framework of the policy of the Government in the industrial field.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Manufacture of Iron-fortified Salt

9463. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to set up a plant at Sambhar Lake (Rajasthan) for manufacturing Iron-fortified salt;

(b) if so, the quantity of Iron-fortified salt which will be produced after setting up of this plant;

(c) whether it is a fact that country is facing shortfall in production of Iron-fortified salt; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Sambhar Salts Limited, subsidiary of Hindustan Salts Limited, a Govt. of India enterprise, has no proposal to set up a plant at Sambhar Lake for manufacturing iron fortified salt.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Iron fortified salt being a new product, the exact demand for it is not known and therefore at this stage the question of shortfall does not arise.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

9464 SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHF PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any telephone exchanges were expanded in Maharashtra during 1987-88;

(b) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of telephone exchanges in 1988-89; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) (A) *During 1987-88, Telephone Exchanges have been expanded as mentioned below:*

(i) 17,340 lines switching capacity (net) have been added by opening new/expansion/replacement of telephone exchanges in Maharashtra excluding area covered by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. Bombay.

(ii) 65,700 lines switching capacity (Gross) have been added by opening/expansion of Telephone exchanges in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. Bombay.

(B) *During 1988-89 it is proposed to expand the telephone exchanges as mentioned below:*

(i) About 34,280 lines switching capacity (Net) is proposed to be added by opening/expansion/replacement of Telephone exchanges in Maharashtra excluding area covered by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. Bombay.

(ii) About 98,200 lines switching capacity (Gross) is proposed to be added by opening/expansion of telephone exchanges in Mahanagar telephone Nigam Ltd. Bombay.

Opening of Post Offices, Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

9465. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to

open post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges in 1988-89 in Maharashtra.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's target in the current Plan and the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) *Post Offices:* The proposal have not yet been finalised.

Telegraph Offices: 230 telegraph offices are proposed to be opened during the year in a phased manner. The places have not yet been finalised.

Telephone Exchanges: The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) *Post Offices:* No firm targets have been laid down in view of the continuing ban on creation of posts. The provisional target set for Maharashtra during the Seventh Plan is 475 new post offices against which up to 31.3.1988, 37 new post offices have been sanctioned on the basis of relaxation obtained from Ministry of Finance.

Telegraph Offices: The target for opening of combined telegraph offices in the Seventh Plan is 700, out of which 321 combined telegraph offices have been opened in Maharashtra so far.

Telephone Exchanges: Information will be laid on the table of the House.

S.T.D. facility in Maharashtra

9466. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Maharashtra which have been provided with STD facility so far; and

(b) the places where this facility will be provided in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Eighteen (18) districts in Maharashtra have been provided with STD facility so far.

(b) The following places in Maharashtra are proposed to be provided with STD facility in the near future.

1. Alibagh
2. Barsi
3. Dhule
4. Gadchiroli
5. Jalna
6. Kudal
7. Nanded
8. Osmanabad
9. Srirampur
10. Tarapur

Public Call Offices in Khammam Town in Andhra Pradesh

9467. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public call offices presently functioning in Khammam town in Andhra Pradesh, the details thereof;

(b) whether there are any applications pending with the Department for opening new public call offices, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of applications pending in the Khammam town for telephone con-

nections and how long it will take to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There are 7 Public Call Offices functioning in Khammam Town in Andhra Pradesh at present.

(b) Four applications for opening of new Public Call Offices are pending as per details below:

1. Sh. G. Veeria, 4-5-105/Birjala Narayana Chota Khammam. Security Deposit not made by the party so far.

2. R.T.C. Bus Stand - No request to operate this PCO is forthcoming for the present.

3. National Hotel, C/o National Ice Factory Complex, Wyara Road, Khammam - Security Deposit not made by the party so far.

4. Sh. S. Kamala, 7.2.157. Addenki-vari Street, Khammam-- Security Deposit not made by the party so far.

(c) There are 311 applications pending for telephone connections in Khammam town. This expansion of the existing exchange by 100 lines is proposed during 1988-89.

Establishment of Major and Medium Industries in Karnataka

9468 DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the programmes for establishment of major and medium industries in Karnataka during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period;

(b) the total amount allocated for the establishment of such industries during that period, and

(c) the industries established so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

(SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). The emphasis during the Seventh Five Year Plan is to maximise the utilisation of the existing facilities through re-structuring, improved productivity, upgradation of technology and modernisation of the existing units rather than setting up of new units. A

Statement indicating the list of major on going public sector units in Karnataka is given below. The following provisions have been made in the 7th Five Year Plan for new schemes of existing Public Sector Undertaking in Karnataka:-

S. No.	Enterprises	Brief particulars of the units	7th Plan provision (Rs. in crores)
1.	Bharat Gold Mines	Ore Sorter	8.10
2.	Bharat Heavy Electricals	Electronic Projects	1.00
3.	HMT Ltd.	New Schemes	13.00

An outlay of Rs. 9000 lakhs and Rs. 15,200 lakhs has been made in the 7th Five Year Plan for Karnataka State for setting up large and medium industries and village and small scale industries respectively.

The following numbers of Letters of Intent and Industrial Licences were issued for setting up of industries in the State of Karnataka during the years 1985 to 1988 (up to March).

Year	Letters of Intent issued	Industrial Licences issued
1985	92	69
1986	76	42
1987	84	45
1988 (up to March)	11	4

These Letters of Intent and Industrial Licences are at various stages of implementation.

STATEMENT

List of major on going Public Sector Units in Karnataka

S. No.	Enterprises	Brief particulars of the Unit.
1	2	3
1.	Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.	Mines & Processing Units

1	2	3
2.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.	Mines and Pellet Plant
3.	Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Plant
4.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	Electronic equipment and component
6.	H.M.T Ltd.	Machine tools, watches, lamps manufacturing Plants
7.	Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.	Telephone instruments exchange lines transmission micro-wave, radio equipment etc.
8.	Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.	Earth moving equipment, rail coaches, H.D. trailers etc.
9.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	Aircraft, helicopter manufacturing and repair.
10.	Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.	Paper manufacturing

Memorandum of Undertaking between ONGC and French Companies

9469. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the French Companies have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for mutual transfer of technology;

(b) if so, when this memorandum will be effective and for how long;

(c) whether it will improve the position

of Oil production in both the countries; and

(d) if so, the details of the schemes prepared in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (d). ONGC has signed an agreement with TOTAL - CFP, FRANCE, for a period of four years effective from 12.3.88 which would benefit ONGC in the field of hydrocarbon exploration. The programme of work for the first six months would cover the feasibility of development of marginal oil fields of the West Coast offshore in India.

Development of Krishna-Godavari Basin

9470. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether plans have been already prepared for the development of Krishna-Godavari basin on a crash basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the potential of this basin?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). Hydrocarbons exploration and field development work in Krishna-Godavari basin is continuing as per approved programme. However, one prospect in offshore namely, GS-16, is planned to be developed on crash programme basis for production of oil by early production system by the end of 1988.

(c) As on 1-7-1987, geological reserves of 13.20 million tonnes of oil and 12878 million cubic meters of gas have been established in the Krishna-Godavari basin

Levy Cement Quota for Kerala

9471. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have recently curtailed the levy cement quota for Kerala;

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

(c) whether Government propose to restore the original quota for the State in view of adverse impact it has made on the progress of on going construction projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). There has not been any reduction in the levy quota of Kerala State recently. However, in 1987 on two occasions, once in Qr. II'87 (April--June) and again in Qr. III'87 (July--Sept.) the allocations were reduced. The position with regard to allocations existing in Qr. I'87 and those reduced in Qr. II & III is as follows:-

(Figures in Metric Tonnes)

Period	Allocation		
	Basic	Drinking water	Total
I'87	64800	1210	66010
II'87	53100	1210	54310
III'87	46500	1210	47710

Since introduction of partial decontrol of cement, it has been Government's policy to progressively reduce the levy quota. There has thus been a corres-

ponding reduction in the availability of levy cement. The question of restoration of levy quota of the States, including Kerala, to the original level, therefore, does not arise.

Setting Up of Trunk Automatic Exchanges in Kerala

9472. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the Trunk Automatic Exchanges to be set up in Kerala during the remaining part of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the expected time of commissioning of these exchanges; and

(c) the nearby towns, if any, to be connected with these exchanges after these are installed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) During the remaining part of the Seventh Five Year Plan, no new Trunk Automatic Exchange in Kerala is proposed to be set up. However, there is a proposal to expand the newly commissioned Digital Trunk Automatic Exchange at Emakulam by 1000 lines during the remaining part of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) The expansion work at Emakulam is scheduled to be completed during 1988-89.

(c) The following places in Kerala are proposed to be provided with STD facility during the remaining part of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Chittur, Haripad, Kanjirapally, Kolencherry, Karungapally, Mannarghat, Munnar, Nedumangad, Nilesishwar, Nilambur Shoranur and Vadakkancherry.

Cement Factories in Andhra Pradesh

9473. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals pending with union Government for issue of licences to set up cement factories in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details of applications re-

ceived and the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) One industrial licence application received under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act 1951 for the grant of letter of intent for setting up of cement unit in Andhra Pradesh has been received recently.

(b) Details of industrial licence applications are not divulged till the Government have taken final decisions thereon. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all industrial licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

Extra Departmental Employees in Postal Department in Karnataka

9474. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons working as Extra-departmental staff in the Postal Department in different categories for more than ten years in Karnataka; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to regularise at least the Extra-departmental staff who have put in more than ten years of service?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The number of persons working as Extra-departmental staff in Karnataka Circle for more than 10 years is 7055.

(b) No, Sir. Extra Departmental employees are employed on part-time basis for fixed hours of work on consideration of monthly allowance. However, they are eligible for absorption in Group 'D'/Postmen and Mailguards posts on the basis of examination to the extent of availability of vacancies as per recruitment rules.

Modernisation of Telecommunication System in Vijayawada

9475. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of the plan to modernise the telecommunication system of Vijayawada telephones comprising Vijayawada Municipal Corporation and the surrounding areas in 1988-89 and thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The expansion and modernisation programme for Vijayawada Telecom District in 1988-89 and thereafter is as under:

- (1) Commissioning of 4000 lines Main Electronic Exchange (E-10B) in 1988-89.
- (2) Commissioning of 500 lines Electronic Trunk Automatic Exchange in 1988-89.
- (3) Commissioning of 250 lines Electronic Telex exchange (Concentrator) in 1988-89.
- (4) Installation of additional PCM systems in 1988-89 and 89-90.
- (5) Computerisation of Directory Enquiry Service.
- (6) Provision of Ducts for junction cables.
- (7) Computerisation of Manual Trunk Exchange for ticketless working.
- (8) Centralised Processing Unit for group computerisation of '197' services.

Revenue Earning Districts

9476. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the top ten revenue earning districts (excluding the four Metropolitan cities and

State Capitals) in the country under the Telecommunications Department; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The top ten revenue - earning districts (excluding) the four Metropolitan cities and State Capitals) in the country under the Telecommunications Department are:-

- 1) Baroda
- 2) Coimbatore
- 3) Ernakulam
- 4) Indore
- 5) Kanpur
- 6) Ludhiana
- 7) Madurai
- 8) Nagpur
- 9) Pune
- 10) Surat

Setting up of Transposer in Vijayawada

9477. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given on 9 March, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 1925 regarding setting up of transposer in Vijayawada and state:

(a) whether the transposer equipment has since been installed to enable the residents of Vijayawada city to view the Door-darshan programmes clearly;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be installed;

(d) whether Government propose to import the transposer equipment for early

installation in the interest of public of Vijayawada; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) TV transposer is a new type of equipment which is yet to be manufactured in the country.

(c) As per the present indications, the proposed transposer for Vijayawada is expected to be installed and commissioned into service during 1989-90.

(d) There is no such proposal under the consideration of Government.

(e) It has been decided to procure the transposers indigenously as the necessary expertise to develop this type of equipment exists in the country.

Phasing out of Song and Drama Division and Directorate of Field Publicity

9478. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to phase out Song and Drama Division and the Directorate of Field Publicity;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to make any alternative arrangements in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). No, Sir. There is no proposal to phase out these two organisations. However, it has been decided not to fill up the vacant posts of Staff Artists in Song and Drama Division with a view to revamping the publicity through the medium of song and drama by engaging

private troupes/artists in the long term. The existing staff will, however, continue.

Setting up of Carbon Fibre Manufacturing Plant by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.

9479. SHRI MURALIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited has a proposal to set up a carbon fibre manufacturing plant in collaboration with a UK based plastic company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the name of the UK based plastic company, the site selected for the purpose and the amount involved?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) propose to set up the Research and Development Pilot Plant and Associated Product Applications Development facilities for Carbon Fibre based on know-how from M/s. R.K. Textiles & Composite Fibres Ltd., U.K. at its Baroda Complex at an estimated cost of Rs. 31 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 13.23 crores.

Fixation of Prices of Drugs

9480. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of drugs falling under category I of the Drugs (Prices Control), Order, 1987 whose formulation prices have been fixed as per the revised Maximum Allowable Post Manufacturing Expense (MAPE) alongwith the name strength, earlier and revised price of each;

(b) whether his Ministry has not fixed the prices of all the strengths of finished medicines based on these drugs;

(c) whether the prices of a number of formulations being marketed in combina-

tion with other drugs have also not been revised which have major sales turnover;

(d) if so, the names of all such combinations along with the composition of each; and

(e) when the prices of these medicines are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Prices of more than 150 Category--I formulation packs have been fixed under DPCO, 1987. The details required in the question are, therefore, quite voluminous and are not readily available. Time and efforts required for collection of the same will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(b) to (e). Ceiling prices have been fixed under DPCO, 1987 for some Category--I formulation including all Category--III formulation packs where mark up allowed in the leader price notified under DPCO, 1979 was 100%. In all other cases the mark up allowed under DPCO, 1979 was 40%, or 55% or 60% depending on the fact whether the concerned formulation was covered under Category I, II or III as the case may be. Manufacturers of all such Category I formulations as were hitherto under Category III of DPCO, 1979 have been directed to submit their applications in Form 2.

Development of Coal Mines and Washeries

9481. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the growing demand of coal for steel projects in the country, it has been decided to use imported technology and foreign machinery for developing the coal mines and washeries;

(b) if so, how much amount has been spent in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the achievements made as a result of various corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c). In order to meet the growing demand of good quality coking coal for the steel industry, foreign technical assistance and imported machinery are required to be used in some of the mines where geomining conditions so warrant. Presently longwall powered-support equipment imported from U.K. has been installed in Moonidih mine of Bharat Coking Coal Limited and French mining technique of sub-level caving has recently been introduced in Katras mine of BCCL. In addition, the modernisation of Patherdih washery with USSR assistance is under way. Pootkee underground mine along with washery and Block II opencast project are being developed with World Bank assistance.

Foreign exchange released for BCCL in 1986-87 was Rs. 2.57 crores and in 1987-88 (upto January '88) was Rs. 5.85 crores.

All these projects, when completed, will contribute about 7 million tonnes of raw prime coking coal to the total availability of this type of coal.

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Jamnagar District of Gujarat

9482. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons waiting in Jamnagar district of Gujarat for telephones at present;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting list in Jamnagar town; and

(c) the new telephone connections that will be made available in 1988 for this district?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) 772 persons as on 31.3.88 are waiting for Telephone connections in Jamnagar District of Gujarat.

(b) 675 persons as on 31.3.88 are on waiting list in Jamnagar Town.

(c) About 100 new Telephone connections will be made available in 1988 for this district.

Diesel Supply to Deep Sea Fishing Trawlers

9483. SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of diesel supplied to deep sea fishing trawlers in 1985-86, 1986-87 at Visakhapatnam port;

(b) whether there has been a fall in quantity of diesel supplied to deep sea fishing trawlers in 1987-88 as compared to earlier years; and

(c) the reasons for high cost of diesel as compared to international prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The total quantity of diesel supplied by the oil companies to deep sea fishing trawlers at Visakhapatnam port was 18,335 Kls. during 1985-86 and 20,111 Kls. during 1986-87.

(b) No, Sir, as the quantity supplied during 1987-88 was 22,605 Kls.

(c) Under the existing administered pricing policy for petroleum products, the indigenous prices are not generally fixed or revised with reference to the international prices. The price of diesel oil is fixed keeping in view the costs of production, refining, marketing and distribution as well as socio-economic factors and the need for conservation of scarce natural resources.

The price of diesel in India is considered reasonable.

Price of Diesel Oil for Fishing Trawlers

9484. SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

be pleased to refer to the reply given on 5 April, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 5711 regarding price of diesel oil for fishing trawlers and state:

(a) the price of diesel for fishing trawlers excluding the various surcharges on imports of oil;

(b) the details of the other surcharges, taxes and levies imposed on this price; and

(c) the steps being taken to reduce the price of diesel being supplied to deep sea fishing trawlers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) There is no other price for diesel oil for fishing trawlers except the one that is given with certain excise duty concessions subject to compliance with the prescribed conditions.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal to reduce its price through further concessions.

Public Sector Units Dealing with Water Treatment and Effluent Treatment Equipment

9485. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public sector units dealing with production of water treatment and effluent treatment equipment with foreign collaborations;

(b) what financial, managerial, professional and other incentives were extended by Government to these units, unit-wise details and the results thereof; and

(c) whether any of these units is on the verge of closure, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) There is only one public sector undertaking namely Bharat Process and Mechanical Engineers Ltd. (BPMEL)

engaged in the manufacture of water treatment and effluent treatment equipments with foreign collaboration.

(b) BPMEL has been provided with Plan and Non-plan assistance to the extent of Rs. 2.09 crores and Rs. 13.56 crores respectively since its nationalisation for meeting working capital requirements and minor renewals and replacements.

(c) In order to improve viability of BPMEL, it is proposed to take several measures, including closure of unviable operations of the company.

Integrated Gas Grid in Assam

9486. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed integrated gas grid in Assam has run into trouble;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how Government propose to meet this situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). The Government of Assam have requested that the pipelines for the proposed integrated gas grid in Assam be constructed by Assam Gas Co. on its own or in a joint venture with GAIL. The Government of India had suggested that while GAIL could construct the trunk pipeline the Assam Gas Co. could undertake the marketing of the gas and construction of distribution lines. This would be in keeping with the policy of Central Public Sector Undertaking constructing trunk pipelines and would also ensure effective implementation of the project by way of a reasonable division of the work.

Installation of Wind Mills in Rural Areas

9487. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects under Government's consideration for installing wind mills in rural areas, especially in the villages situated in the desert areas; and

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey to harness wind power, especially in desert areas and if so, the details regarding its findings?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Under the National Wind Pump Demonstration programme of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, 2043 water pumping windmills have been installed in rural area in different parts of the country. This includes 101 windmills installed in Rajasthan. Demonstration projects for installation of wind battery chargers and stand-alone wind electric systems are also under implementation in rural areas, including hilly and desert areas.

(b) Yes, Sir. A general survey has indicated a wind power potential of more than 20,000 MW in the country. Detailed wind monitoring projects have also been taken up in specific areas. This includes a project which has been started in Rajasthan to provide information for planning wind power projects, especially in the desert areas of western Rajasthan.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to KVIC for Spinning and Weaving Programme in Rajasthan

9488. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether wool is available in abundance in Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Khadi Gramodyog, Rajasthan and some voluntary organisations provide employment to thousands of rural people in the work of spinning and weaving of wool;

(c) whether spinning and weaving programme is likely to be extended to drought affected areas by providing more financial assistance to this commission and other organisations by Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. About 1.01 lakh persons have been provided employment under woollen khadi programmes of KVIC in Rajasthan during 1986-87.

(c) and (d). Government of India has sanctioned Rupees 10 crores during 1987-88 for the implementation of KVI programmes in drought affected areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Besides funds disbursed for the implementation of normal woollen khadi programme under KVIC an additional sum of Rs. 1.69 crores were provided to 6 institutions and Rajasthan State KVI Board to provide additional employment in the drought affected areas of Rajasthan. These programmes are expected to generate employment for 28000 artisans in the drought affected areas.

[English]

Power Production in Rajasthan and Gujarat

9489. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total power production in Rajasthan and Gujarat at present;

(b) whether there is a shortfall in the target fixed;

(c) the steps being taken in this regard;

(d) whether there are any chances of Rajasthan and Gujarat becoming self-sufficient in power in the near future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). During 1987-88, the total actual energy generated vis-a-vis generation target in Rajasthan and Gujarat was as under:-

	Target	Actual	Shortage/surplus
Rajasthan	3320	3795	+ 475
Gujarat	16556	17160	+ 604

(c) to (e). In order to increase the availability of power in Rajasthan and Gujarat, various measures are being taken which include expediting commissioning of new capacity, optimum utilisation of existing capacity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses and implementation of Centrally Sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Schemes at Gandhinagar, Dhuvanar and Ukai Thermal Power Stations of Gujarat. To the extent possible, assistance is also provided to Rajasthan and Gujarat

from the Central Sector Stations in the region as well as from the neighbouring systems.

Time of Telecast of Programmes By T.V. Centres

9490. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total time of telecast per day by each Doordarshan Kendra;

(b) the details of such telecasts in the morning, afternoon and evening; and

(c) the details of such telecasts which are helpful to the students, particularly during examination days?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The requisite information is given below in the statement.

(c) Doordarshan Kendras -- Delhi, Bom-

bay, Madras and Srinagar telecast syllabus--oriented School TV Programmes (STV) for school children on school working days. Besides, Educational TV Programmes (ETV), which are not syllabus-oriented, are also telecast by all the TV Relay Transmitters in the six INSAT States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Gujarat in their respective languages. These Programmes in Hindi are also telecast in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. Apart from this, higher education programmes produced by the University Grants Commission (UGC) are also telecast on every working days by all Kendras.

STATEMENT

Name of the Kendra	Total time of Telecast per day (On an average) (in minutes)	Details of Telecast Time per day for Transmission in the (On an average)		
		Morning	Afternoon (in minutes)	Evening
1	2	3	4	5
Delhi	776	124	196	456
Bombay	711	90	161	460
Calcutta	619	83	152	384
Madras	589	87	152	350
Srinagar	594	87	158	349
Jalandhar	609	81	152	376
Hyderabad	574	120	152	302
Jaipur	576	120	152	304
Lucknow	600	120	152	328
Trivandrum	531	81	152	298
Ahmedabad	570	120	152	298
Cuttack	596	120	152	324
Nagpur	609	120	152	337
Ranchi	647	120	152	375

1	2	3	4	5
Rajkot	609	120	152	337
Bangalore	536	81	152	303
Guwahati	506	81	152	273
Gorakhpur	613	120	152	341

Electrification of Backward Villages in Andhra Pradesh

9491. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts in Andhra Pradesh where electricity has not been provided in the villages where the backward and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people are living;

(b) the time by which Government are expected to provide electricity in these villages;

(c) the necessary financial assistance proposed to be given to Government of Andhra Pradesh for the purpose; and

(d) the number and names of the villages to be covered in Mahboob Nagar and Ranga Reddy districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) As on 31.3.1988, 100% village electrification has been achieved in respect of 20 districts, out of a total 23 districts in Andhra Pradesh. The 3 districts which are yet to achieve 100% village electrification are (i) Srikakulam, (ii) Visakhapatnam, and (iii) East Godavari. Most of the villages to be electrified in these districts are tribal villages.

(b) All the remaining unelectrified villages in Andhra Pradesh are expected to be electrified by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan subject to availability of resources and other inputs.

(c) The state-wise allocation of funds for rural electrification for the year 1988-89 is under finalisation.

(d) In the Ranga Reddy district of Andhra Pradesh, cent percent village electrification has already been achieved. In Mehboob Nagar district all the villages except one have been electrified. The only remaining village viz. Rayalampadu in Alampur taluk of Mehboob Nagar district was submerged in the back waters of Srisailem project. Action will be initiated by the State Authorities to electrify this village on receipt of confirmation regarding its permanent rehabilitation from the Revenue Authorities.

Production of Power in Andhra Pradesh

9492. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of power in Andhra Pradesh at present;

(b) the extent to which it is short of the target fixed for it;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production of power to meet the requirements; and

(d) the details of financial assistance to be provided to the State for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). During 1987-88, total generation in Andhra Pradesh was 18123 million units as against the generation tar-

get of 18015 million units which is 100% of the target.

(c) In order to increase the availability of power in Andhra Pradesh, various measures are being taken which include expediting commissioning of new capacity, optimum utilisation of existing capacity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses and implementation of Centrally sponsored Renovation & Modernisation scheme at Kothagudem Thermal station. The Central Government has allocated to Andhra Pradesh 25% of the unallocated share of power at its disposal from Central sector projects in the Southern Region. In addition, assistance from neighbouring systems of M.P. and Tamil Nadu is also being provided to Andhra Pradesh to the maximum extent possible.

(d) Under the Centrally sponsored Renovation & Modernisation programme being implemented at Kothagudem thermal station of Andhra Pradesh, a sum of Rs. 22.33 crores has been provided to Andhra Pradesh till 31st March, 1988. Funds are being made available as and when demanded by the power station authorities after reviewing the physical progress under the R&M programme.

[*Translation*]

Functioning of District Industries Centres

9493. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of district industries centres which are not functioning as per the norms fixed by Government for them and the details thereof;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for each district industries centre to promote small and cottage industries and to

provide employment to the people, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken against the officers who have failed to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) All the District Industries Centres are functioning as per guidelines prescribed by the Central Government.

(b) The Central Government does not fix any target for DICs to promote small and cottage industries and to provide employment to the people.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Exploration of Oil and Gas by ONGC in Rajasthan

9494. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has long-term plans for exploration of oil and gas in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount to be spent on this project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The approved exploration programme for the 7th Plan period and the tentative programme beyond 7th Plan period, as per the base case scenario of the long-term plan (1985--2005) prepared by ONGC, are as follows:—

	7th Plan (1985-90)	8th Plan (1990-95)	9th Plan (1995-2000)	10th Plan (2000-05)
Seismic surveys (party years)	13	10	4.16	
Exploratory Drilling Metreage (000 M)	45.33	105.0	111.30	108.24
Expenditure (Rs./crores)	99.02	352.17	432.27	514.72

Lower Periyar Hydro-Electric Project in Kerala

9495. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lower Periyar hydro-electric project in Kerala is being set up with the assistance of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the schedule time of its completion;

(c) the present stage of the project and the expected time of its completion;

(d) whether an expert committee which was set up to enquire into the reasons for the slow progress being made in setting up the project has submitted its report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The project is scheduled to be completed during 1990-91. All major contracts for civil works have been awarded and orders for generating units, transformers, EOT Crane, etc. have been placed. About 50% of the work on power tunnel has been completed. Construction work for dam and intake, surge shaft, pressure shaft, power house and allied works have already commenced.

(d) and (e). No Expert Committee was set up to enquire into the reasons for the slow progress. However, a panel of experts, as advised by World Bank was constituted to watch project works and advise the Kerala State Electricity Board on various aspects of the Project.

Assistance for Industrially Backward/No-Industry Districts in Kerala

9496. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any industrially backward/No-Industry District in Kerala was identified for Central assistance for the development of infrastructural facilities for industrialisation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of assistance made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). In the state of Kerala, Waynad and Idukki have been identified as 'No-Industry Districts'. The Central assistance is released after the growth centres have been formally approved by the Central Government project reports are prepared and approved by the State Level Committee and I.D.B.I. The Central Government has already agreed in principle to Kerala Government's selection of growth centres in these two districts. The State Government, has also

been requested to submit exact names of the proposed growth centres together with the related factual data for formal approval. No amount of assistance has been made available to the Kerala Government, so far.

[*Translation*]

Publication of "Bhagirath" Journals

9497. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the journals of the Publications Division, the publication of which has either been discontinued or taken away from the Publications Division and the reasons therefor;

(b) the circulation figures and financial position of "Bhagirath" journal at the time of its publication by the Publications Division and at present and the steps taken to improve the situation;

(c) the difficulties being experienced in

getting the "Bhagirath" journal published again by the Publications Division and the steps proposed to be taken to remove these difficulties; and

(d) the time by which it will be possible for the Publications Division to bring out this popular journal?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The publication of 'Bhagirath' (English & Hindi) has been transferred to the Central Water Commission in the interest of efficient management since that Department was exercising direct administrative control over the editorial staff of the journal.

(b) The information is given below in the statement.

(c) and (d): There is no proposal to publish these journals from the Publications Division at present in view of the position stated in reply to part (a) above.

STATEMENT

<i>At the time of Publishing by Publications Division</i>		<i>Present Position</i>	
Circulation:			
Bhagirath (Hindi)	2200 Copies	Bhagirath (Hindi)	2500 Copies
Bhagirath (English)	2740 Copies	Bhagirath (English)	2700 Copies
Financial Position (Annual) (Expenditure incurred on printing)			
Bhagirath (Hindi)	Rs. 77,600/-	Bhagirath (Hindi)	Rs. 1,10,000/-
Bhagirath (English)	Rs. 91,200/-	Bhagirath (English)	Rs. 1,20,000/-
Revenue earned (Annual)			
Bhagirath (Hindi)	Rs. 3000/-	Bhagirath (Hindi)	Rs. 23,000/-
Bhagirath (English)	Rs. 8400/-	Bhagirath (English)	Rs. 7,064/-

[English]

Purchase of Insulators By D.E.S.U.

9498. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking entered into a deal with a party for the purchase of insulators at much higher rates thereby causing financial loss amounting to lakh of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total loss incurred by the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking as a result thereof;

(c) the outcome of the inquiry, if any, made by Government into the circumstances under which higher tender was accepted and the irregularities, if any, in the deal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Does not arise in view of answer to part (a) above.

Down Gradation of PIB in Hyderabad

9499. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to down grade the Press Information Bureau in Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and its impact on the various dailies/weeklies published from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMA-

TION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance to Urdu Press By PIB

9500. SHRI/MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Urdu dailies and weeklies published from Andhra Pradesh and the assistance being given to them by the Press Information Bureau as compared to the Telugu and English dailies/weeklies;

(b) whether the PIB, Hyderabad is adequately equipped to cater to the needs of dailies/weeklies published from Andhra Pradesh in various languages; and

(c) if not, the steps contemplated by Government to make the PIB a self-sufficient Bureau to meet the requirements?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) As per the live register of RNI, the number of Urdu dailies and weeklies published from Andhra Pradesh as on 31.12.1986 was 30 and 220, respectively. As regards facilities to newspapers by PIB, no discrimination is made on linguistic basis.

PIB office at Hyderabad caters to the needs of Urdu Press as well as newspapers of other languages in Andhra Pradesh. This office, like those in other parts of the country, supplies Charbas to Urdu Press apart from other common facilities such as supply of news material, photos, backgrounders, other reference material and invitation to press conferences which are extended to all newspapers irrespective of their language.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Electrification of Villages in Orissa and U.P.

. 9501. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Orissa and Uttar Pradesh, district-wise, which are without electricity;

(b) whether Government propose to provide electricity to all the villages during the current Five Year Plan in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have received any representation from the villages of Paindramal, Balainger, Saintala Block, tehsil-Titlagarh in Orissa State in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action being taken on their requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Statements I & II indicating the district-wise number of villages in Orissa and Uttar Pradesh which are yet to be electrified as on 31.3.1988 are given below.

(b) and (c). The Seventh Plan envisage electrification of 7558 and 25170 villages in Orissa and Uttar Pradesh respectively. The remaining villages are expected to be electrified during the 8th Plan subject to availability of resources and other inputs.

(d) and (e). As far as the records could be verified, no such representations have been received.

STATEMENT-I

Districtwise Details of Unelectrified Villages as on 31.3.88 in Orissa (Provisional)

S. No.	District	Unelectrified villages as on 31.3.88 (1971 census)
1	2	3
1.	Balasore (Baleshwar)	990

1	2	3
2.	Bolangir	829
3.	Cuttack	1275
4.	Dhenkanal	867
5.	Ganjam	1723
6.	Kalahandi	1463
7.	Keonjhar	617
8.	Koraput	3631
9.	Mayurbhanj	1801
10.	Phulbani	3320
11.	Puri	1020
12.	Sambalpur	1215
13.	Sundergarh	430
Total		19181

STATEMENT II

Districtwise Details of Unelectrified Villages as on 31st March, 1988 in U.P. (Prov.)

Sl. No.	District	Balance to be electrified
1	2	3
1.	Saharanpur	163
2.	Muzaffarnagar	-
3.	Meerut	-
4.	Bulandshahr	-
5.	Ghaziabad	-
6.	Aligarh	71

1	2	3
7.	Mathura	70
8.	Agra	197
9.	Mainpuri	307
10.	Etah	497
11.	Bareilly	666
12.	Shahjahanpur	1101
13.	Badaun	540
14.	Pilibhit	509
15.	Rampur	344
16.	Moradabad	419
17.	Bijnore	592
18.	Farukhabad	343
19.	Etawah	629
20.	Kanpur	942
21.	Fatehpur	368
22.	Allahabad	716
23.	Jhansi	291
24.	Lalitpur	401
25.	Jalaun	377
26.	Hamirpur	436
27.	Banda	518
28.	Varanasi	1227
29.	Mirzapur	1937
30.	Jaunpur	480
31.	Chazipur	
32.	Ballia	412
33.	Gorakhpur	1650

1	2	3
34.	Deoria	1449
35.	Basti	4062
36.	Azamgarh	808
37.	Lucknow	-
38.	Rai Bareilly	-
39.	Unnao	869
40.	Sitapur	1420
41.	Hardoi	1026
42.	Kheri	587
43.	Faizabad	680
44.	Gonda	1358
45.	Bahraich	686
46.	Sultanpur	299
47.	Pratapgarh	780
48.	Bara Banki	1194
49.	Nainital	157
50.	Almora	995
51.	Pithoragarh	1094
52.	Dehradun	99
53.	Uttar Kashi	126
54.	Chamoli	565
55.	Pouri Garhwal	1717
56.	Tehri Garhwal	850
Total		37044

Second Phase of HBJ Gas Pipeline

9502. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the second phase of the Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) gas pipeline has become operational;

(b) if so, the quantity of gas being supplied to Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative plant at the Aonla each day;

(c) whether the commissioning of the third phase is also being considered; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be commissioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present the Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative (IFFCOS) plant at Aonla draws gas at an average rate of about 0.8 to 0.9 million standard cubic metre per day.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The pipeline from Auraiya to Jagdishpur has been completed.

Exploration in Rajasthan by Oil India Ltd.

9503. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil India Ltd. has decided to go in a big way to explore oil and gas in the desert sands of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether any programme has been chalked out for the exploration of oil and gas in Rajasthan during the remaining period of the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) to (c). Oil India Limited (OIL) has already done detailed processing and interpretation of about 8400 line kms. of seismic survey in Rajasthan during 1984-85 to 1987-88. During the remaining period of 7th Five Year Plan, OIL propose to drill exploratory wells and also do additional seismic survey:

as a part of first phase of exploratory drilling, OIL propose to drill three exploratory wells in Jaisalmer District -- one of which is currently being drilled near Tanot; one well is proposed to be drilled near Ramgarh and the third one west of Bikampur. The locations of the remaining three wells shall be decided after the results of these wells.

Survey for Hydro Electric Schemes in Orissa

9504. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any survey and investigation of the hydro electric schemes in Orissa;

(b) if so, the potential of those schemes and the amount of Central assistance sought by State Government for executing those schemes;

(c) the number of schemes approved by Union Government and the amount released for implementing those schemes; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The hydro-electric potential in Orissa estimated to be of the order of 1983 MW at 60% load factor. The Central assistance given by the Planning Commission for the State plans is in the form of block loans/grants and is not related to any specific programme like execution of hydro-electric schemes.

(c) and (d). Six hydro-electric schemes with a total installed capacity of 1113.5 MW have been approved in the State sector for execution.

[Translation]

Special Grants to 'No Industry Districts'

9505. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of no industry districts in the country which are given special grants by Union Government;

(b) whether Government propose to make changes in the policy and do it at block level;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of the blocks in Rajasthan which will be provided such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Ninety-three districts have been declared as no industry districts.

(b) to (d). The report of the Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted to review and revise the existing Central Incentives Scheme for industrial development of backward areas is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Criteria for Selection of Dealerships for R.D./S.K.D./L.P.G.

9506. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI MANIK REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for selection of dealerships/distributorships for R.D./S.K.D./L.P.G.;

(b) the total number of selections pending, zonewise as on 1.4.1987 and 1.4.1988; and

(c) the number of selections made zonewise during the year 1987-88?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM):(a) The oil marketing companies appoint LPG/RD/SKD-LDD distributors/dealers on the basis of recommendations received from the Oil Selection Boards concerned. In making selection of candidates who meet the eligibility conditions in regard to income, educational qualifications, residence, category, age, etc., the Oil Selection Boards take the following factors into account:--

- (i) personality;
- (ii) business ability/salesmanship
- (iii) capacity to arrange finance and capability to provide facilities;
- (iv) preparedness for working full time as a dealer; and
- (v) general assessment and extra-curricular activities.

(b) The total number of cases pending selections zone-wise as on 1.4.1987 and 1.4.1988 are as follows:--

Zone	As on 1.4.1987		As on 1.4.1988	
		Total		Total
West		259		363
East		211		108
North		316		329
South		181		67
		967		867

(c) The number of selections made zone-wise during the year 1987-88 is as under:--

Name of the Zone	No. of selections made
West	79
East	201
North	214
South	244
Total	738

Telephone Services in Rourkela

9507. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone services in Rourkela in Orissa are deteriorating;

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the telephone services in Rourkela; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir; on the other hand due to close monitoring and upgradation of external plant there is gradual improvement in the services.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise in view of reply against item(a) above.

Setting up of Petrochemical Projects

9508. DR. G. S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any letters of intent or li-

cence have been issued recently for setting up of petrochemical projects in any State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). No letter of intent for the setting up of any major petrochemical project has been issued in the recent past.

The last letter of intent for such a project was issued on 6.2.1987 in favour of Madras Refineries Limited(MRL) for setting up of an Aromatics Complex at Manali in Tamilnadu. MRL plans to set up this project as a joint venture.

[Translation]

Commercial Establishments of KVIC

9509. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the commercial establishments of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission are running in loss; and

(b) if so, the details of the expenditure incurred by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission on these commercial establishments during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Out of 139 trading units on 31.3.87 under Khadi & Village Industries Commission, only 35 units showed a net deficit. There was an overall surplus in the trading units of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission, during the last 3 years.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Power Projects in private Sector in Kerala

9510. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from Kerala for setting up of power projects in the private sector;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) No proposal has been received for setting up power generation projects in the private sector in Kerala.

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

T. V. centre at Nandyala

9511. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a T.V. centre at Nandyala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) TV service in the Country is being expanded in a phased manner subject to the availability of resources. Extension of TV service to Nandyala and other uncovered places in the country would depend upon availability of resources in the future plans of TV expansion

Oil and Gas in Godavari Kani

9512. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil and gas is available in Godavari Kani; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Oil and gas have discovered in onland areas of Krishna-Godavari basin (Andhra Pradesh).

(b) Oil is being produced from Kaikalur-3 well and gas from Narsapur-Razole areas, through early production system.

Income From Sale of Post Cards

9513. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual income from the sale of post cards during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the break-up of the total expenditure on the production of the post cards by major items during the last three years, yearwise; and

(c) the net loss on the post cards service in the last three years, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The estimated annual income from the sale of Post Cards for the last three years is as follows:†

1985-86	Rs. 16.39 Crores
1986-87	Rs. 18.28 Crores
1987-88	Rs. 22.43 Crores

Note: This is based on the assessed traffic of post cards handled by the Department in the relevant years.

(b) The estimated expenditure on the production of the Post cards as per the

traffic figures for the last three years is as follows:

1985-86	Rs. 5.68 Crores
1986-87	Rs. 6.51 Crores
1987-88	Rs. 6.84 Crores

Note: The production of post cards is done by the Government of India Press Nasik which charges the Postal Department at the rates fixed each year by them and therefore, the break up of the total ex-

penditure on this account is not available with the Department of Posts.

(c) The estimated net loss on the Post cards service including privately printed Post cards during the last three years is as follows:

1985-86	Rs. 44.41 Crores
1986-87	Rs. 68.47 Crores
1987-88	Rs. 57.56 Crores

Note:- The break up of loss is as under:-

Year	Cost per Post card (in paise)			Average Revenue per post card (including privately printed post card) (in paise)	Loss per post card (in paise)	Total Loss (Rs. in crores)
1985-86	5.86	61.67	67.53	18.20	49.33	44.41
1986-87	6.84	84.55	91.39	19.26	72.13	68.47
1987-88	6.86	73.38	80.24	22.50	57.74	57.56

Expansion of Satellite Communication System

9514. SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has expanded its Satellite Communication System; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Existing satellite communication system has been expanded by two more stations at Hazira and South Bassein. These

stations are likely to be commissioned in May, 1988, after successful completion of Net work operation, coordination and control testing.

Sugarbeet Processing Project in Sunderbans, West Bengal

9515. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the working of the Sugarbeet processing project in the Sunderbans area (West Bengal); and

(b) the socio-economic impact resulting from the success of this project, on the economy of the backward area of Sunderbans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). A proto-type for extracting sugarbeet juice, which is a good source material for manufacture of khandsari sugar, ethanol and citric etc. has been designed and developed. This pilot project has been taken up in association with Sundarbans Sugarbeet Company, a Government of West Bengal Undertaking, to develop equipment for the manufacture of khandsari sugar from sugarbeet juices at competitive rates. The equipment has undergone field trials in the presence of farmers and has been successfully demonstrated. During the next crushing season, efforts will be made to perfect the extraction and manufacture of khandsari technology and assess the possibility of developing further products. The success of the project will have considerable socio-economic impact on the economy of the Sunderbans areas. This will provide an opportunity for the cultivation of sugarbeet as a second crop in the Sundarbans area which remains fallow after the first crop because of very high salinity of soil. Cultivation of sugarbeet in the area has yielded encouraging results.

New Power Generation Schemes in Kerala

9516. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of new power generation schemes (Thermal and

Hydel) submitted by the Government of Kerala which are now pending before Government or the Central Electricity Authority;

(b) when these schemes were submitted and the stage at which they stand now; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to expedite those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). Five new power generation schemes of Kerala are pending for approval. The details are given in the statement given below. In addition, the Puyankutty Hydro Electric Project (2X210 MW) has been accorded investment approval by Planning Commission subject to the State Government's obtaining forest clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(c) While all efforts are being made to expedite the clearance of the power projects in order to meet the growing power demand, the approval of projects for execution depends upon a number of factors such as the comprehensiveness of the project reports, expeditious response of the project authorities to the various comments/observations of the Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission, availability of various inputs and clearances and the relative priority accorded to the projects in terms of allocation of funds.

STATEMENT

New power generation schemes of Kerala pending approval

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of Receipt in CEA	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kayamkulam TPS	2 X 210	8/87	Awaiting investment approval of Planning Commission

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Chalakydy HEP St. II (Revised)	2 X 60+ 2 X 80	12/87	Under Techno-Economic appraisal in CEA
3.	D.G. Sets at Cochin (Thermal)	8 X 12.5	7/86	Fuel linkage not yet available
4.	Trikaripur TPS	2 X 210	11/87	Coal linkage, water availability to be confirmed
5.	Barge Mounted Diesel Plant at Cannanore (Thermal)	40	12/87	Under Techno-Economic appraisal in Central Electricity Authority

Per Capita Consumption of Power in Kerala

9517. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per capita power consumption in Kerala is below the national average;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the consumption of power in Kerala is likely to increase in the next five years; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). As per available information the per capita consumption of power during the year 1986-87 for the country as a whole is 190.99 KWH (provisional). According to the Kerala State Electricity Board the corresponding figure for Kerala is 130.5 KWH.

The increase in consumption of electricity depends on various factors including the rate of industrial and agricultural growth, and the extent of electrification in urban and rural areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) According to the Kerala State Electricity Board, the per capita power consumption is expected to show an increase of about 50% from the present level, during the next five years.

[Translation]

LPG Racket in Sonepat

9518. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "LPG racket in the Sonepat causes artificial shortage" appearing in the Economic Times dated 20th March, 1988;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in the matter;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). An enquiry was conducted by the Indian Oil Corporation during the course of which the allegations in the news item could not be substantiated;

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.

[English]

Discovery of New Sources of Oil by ONGC

9519. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new sources of oil have been discovered by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission since 1 January, 1988;

(b) if so, the details of their locations and expected yields; and

(c) whether they are commercially viable?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details are:—

Becharji (Gujarat)

The well is located about 35 kms. from South West of Mehsana city.

Nannilam (Tamil Nadu)

The well is located at a distance of 12 kms. west of Tiruvārur and about 35 kms. west of Narimanam - 1 in Thanjavur District.

These discoveries are in exploratory stage and their expected yield/commercial viability will be known only after further exploration/delineation.

Gas Based Thermal Power Plants in Karnataka

9520. SHRI H. G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by Government for locating sites for setting up gas based thermal power plants in the country;

(b) whether the Karnataka Government has also approached Union Government for setting up any plant in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Proposals in respect of setting up of gas turbine power plants are examined keeping in view that availability of gas for power generation, the power requirements of the region and other relevant techno-economic considerations.

(b) and (c). Proposals received from the Karnataka Government for setting up a 120 MW gas Turbine Plant at Yelahanka (Bangalore) and Diesel Generating Sets at four locations in Karnataka with a total capacity of 77.76 MW have been approved in February, 1987.

Package to Lower Prices of Polyester Staple Fibre, Polyester Filament Yarn and Viscose Staple Fibre

9521. SHRI H. B. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive package to lower final prices of polyester staple fibre, polyester filament yarn and viscose staple fibre has been submitted to Union Government for consideration; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Representations have been received from time to time for reduction in cost of inputs, lowering of rates of excise levies etc. in respect of polyester staple fibre and polyester filament yarn.

The excise levies on polyester staple fibre and polyester filament yarn have been reduced effective from March 1, 1988.

Import of Vitamin A

9522. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated requirement of vitamin A for control of blindness and other infections;

(b) whether this vitamin A is being manufactured in sufficient quantity or it is being imported; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether self-sufficiency is proposed to be achieved in the country as that would also reduce the cost?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The estimated requirement of vitamin A for control of blindness only is 100 million doses every year for 50 million eligible group of children (1 - 5 years).

(b) The production of Vitamin A in the year 1986-87 (Actual) and 1987-88 (Target) has been of the order of 69.34 MMU and 160.00 MMU respectively. The deficit in production and demand is being met through imports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Setting up of Small Scale Industrial Projects in Sri Lanka

9523. SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT:
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up small scale industrial projects on turn-key basis in Sri Lanka;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed with Sri Lanka in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement

and the number of small scale projects to be set up in Sri Lanka; and

(d) the purpose of setting up these projects in Sri Lanka and the assistance being given therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), a Public Sector Undertaking, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Sri Lanka (Ministry of Rural Industrial Development) on 30 March, 1988, to co-operate in the planned development of small scale industries in Sri Lanka. The salient features of the Memorandum of Understanding are:

- (1) 56 Small Industrial Projects, such as pencil eraser, Oil Seals; Hand Hacksaw Frames; Paper Pins; Gem Clips and Staples; File Fasteners; Staplers and Punching Machines; Wire Nail; T.V. Antenna; Gas Cookers etc. have been identified for cooperation.
- (2) Supply of machinery and equipment including spares for two years for the identified projects.
- (3) Holding of Technological Exposition of Indian Machinery in Colombo by the NSIC in Dec. 1988/Jan. 1989.
- (4) Organising of a Seminar/Workshop on Small Scale Industries in Sri Lanka jointly by the NSIC and Sri Lankan Government during the time of Exposition.

Indo-Japanese Collaborations

9524. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Japanese Collaborations have increased in recent years; and

(b) if so, the main areas where Indo-

Japan Trade has been established and expanded in last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Government approved 58, 78, 108, 111 and 71 foreign collaboration proposals with Japanese companies in the years 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 & 1987 respectively. The details of approved foreign collaboration showing the names of the Indian and foreign firms, items of manufacture and nature of foreign collaboration are published on a monthly basis by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly news letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

(b) Iron Ore, diamonds, shrimps, petroleum spirit, etc. were the major items of Indian exports to Japan. Exports of diamonds, shrimps, petroleum spirit, cashewnut, etc. have registered increases during 1985-87.

Working Capital in Public Sector

9525. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering some guidelines to ensure control over working capital in the public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the norms for capital control in these undertakings contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Guidelines already exist on the subject of 'Working Capital' in public sector undertakings. These guidelines, inter-alia, provide that Board of Directors in case of each undertaking should determine the reasonable level of the working capital and review the position from time to time to ensure that the total investment in the working capital is kept as low as possible.

Unauthorised use of Newsprint

9526. SHRI SITARAM J. CAVALI: Will the

Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have found unauthorised use of newsprint by a Group of Newspapers;

(b) if so, the nature of such unauthorised use; and

(c) whether any investigations have been made and if so, the outcome thereof with steps taken if any?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). Instances of transfer of newsprint by one publication of a Group of Newspapers to another have come to the notice of the Government. Appropriate action as per rules is being considered.

Wastage of Newsprint

9527. SHRI SITARAM J. CAVALI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the normal wastage of newsprint in a newspaper;

(b) whether certain newspapers including a leading group of newspapers have shown a high percentage of wastage;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have enquired as to why this is happening; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and steps taken; if any?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The normal wastage allowed by the Government is as under:--

(i) for all newspapers - 5%

(ii) for periodicals in case of multi-colour printing - 7% and

(iii) conversion of reels into sheets - 5%

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The information is given below in the Statement

(d) and (e). Newspapers have been asked to explain the reasons for high percentage of wastage of newsprint. Replies are awaited from concerned newspapers and further action will be taken thereafter

STATEMENT

Percentage of Wastage of Newsprint by Leading Groups

I. Hindustan Times Limited, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Name of the paper	Percentage of wastage found in circulation check 1986
1	2	3
1.	Hindustan Times, English daily New Delhi.	20.62
2.	Hindustan, Hindi daily, New Delhi	22.20
3.	Hindustan Times (Evening), English daily, New Delhi	49.10
4.	Weekend Review, English Weekly New Delhi	57.98
5.	Saptahik, Hindustan, Hindi Weekly New Delhi	50.25
6.	Nandan, Hindi monthly, New Delhi	29.62
7.	Kadambini, Hindi monthly, New Delhi	37.94

II. Indian Express Group

1.	Indian Express, E/D, Bombay	9.45
2.	Sankaleem, G/D, Bombay	9.99
3.	Loksatta, Mar/D, Bombay	8.28
4.	Financial Express, E/D, Bombay	13.62
5.	Screen, E/W, Bombay	7.58
6.	Lok Prabha, Mar/W, Bombay	13.21
7.	Lok Prabha, Mar/A, Bombay	21.44
8.	Diwali Lok Satta Mar/A, Bombay	10.76

1	2	3
9. Indian Express, E/D, Ahmadabad		9.15
10. Indian Express, E/D, Delhi		17.23
11. Jan Satta, H/D, Delhi		28.37
12. Financial Express, E/d, Delhi		15.57
13. -do- Madras		15.81
14. Indian Express, E/D, Chandigarh		12.50
15. Lok Satta, G/D, Ahmadabad		11.60
16. Chandi. G/F, Ahmadabad		18.34
17. Rang Tarang, G/F, Ahmadabad		21.38
18. Lok Satta, G/D, Baroda		3.43
19. Indian Express, E/D, Madras		8.25
20. -do- Vijaywada		11.21
21. Indian Express, E/D, Madurai		5.60
22. -do- Bangalore		8.55
23. -do- Hyderabad		9.22
24. -do- Cochin		5.34
25. Dinamani, Tamil/D, Madras		6.83
26. -do- Madurai		5.98
27. Kannada Prabha, Kan/D, Bangalore		6.21
28. Andhra Prabha, Tel/D, Hyderabad		8.51
29. -do- Vijayawada		10.17
30. -do- Bangalore		11.56
III. Tribune Trust, Chandigarh		
1. The Tribune, E/D, Chandigarh		9.04
2. Dainik Tribune, Hindi Daily, Chandigarh		5.77
3. Punjabi Tribune, P/D, Chandigarh		9.28

IV. Thanti Group Publications, Madras

1. Daily Thanti, Tamil/D, Madras.	11.6
2. -do- Madurai	23.36
3. -do- Trichy	22.62
4. -do- Selem	10.9
5. -do- Coimbatore	23.75
6. -do- Tirunelveli	8.37
7. -do- Vellore	13.79
8. -do- Bangalore	8.15
9. -do- Cuddalore	7.5
E/D English Daily	H/D Hindi Daily
G/D Gujarati Daily	Mar/D Marathi Daily
P/D Punjabi Daily	Tel/D Telugu Daily
Tamil/D Tamil Daily	Kan/D Kannada Daily
G/F Gujarati Fortnightly	Mar/W Marathi Weekly
E/W English Weekly	Mar/A Marathi Annual

[Translation]

**Contract for Hire of Cars for Escort
Duties with VVIPs**

9528. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contract for the current year for hiring of cars for escorts duties with VVIPs has not yet been finalised by the Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether it has resulted in additional expenditure on hiring of cars by the Delhi Police; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANIPANIGRAHI): (a) The contract has been finalised and would be effective from 1.2.1988.

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

[English]

**Repair and Maintenance of Assam-
Agartala Road**

9529. SHRI AJAY BISWAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred for maintenance, repair and construction of Assam-Agartala Road during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(b) the reasons for delay in repair and maintenance of the said road?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The yearwise expenditure incurred by Border Roads Organisation for improvement/construction and maintenance of the road is as under:-

1985-86 -	Rs. 445.34 lakhs
1986-87 -	Rs. 515.56 lakhs
1987-88 - (upto January 88)	Rs. 497.78 lakhs

(b) Does not arise, as adequate repairs and maintenance of the road are being carried out.

**Dividend to Central Exchequer by
Kendriya Bhandar**

9530. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar, Central Government Employees' Consumer Cooperative Organisation, for the first time

has paid a dividend of Rs. 1,40,882/- to the Central Exchequer as reported in the 'Times of India' of 31 March, 1988;

(b) whether Kendriya Bhandar has been making a profit for the last three years; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether besides paying the dividend, the Kendriya Bhandar has also decided to contribute Rs. 1 lakh to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund;

(d) how much financial aid is being provided by Government to Kendriya Bhandar annually;

(e) whether Government propose to open such Bhandars in other cities for the benefit of the common people; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Kendriya Bhandar has made net profit during the last three years as under:

Cooperative year	Net profit as per Profit and Loss Account (Rs. in lakhs)	Net profit as per Profit and Loss Appropriation Account.
1984-85	24.09	-
1985-86	8.79	-
1986-87	23.47	-

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Financial aid in the form of reimbursement of salary of superior staff amounting to Rs. 60,868 has been pro-

vided to Kendriya Bhandar for its Madras Branch in the financial year 1987-88.

The Government has, however, made investment amounting to Rs. 53,17,000/-

in the form of equity capital as on 31.3.1988. Loans received from Central Govt. outstanding as on 30.6.87 were Rs. 1.50 lakhs. Since then the Government has given further loans of Rs. 2 lakhs for purchase of computers, and Rs. 3 lakhs for opening of branches outside Delhi.

(e) and (f). It is proposed to open branch stores in Metropolitan towns having large concentration of Central Government employees.

Operational Days of Instruments at C.F.R.I., Dhanbad.

9531. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state how many days the instruments like Mossbauer, FT-NMR and GCMS have been operated in CFRI, Dhanbad during the year 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): During the period 1987-88, Mossbauer, FTNMR and GCMS were operated for 105, 30 and 35 days respectively. Operation of these instruments need continuous power supply at a steady voltage of 220 Volt and 50 Hz. Continuous power supply at a steady voltage and frequency has not been available during this period and the Institute is facing frequent power failure causing serious break down in the operation of these instruments.

Conversion of Dry-Type Latrines into Water-Borne ones in Kanpur Cantonment

9532. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 16 March, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 3304 regarding conversion of dry-type latrines into water-borne ones in Kanpur Cantonment and state:

(a) whether a number of residents, in spite of their repeated requests for conver-

sions, have not been given any reply by the Cantonment Board, Kanpur and the stalemate is causing delay;

(b) if so, how many residents have come forward or sent representations to the Board for allowing them such conversion during the last four months ending on 30 April, 1988; and

(c) further steps contemplated in that regard to help the residents to dispense with the services of the night-soil carriers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Nil.

(c) The delay in conversion of dry type latrines into water borne system is due to non-existence of under-ground sewerage and inadequate water supply. The work of laying under-ground sewerage lines is in progress and the proposal for augmentation of water supply is also being processed. People are being motivated to convert dry type latrines into flush latrines. As and when the sewerage lines are completed, water supply is increased and dry-type latrines are converted into flush latrines, the work of carrying night-soil on head will automatically be stopped.

Confirmation of Government Servants

9533. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued new orders where under a Government servant who has been confirmed at the entry stage of his service career need not be confirmed in each and every post or grade to which he/she is promoted; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of Department of Personnel and Training Office Memorandum No. 18011/1/86-Estt(D) dated the 28th March, 1988 issued in this regard is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6267/88]

Incentives to Employees Acquiring Qualifications Useful for Official Work

9534. SHRI H.B. PATIL:

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth Pay Commission has recommended that employees who acquire additional qualifications, which are useful for their official work should be granted some incentives;

(b) if so, whether the said recommendations have been accepted by Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken to implement the recommendation of the Fourth Pay Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Government have accepted the Fourth Pay Commission's suggestion that "some incentive should be given to employees who acquire qualifications which

are useful for their work and contribute to their efficiency" and Ministries/Departments have been advised to review the various schemes of incentives at present in vogue in respect of the cadres administered by them and where necessary/justified formulate fresh proposals in consultation with Ministry of Finance and Department of Personnel & Training.

Plan Outlay for Kerala for 1987-88

9535. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the outlay sanctioned by the planning Commission for the annual plan for the year 1987-88 in respect of the State of Kerala;

(b) the targets set up in the plan for agricultural and industrial production and the growth rate achieved; and

(c) the sector-wise plan outlay made in the annual plan and the total outlay allotted in the previous three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI B.S. ENGTI): (a) The Annual Plan 1987-88 of Kerala was approved at Rs. 440 crores.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) The total outlay allotted in the previous three years from 1984-85 to 1986-87 is Rs. 1100 crores. The sectoral break-up of the approved outlay for the Annual Plan 1987-88 is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Agriculture & Allied Activities	58.33
Rural Development	19.87
Special Area Programmes	1.00
Irrigation & Flood Control	68.00
Energy	89.10
Industry & Minerals	41.35
Transport	52.00

Science, Technology & Environment	6.20
General Economic Services	4.60
Social Services	91.15
General Services	<u>8.40</u>
Total	440.00

STATEMENT

The Achievements for 1986-87 and targets for the year 1987-88 for Agriculture and Industries Sectors as proposed by the State Government

Item	Unit	1986-87 Achievement	1987-88 Target
I. AGRICULTURE			
Foodgrains	000 tonnes	1066.00	1470
Oilseeds		9.457	17.50
Coconut	Million nuts	3068	3300
Sugar (cane)	000 tonnes	400.57	490.00
Cotton	000 bales	9.00	11.2
II. INDUSTRY			
Small scale industries Production	Rs. lakhs	141178	144809
Handloom Industry Production (Co-op sector only)	M. Metres	50	70
Powerloom Industry- Production (Co-op. Sector only)	M. Metres	10	11
Production of yarn	000 tonnes	10.53	17.00
Handicrafts Production	Rs. lakhs	3000	3000
Khadi & Village Industries within the purview of KVIC production.	Rs. lakhs	4491	6012

Construction in Kanpur Cantonment without Sanction

9536. SHRI H. G. RAMULU:
DR. V. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Cantonment board area of Kanpur, several builders have built up various premises without any sanctioned building maps;

(b) whether a few of them were issued notices by the Board in the last two years;

(c) whether no cognisance of such notices has been taken by those who are carrying on illegal constructions and encroachments;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the penal action contemplated against all those found guilty and to dismantle such constructions with immediate effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Some cases of unauthorised constructions have come to the notice of the Cantonment Board and necessary action under the relevant provisions of the Cantonment Act, 1924 has been taken in all such cases. All of them except one responded to the notices issued by the competent authority and the unauthorised constructions were either removed or regularised after payment of composition fee.

(d) and (e). There is only one case that of Virendra Swarup Memorial Trust who have not responded to the notice and have continued with the unauthorised constructions in Bungalow No. 75. Action against the Trust has already been initiated in accordance with the provisions of the Cantonment Act, 1924 and the Allahabad High Court has been moved both by the Board and the Defence Estate Officer jointly to get further constructions stopped. Decision of the High Court is awaited.

Family Pension Cases Settled by CDA Office, Allahabad

9537. SHRI H. G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 11 December, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 5354 regarding family pension to widows and state:

(a) the number of cases for grant of family pension to widows of erstwhile employees of various defence organisations in Kanpur received by the Controller of Defence Accounts (Pensions), Allahabad during the last four months ending 30 April, 1988;

(b) whether much delay has been caused at the CDA (P) Office, Allahabad and the same are not being expeditiously settled, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof and further steps contemplated to settle the cases immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) CDA (Pensions) Allahabad has received 72 Family pension claims from erstwhile employees of various Defence organisations in Kanpur during the last four months and all the claims have since been notified.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable.

New Haj Committee Act

9538. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Committee to draft a new Haj Committee Act;

(b) if so, the progress made so far by the Committee;

(c) whether the Haj Committee or the Central Haj Advisory Board have made any suggestions in respect of basic framework of the new Haj Committee Act; and

(d) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The Central Haj Advisory Board at its meeting on November 12, 1986 established a Sub-Committee to suggest amendments to the Haj Committee Act, 1959.

(b) The Sub-Committee has submitted its report to the Minister of State for External Affairs in his capacity as the Chairman of the Central Haj Advisory Board.

(c) and (d). The Sub-Committee has prepared a draft bill providing for the new Haj Committee of India to be constituted on a national basis with wider representation with New Delhi as its head office, and for the establishment of State Haj Committees. The draft bill will be considered by the Central Haj Advisory Board.

Freedom Fighters' Pensions to Participants of Arya Samaj Movement

9539. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any claims from Himachal Pradesh and Punjab for the sanction of freedom fighters pension on account of participation in the Arya Samaj Satyagraha Movement in Hyderabad State in 1938 during the past three years, including the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government and the names of such claimants to whom the pensions have been sanctioned; and

(c) the likely date by which the remaining cases would be decided and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c). The last date for submission of applications for grant of pension to the freedom fighters who suffered during Arya Samaj Movement in Hyderabad State in 1938-39 was 30.6.1986. 4 applications from Himachal Pradesh and 234 applications from Punjab were received. Pension has been sanctioned so far to the following persons from Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.

1. Shri Khajan Singh, s/o Sobha Singh of District Mandi (HIMACHAL PRADESH).
2. Smt. Parkash Wati, w/o late Dev Dutta of Faridkot District (PUNJAB).
3. Shri Inderjeet Sharma, s/o Sh. Madho Ram, Jullunder (PUNJAB).
4. Sh. Hans Raj, s/o Sh. Gopi Ram of District Kapurthala (PUNJAB).
5. Sh. Anant Ram, s/o Kashi Ram, Kapurthala District (PUNJAB).

The remaining cases are being examined in consultation with State Govt./Non-Official Screening Committee on Arya Samaj Movement, as in most of these cases the applicants have not furnished any documentary/corroborative evidence.

Funds Allocation for Development of Science and Technology

9540. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated for the development of Science and Technology in the country during the year 1987-88;

(b) the achievement made in this field; and

(c) the provision made for the purpose for the year 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) The total amount allocated for the development of Science and Technology in the country during 1987-88 comprises Rs. 927.39 crores under Plan for both Central and State Sectors and estimated Rs. 566.98 crores for non-Plan, thus making a total of Rs. 1494.37 crores.

(b) Most of the schemes in the Science and Technology Sector being implemented by the Departments of Space, Atomic Energy, Biotechnology, Ocean Development, Science and Technology and Scientific and Industrial Research have progressed well. Some of the highlights include:

Dhruva Reactor is now functioning at 100 MW power level; Radio Isotope production has commenced; Configuration studies of the antenna system for a Giant Meter Wavelength Radio Telescope which would be amongst the largest Radio Telescopes in the world, completed; Hot plasma Machine commissioned at the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Calcutta; although the primary objective of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle mission could not be accomplished, number of new technology elements have been validated; IRS-IA launched successfully from Soviet Union; The National Natural Resources Management System has completed number of resources surveys and monitoring projects; INSAT-IB has completed more than four years of satisfactory operational service; a Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council constituted; major programmes supported for super-conductivity research and its application; a large number of universities and Research Institutions given research funding

in frontline areas of Science and Technology; the Seventh expedition to Antarctica successfully completed; India has become the Pioneer Investor under the law of the Seas Convention and has been allocated a mine site; mission projects on fertility control, cattle herd improvement through embryo transfer technology, production of immuno-diagnostics etc. under implementation; a new catalyst Encilite-2 used for the production of ethylbenzene; commissioning at Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) Bombay, an aromatics extraction unit set up with indigenous technology; development of medium conductivity aluminium alloy conductor (NML-PM 215) as an energy saving device; setting up of reverse osmosis plants for providing drinking water from brackish water in rural areas in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu initiation of a time bound programme of calibration and standardisation; and Central Electronics Ltd. has produced first unit of EPABX based on C-DOT design. A major effort made to set up Science Advisory and Research Advisory Committees and forward looking groups in major sectors of economic development, such as Steel, Petroleum, Telecommunications, Information & Broadcasting, Railways etc. Almost all the States and Union Territories have a Science and Technology infrastructure and are implementing programmes in the areas of survey and utilization of natural resources using remote sensing techniques, manpower training, popularisation of science entrepreneurship development based on science and technology etc.

The Annual Reports of all the Science Departments and the Mid-term Appraisal of the 7th Five Year Plan Document of the Planning Commission have already been laid on the Table of the House which give the salient features of the achievement in the S & T Sector.

(c) A provision of Rs. 1885.68 crores comprising Rs. 1236.25 crores under Plan (Central and States) and Rs. 649.43 crores under non-Plan (estimated) has been made for the year 1988-89.

Benefit on Promotion from Under Secretary to Deputy Secretary

9541. SHRI M. S. GILL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not accepted the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations (Chapter 9, paragraph 9.25) regarding enhancement from Rs. 150/- to Rs. 250/- p.m. the amount of minimum increase in pay on promotion from Under Secretary to Deputy Secretary in the Central Secretariat service and has ordered that the pay be fixed under FR - 22(C).

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the non-acceptance of this recommendation has adversely affected the officers promoted after 1 January, 1986; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review its earlier decision taken on the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have accepted and implemented the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendation that the formula for fixation of pay on promotion should be uniform and that FR--22-C should apply to all cases of promotion from one post to another.

(c) and (d). The revised pay scales introduced on the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations took effect from 1st January, 1986 and the pay of persons appointed to a post on or after that date whether for the first time in Government Service or by promotion or transfer has necessarily to be fixed directly in the revised scales only. Hence the question of fixing the pay of Under Secretaries promoted as Deputy Secretaries on or after 1.1.86, first in the pre-revised scale and

thereafter in the corresponding stage of the revised scale does not arise.

Development of Artemisine Arthether

9542. SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESHWARA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Artemisine Arthether, a plant product selected by World Health Organisation for development is being cultivated by CIMAP if so, the present position thereon; and

(b) whether clinical trial is under way and if so, the result thereof indicating the time frame for marketing of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) has introduced the Chinese Antimalarial drug plant, *Artemisia annua* in more than three hectares of land in the Kashmir Valley. Process technology for production of artemisine, the active principle in the above plant has also been developed by the Institute. Above five tonnes of the herb has been processed so far.

(b) Preclinical animal studies have been undertaken. Permission of the Drug Controller of India has been sought for conducting human clinical trials. In view of the uncertainties associated with such trials, it would be premature to indicate a time frame for marketing this drug.

Chakma Refugees

9543. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to the proposal of the Bangladesh Government to send Chakma tribal leaders to visit refugee camps in Tripura to convince the refugees to return to their homes in Chit-tagong hill tracts area;

(b) if so, whether this team has visited India;

(c) The reaction of the Chakma refugees to these overtures by Bangladesh Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Housing Facility for Delhi Police

9544. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a special scheme to improve the housing facilities for the police personnel in Delhi during 1988-89;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to analyse the need and to work out the cost of various type of houses required for the purpose; and

(c) the decision taken as a result of the study conducted in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Police housing is treated as Plan Scheme. The work in hand will enable an addition of 1075 houses and barrack accommodation for 600 personnel during the year 1988-89.

(b) and (c). The Central Public Works Department had held a workshop on Value Engineering in the month of April, 1987 in which the Police Housing Project at Model Town was analysed and improvements in lay out and design were worked out.

Encroachment on Wakf Properties

9545. SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Rehabilitation has illegally made encroachment and occupied certain wakf properties of Delhi which have been published as Shia Wakfs in Delhi Gazette, Delhi Administration, September 25, 1975/Asvina 3, 1897 (Part V-II) and then transferred these lands to the DDA illegally; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof for such encroachment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Of the five properties Notified as SHIA WAKFS in Delhi Gazette, Delhi Administration, September 25, 1975/Asvina 3, 1897 (Part V - II), the following four properties were never acquired as Evacuee Properties:

(i) Masjid Qanati in Karbala;

(ii) Naqqar Khana, Dargah Shah Mardan, Aliganj, New Delhi;

(iii) Surrounding land outside the boundary of Dargah Shah Mardan;

(iv) Graveyard known as 'Chhoti Karbala'.

One property (Imam Bara, Dhobi Wara, Mori Gate, Delhi) was taken over as Evacuee Property in 1950 but was released in favour of the Shia Wakf Board in 1958.

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

Ammunition Missing from DAP Armoury

9546. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news item captioned "Ammunition missing from DAP Armoury" appearing in the 'Times of India' New Delhi dated 17th April, 1988.

(b) if so, whether any investigation has

been ordered into such a huge quantity of ammunition disappearing from the armoury; its outcome and the steps taken to check that this ammunition has not fallen in the hands of anti-social elements; and

(c) the preventive measures taken for future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Physical verification of the stock of Arms and Ammunition has since been conducted. No shortage or discrepancies with the Stock Register have been found.

(c) Adequate security is provided for the safety of the stocks of Arms and Ammunition.

Rehabilitation of Scavengers

9547. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any schemes to rehabilitate scavengers;

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

(c) the instructions issued to State Governments in this regard;

(d) whether all States are complying with the instructions; and

(e) if not, the names of such States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Liberation of Scavengers, necessary guidelines have been issued to all States for rehabilitation of scavengers who are rendered unemployed on account of conversion of dry latrines into water-borne ones. The scheme has been taken up in the selected

towns of 19 states. Municipal scavengers are retained in the respective municipalities in non-scavenging jobs. Scheduled Castes Development Corporations, other agencies of States/UTs are providing financial and other assistance including training in various gainful trades etc. to the displaced scavengers. Instructions have been issued permitting utilisation of Special Central Assistance on rehabilitation of liberated scavengers treating them as one of the specially vulnerable groups.

Representations from SC/ST Association on Caste Discrimination in Naval Science and Technology Laboratory, Visakhapatnam

9548. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of representations made by SC/ST Association of Naval Science and Technology Laboratory, Visakhapatnam since 1 April, 1986 about alleged caste atrocities, discrimination, wrong dereservations and harassment; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). SC/ST Association of Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) Visakhapatnam has sent 5 representations since 1 April 86 pertaining to alleged irregularities in maintenance of 40 and 100 point rosters, recruitment of general candidates against SC/ST vacancies, dereservation of SC/ST posts, filling up of backlog of carry forward of reserved posts etc.

A study team of Commissioner for SC/ST which visited NSTL in April 87 investigated the allegations made in these representations and heard in person representatives of the SC/ST Employees Association of NSTL. No serious irregularities have been pointed out by the Study Team. However, the team made some recommendations regarding the grouping of posts prior to 1983 and maintenance of

roster etc. setting up of an SC/ST Cell at NSTL and training of SC/ST employees. The main recommendations have already been implemented.

Experiments on Artificial Rains

9549. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the result of the experiment on artificial rains conducted by Kerala Government in Idukki last year;

(b) how much money was spent thereon and what is the attitude of the Union Government towards the concept of artificial rains; and

(c) whether the Union Government have made any research regarding artificial rains and whether Government think that this experiment can be done successfully in dry areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c). It is understood that the experiment was conducted at a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs and understood to have given good results. The research carried out in warm cloud modification in some areas in Maharashtra for rain enhancement indicates that there could be some enhancement of rain under special conditions. It is proposed to conduct weather modification experiments by cloud seeding over an enlarged area in order to ascertain if the seedability criteria for artificial rain making are valid, under favourable meteorological conditions over a wider region.

Air Coast Guard in Thanjavur

9550. SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to set up an Air Station of the Coast Guard in Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far to set up the station; and

(c) the time limit fixed for the commissioning of the Unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). A Coast Guard Air Station is proposed to be set up in the Eastern Region at Thanjavur. Suitable land for this purpose has been identified and action for its acquisition is in progress. Subject to availability of land and creation of necessary infrastructure, the proposed Air Station is expected to be commissioned during 1991-92.

Independent Constitutional Bench of Supreme Court

9551. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK:
SHRI R. M. BHOYE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to have an independent Constitutional Bench of Supreme Court has since been dropped; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). The proposal to have an independent Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court, which was recommended by the Law Commission in its 95th Report has not been accepted, after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, as it would result in the bifurcation of the Supreme Court.

Trial of Birth Control Vaccine

9552. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Immunology is working on a birth control vaccine;

(b) if so, whether any trial has since taken place; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The results obtained from the Phase-I Clinical Trials so far conducted in 105 women have shown that all the subjects developed antibodies against the pregnancy hormone. Antibodies so formed are effective in their bionutralizing capacity. The vaccine has been well tolerated and no harmful side-effect has been observed in any of the subjects receiving the vaccine.

Control of Malaria by 'QUINGHAUSO' Herb

9553. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a herb 'Quinghauso' has been successfully used in China against malaria for a long time;

(b) whether this herb is grown in Jammu and Kashmir and if so, the details of production and use;

(c) whether any controlled clinical trials have been conducted in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether this herb is available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) has cultivated *Artemisia annua* in Jammu and Kashmir in three hectares. About 5 tonnes of this plant material has been processed during 1987-88 and about 60 grams of 'Quinghauso' or arteether has been passed on to the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) for evaluation under Indian conditions.

(c) No, Sir. Based on tests carried out with animals, CDRI has applied for permission from the Drug Controller of India for conducting clinical trials.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

Central Assistance to Tamil Nadu

9554. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Plan assistance to the State of Tamil Nadu is being adjusted against the dues of the State Electricity Board towards purchase of coal and other inputs from the Central Public Sector enterprises; and

(b) whether the Central assistance to tackle drought in the State is also adjusted in the plan assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b). Central assistance released to the States including Tamil Nadu for funding their 1987-88 Annual Plan was not of adjustments of dues from the State Electricity Boards to the National Thermal Power Corporation and Coal India Ltd. as well as Advance Plan Assistance sanctioned for drought relief.

Setting up of National Board of Research and Technology for Small Scale Industries

9555. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the work of setting up a National Board of Research and Technology for small scale industries like the Council of Advancement of Rural Industries/Village and Cottage Industries (CART);

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Khusro Committee; and

(c) the details of the action taken by Government on the recommendations of the above committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) The Recommendation of the Khusro Committee for setting up of National Board of Research and Technology for small scale industries was not accepted.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

Production of Battle-Tanks by BHEL

9556. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. has been entrusted the task of producing battle tanks;

(b) if so, whether BHEL is going to adopt indigenous technology or it is proposed to improve the technology from other countries to build the battle tank; and

(c) the steps taken by BHEL in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No decision has so far been taken regarding the bulk production of MBT ARJUN. However, BHEL along with another Public Sector Undertaking has been entrusted the task of manufacturing pre-production series tanks to Defence Research & Development Organisation's (DRDO) design.

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

Recognition of Madurai Conspiracy Case as a Part of Freedom Struggle

9557. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recognised Madurai Conspiracy case as a part of national freedom struggle with effect from 18 November, 1986 for the purpose of grant of pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these cases which were rejected/cancelled have been automatically considered and pension sanctioned; and

(d) if not, whether the affected freedom fighters are required to sent representation/reminders or fresh applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 are also now applicable to the participants of the Madurai Conspiracy Case.

(c) and (d). No fresh applications are required. State Governments have already been requested that the applications, if any, received from participants of the Madurai Conspiracy Case, 1946 or from their eligible dependents before 31.3.1982 which was the last date for receipt of applications under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, may be considered for grant of pension and verification reports sent to this Ministry. They were also advised that the cases of this category which were earlier rejected/cancelled may also be reopened.

[Translation]

Availability of Passport Forms at Distt. Headquarters

9558. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make available the passport forms in all the district headquarters of the country so that these can be acquired easily; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). A proposal to supply passport application forms through post offices in the country is under consideration in consultation with Department of Post.

At present, passport application forms are supplied to applicants across the counter, and by post from passport offices or through recognised travel agents.

[English]

Closure of Department of Forensic Odontology

9559. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Department of Forensic Odontology was opened at the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Calcutta, to train police personnel and Dental Surgeons in methods of identification of dead persons by their teeth;

(b) whether this branch of forensic science is widely used in many foreign countries but has been neglected in India;

(c) whether the Bureau of Police Research and Development formulated a training programme in this regard; and

(d) the reasons for closing down the department after only one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. Only a Pilot project on Forensic Odontology was started in the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Calcutta, to

train police personnel and Dental surgeons in methods of identification of dead persons by their teeth.

(b) Although this facility is being made use of in many foreign countries, none of the Central Forensic Science Laboratories in India has an Odontology Unit so far. Last year, a research project on Forensic Odontology has been sanctioned in the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Hyderabad.

(c) and (d). Yes. However, as the scientist incharge could not produce any results, the project at Calcutta was discontinued after three years.

Protection to Fishing Boats by Coast Guard

9560. SHRI D.P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Coast Guard to prevent seizure of Indian fishing boats and arrest of Indian fishermen by other countries; and

(b) the measures taken to secure co-ordination between fishermen and the Coast Guard units to provide them security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Patrolling of our maritime zone has been intensified by the Coast Guard. This is being supplemented by aerial surveillance. Coast Guard Ships on patrol also warn Indian fishermen not to cross or go too close to the International Maritime Boundary Lines.

(b) Regular quarterly meetings with representatives of Indian fishermen are being held by the Coast Guard to educate them about the concept of Maritime Zones and the International Maritime Boundary Lines and the areas within which they should restrict their fishing activities.

Annual Stock Taking in COD, Kanpur

9561. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Ordnance Depot, Kanpur, pursuant to the receipt of the report of Staff Court of Enquiry, has not yet fixed up the responsibility for not conducting annual stock-taking on time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps contemplated to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Pursuant to the departmental Court of Inquiry, responsibility for the lapse is not conducting the annual stock-taking, as per schedule, has been fixed and disciplinary action against those held responsible has already been initiated.

[*Translation*]

Action Against Government Officials of CBI's Recommendations

9562. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers and employees against whom action had been recommended by the Central Bureau of Investigation to the concerned departments during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases out of them in which concerned Department or Ministry took action and the details of the action taken; and

(c) the number of cases in which no action has been taken against the guilty officers and employees and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Complaints of Corruption Against IAS Officials

9563. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of Indian Administrative Service against whom complaints of corruption have been received during the past three years;

(b) the number of officers against whom enquiry was conducted; and

(c) the number of officers, out of them, against whom charges were found baseless as also the number of those who were found guilty; Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

New Strategy for Eighth Plan

9564. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new strategy and methodology is being adopted for the Eighth Five Year Plan?

(b) if so, the areas on which the thrust of this new strategy will be laid; and

(c) whether voluntary agencies would be involved in the planning process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b). The strategy for the Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been formulated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Naxalite Movement in Bihar

9565. DR. G.S. RAJHANS:
SHRIMATI MADHUREE
SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made of the socio-economic factors behind the naxalite movement in Bihar;

(b) if so, the significant features of the study; and

(c) the manner in which Union Government contemplate assisting the State Government in the implementation of the conceived programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A Central Team lead by Dr. Manmohan Singh made a study in 1982.

(b) Naxalism in Bihar as well as in other parts of the country is rooted in the exploitation of economically and socially weaker sections of the society on account of land reforms not being implemented effectively and the benefits of economic development not reaching these sections adequately. It has been felt that law and order machinery should also intervene to defend the landless against the social exploitation by the land owning class in addition to strict enforcement of law and order

(c) Another Central Team headed by Secretary, Planning Commission visited Bihar in April, 1988, to assist the State Government in finalizing detailed plans of socio-economic development in the affected area. Apart from above, State Government is being assisted in streamlining its law enforcement and intelligence gathering machinery.

[*Translation*]

Relaxation in Physical Standard to Hill Areas Persons for Recruitment in Delhi Police

9566. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of hill areas of Uttar Pradesh have been given some relaxations in the norms prescribed for physical fitness for recruitment in paramilitary forces;

(b) if so, whether these relaxations are also given for recruitment in Delhi Police; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) They are given height relaxation upto 5 cms.

[*English*]

Revision of Pension of Territorial Army Officers

9567. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the pension of Territorial Army Officers has been revised as per recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of officers in receipt of such pension; and

(d) whether their family pensions have also been revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). Pension, including family pension, of all the TA Officers who have retired on or after 1-1-1986, has been revised as per the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission. There are 7 such pensioners.

The revision of pension of TA Officers, who retired before 1-1-1986, was to be carried out directly by the concerned pension Disbursing Authorities. The position in respect of these pensioners is not readily available.

Facilities to Families of Territorial Army Pensioners

9568. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the facilities and benefits provided to the families of the regular as well as Territorial Army pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): The families of Regular Army pensioners as well as of Territorial Army pensioners are entitled to same pensionary benefits, as indicated in Statement - I.

For the purpose of employment, the

definition of ex-servicemen includes personnel of the Regular Army, Navy and Air Force who

(a) have retired/have been invalided out with a service/invalid/disability/war injury pension.

(b) have been released from service after completing the specific period of engagement, otherwise than at his own request, or by way of dismissal or discharge on account of misconduct or inefficiency and have been given a gratuity.

The following categories of Territorial Army personnel are also treated as Ex-servicemen:--

(a) Pension holders for continuous embodied service.

(b) Persons with disability attributable to military service; and

(c) Gallantry award winners.

The families of Ex-servicemen are entitled to other benefits such as medical, educational, employment, travel & canteen etc. in addition to the pensionary benefits. The main concessions along with eligibility conditions are given below in brief in Statement II.

STATEMENT I

The pensionary benefits available to the families of the Regular Army Pensioners and the families of the Territorial Army personnel are as follows:-

ORDINARY FAMILY PENSION

Reckonable emoluments	Rate of family pension p.m.
(i) Not exceeding Rs. 1500/- p.m.	30% of reckonable emoluments subject to a minimum of Rs. 375/- p.m.
(ii) Exceeding Rs. 1500/- p.m. but not exceeding Rs. 3000/-	20% of reckonable emoluments subject to a minimum of Rs. 450/- p.m.

Reckonable emoluments	Rate of Family Pension p.m.
(iii) Exceeding Rs. 3000/- p.m.	15% of reckonable emoluments subject to a minimum of Rs. 600/- p.m. and a maximum of Rs. 1250/-

(applicable in those cases where death is neither attributable nor aggravated by military service and the deceased had retired with a pension)

SPECIAL FAMILY PENSION

Reckonable emoluments	Rate of Special Family Pension p.m.
(a) If the widow is childless	(i) Not exceeding Rs. 1500/- 50% of reckonable emoluments.
	(ii) Exceeding Rs. 1500/- 40% of reckonable emoluments subject to a minimum of Rs. 750/-
	(iii) Exceeding Rs. 3000/- 30% of reckonable emoluments subject to a minimum of Rs. 1200/- & maximum of Rs. 2500/-
(b) If the widow has child/children	In all cases 60% of reckonable emoluments subject to a minimum of Rs. 750/- & maximum of Rs. 2500/-

(applicable in cases where death is attributable to or aggravated by service.

The families of pensioners who die after retirement are also eligible for this if the death is due to or hastened by service factors)

LIBERALISED SPECIAL FAMILY PENSION

Liberalised Special Family Pension shall be equal to the reckonable emoluments last drawn, both for the officers and the personnel below officer rank. No children allowance or children education allowance shall be payable in addition. Liberalised Special Family Pension at this rate shall be admissible to the widow in the case of officers and to the nominated heir in the case of personnel below officer rank until death or disqualification.

(applicable to Battle Casualty and such other cases as may be specially notified by Government)

are entitled to free medical treatment from Service Hospitals.

2.(a) EDUCATIONAL CONCESSIONS: The School and College going children of Defence personnel killed in action are given educational concessions such as complete exemption of tuition fees, hostel charges, cost of uniform, books and stationery as also bus/train fare. These concessions are available upto and inclusive of the first degree course. These concessions are available in all educational institutions under the Department of Education or financed by the Department of Education. Most of the State Governments have extended similar educational concessions to these children.

STATEMENT II

1. MEDICAL CONCESSIONS: The families of ex-servicemen pensioners

(b) A total of 31 war Memorial Hostels are run at Regimental Centres for

sons of war widows/war disabled and attributable peace time casualties with facilities of free education including hostel facilities.

(c) Every year out of the Central Government quota of seats reserved in the Medical and Dental College in the country approximately 40 seats are reserved for the wards of serving/retired defence personnel with priority I to children of war widows.

3. **EMPLOYMENT CONCESSIONS:** Upto two dependents of defence service personnel killed in action including war widows, are entitled to Priority II(a) for purposes of employment under Central Government, against Group 'C' and 'D' posts.

4. **TRAVEL CONCESSIONS:** War widows can travel by Railways in second class by paying 25% of the designated fare vide letter No. TCII/2066/85/22 dated 10.3.87 of Ministry of Railways. They can travel by Indian Airlines by paying 50% of the fare vide their Circular No. 268(R&T) dated 14th October, 1985.

5. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** In deserving cases under specified circumstances, grants from War Bereaved and Disabled servicemen Special Relief Fund are given to the war widows, war disabled and their dependents for education, training, rehabilitation, medical treatment and purchase/construction/repair of

houses and subsidy for payment of interest on loan taken from Banks etc.

6. **CANTEEN FACILITIES:** Widows of Ex-servicemen are entitled to canteen facilities wherever canteens have been set up.

Plan Outlay for States

9569. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some/most of the States have run short of their plan targets during 1987-88;

(b) if so, the gap between the outlay and the actual expenditure in regard to each State; and

(c) whether the annual plans for 1988-89 of some of the States were approved at a higher outlay even though they are assessed as having less resources; if so, the name of such States and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

(c) The Plan outlay is fixed matching to the assessed availability of resources. Hence, question of fixing a plan size higher than the assessed resources does not arise.

STATEMENT

Annual Plan 1987-88 States/UTs

States	Originally Approved Outlay	*Anticipated Expenditure	(Rs crores)
			Variation (col 1-col 2)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1200.00	1112.40	(-)87.57
Arunachal Pradesh	110.00	110.00	

1	2	3	4
Assam	575.00	575.00	-
Bihar	1500.00	1400.00	(-)100.00
Goa	79.75	79.75	-
Gujarat	1160.00	890.51	(-)269.49
Haryana	585.00	430.28	(-)154.72
Himachal Pradesh	235.00	235.00	-
J & K	375.00	387.50	(+)12.50
Karnataka	870.00	769.45	(-)100.55
Kerala	440.00	380.60	(-)59.40
Madhya Pradesh	1570.00	1516.11	(-)53.89
Maharashtra	2320.00	2100.00	(-)220.00
Manipur	105.00	105.00	-
Meghalaya	110.00	110.00	-
Mizoram	70.00	70.00	-
Nagaland	94.00	94.75	(+)0.75
Orissa	750.00	742.02	(-)0.98
Punjab	650.00	650.00	-
Rajasthan	645.00	606.00	(-)39.00
Sikkim	57.00	54.10	(-)0.90
Tamil Nadu	1250.00	1250.00	-
Tripura	122.00	125.00	(+)3.00
Uttar Pradesh	2500.00	2009.78	(-)490.22
West Bengal	862.00	871.25	(+)9.25

* Outlays were revised at the close of the year and the outlays thus revised have been taken to be anticipated expenditure.

**Officers Sent for Training/Meeting/
Conference Abroad**

9570. SHRI GOPAL K. TANDEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of officers in Groups 'A' and 'B' and departmentwise of Union Government who were sent abroad for technical seminar/meetings/conferences/workshops and/or training purpose during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred by the Union Government for sending the officers abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The information sought is not centrally available. Further, no central allocation of funds is made by the union Government for sending officers abroad and expenditure in this regard is incurred by the concerned ministries/departments.

**Suitability of Sanskrit as a Computer
Language**

9571. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sanskrit language can serve as the best computer language for artificial intelligence; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard and the results achieved so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Sanskrit can serve as an appropriate language for artificial intelligence.

(b) The Department of Electronics has launched 'Knowledge Based Computer

System/Fifth Generation Computer Systems' (KBCS/FGCS) project during Seventh Plan period to carry out research and development in the frontier areas of computer engineering. Under this project, six nodal centres have been set up with Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay, National Centre for Software Technology (NCST), Bombay, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and Department of Electronics, New Delhi. The research in the field of Natural language for computers is being conducted at NCST, Bombay.

As an attempt to give thrust for research in this field, 'National Conference of Knowledge Representation and Inference in Sanskritam' was organised at Bangalore during December 20-22, 1986. This conference was attended by experts from India and abroad in the fields of Computer Science, Linguistics and Education. The expertise of Sanskrit scholars is being sought under the FGCS/KBCS programme through the nodal centres as detailed above. A project on the use of Sanskrit as a natural language to serve as an artificial intelligence also, is being formulated under the FGCS/KBCS programme. The research work is being coordinated by Department of Electronics.

**Amount Spent by ICCR on Performance
of Arts**

9572. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes of performing arts presented by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in Delhi and other places in India during the last two years; and

(b) the amount spent on each performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Details of programmes of performing arts presented by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations

in Delhi and other cities of India including the amount spent on each performance are given in Statements I and II respectively laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6288/88]

Shortage of Officers in Judge Advocate General Department of Army

9573. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER:
SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of Officers in the Judge Advocate General Department of Army to conduct speedy proceedings of Court Materials; and

(b) if so, details of the extent of shortage and the steps taken to appoint the required number of officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The shortage of officers in Judge Advocate General Department of the Army is only to the extent of about 15% which cannot be considered as acute. The deficiency is being made up in a phased manner by induction of additional officers.

Per Capita Income of India vis-a-vis Pakistan, China, Sri Lanka

9574. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income in country in the years 1950, 1970 and 1986; and

(b) the corresponding figures for the same years of Pakistan, China and Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) The latest official estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation of the per capita gross national product (GNP) for the years 1950-51, 1970-71 and 1986-87 are Rs. 255, Rs. 674 and Rs. 3366 respectively.

(b) Based on data published by World Bank in 'World Tables' (Third edition) the following present the estimates of per capita GNP for Pakistan, China, Sri Lanka and India for the years 1950 and 1970. Corresponding data for 1986 are not available. However, the latest World Bank Atlas for 1987 presents figures for 1985 and the same are also given below:--

Estimates of per capita GNP in US Dollars

Country	1950	1970	1985
Pakistan	N.A.	166	380
China	N.A.	160	310
Sri Lanka	128	157	370
India	55	97	250

N.A.: Not available.

Pakistan's Movement in Recent Riots in Sri Lanka

9576. SHRI RAM DHAN:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Peace Keeping Force in Sri Lanka have found proofs of Pakistani hand in the recent outbreak of riots in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, whether the matter was discussed with Pakistan in the light of these proofs;

(c) if so, when and where such discussion was held; and

(d) the outcome of this discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The IPKF have found evidence that some elements, who were involved in recent communal clashes in the Eastern Province, had been trained in Pakistan.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Hiring of Cars for Escort Duties with VVIPs.

9577. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to shortage of cars in the security department of Delhi Police, cars are hired everyday for security personnel deputed on the security of VVIPs;

(b) if so, the average number of cars required everyday and the amount of hire charges being paid;

(c) the amount which would have to be incurred for purchasing the required number of cars; and

(d) the reasons for which Government are not purchasing its own cars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On an average 50 to 60 cars are hired everyday. An amount of about Rs. 70 lakhs was spent during 1987-88 as hire charges.

(c) For the purchase of 50 Ambassador cars, an amount of Rs. 47.5 lakhs would be required. In addition, about Rs. 48 lakhs would be required as operational costs.

(d) It is hoped that in the coming years the pressure of arranging VIP security will decline.

[*English*]

Recommendations made by Working Groups on Tribal Development for Sixth and Seventh Plan

9578. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recommendations were made by the Working Group on Tribal Development for Seventh Five Year Plan concerning different aspects of tribal development; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how the recommendations made are different than that of the recommendations made by the Working Group on tribal development for Sixth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir. The Working Group has made several recommendations pertaining to Tribal Sub-Plan strategy, planning process in tribal areas, quantification of funds for Tribal Sub-Plan, implementation of family-oriented and poverty eradication programmes for Scheduled Tribes,

protective and anti-exploitative measures, administration of scheduled areas and tribal areas, primitive tribal groups, rehabilitation of shifting cultivators and forest villagers, development of education in tribal areas, rehabilitation of displaced tribals; and implementation of programmes under agriculture, health, infrastructure development, labour, employment, etc.

(b) While endorsing that the Tribal Sub-Plan strategy should continue to be the chief instrument for development of Scheduled Tribes in the country as was in the Sixth Plan, Seventh Plan Working Group has further recommended the adoption of a cluster approach during Seventh Five year Plan for extended coverage of tribals under TSP strategy. It has drawn attention to the problems of vulnerable groups such as shifting cultivators, forest villagers and displaced tribals and has recommended the formulation and adoption of a suitable policy and scheme for these groups. On monitoring and evaluation of programmes/schemes in tribal areas, the Group has recommended concurrent monitoring and evaluation through the field functionaries in tribal areas to be adopted during the Seventh Plan. For primitive tribes, the Group has advocated a holistic approach for their protection and development. In addition, the Group has recommended greater participation and involvement of tribals and tribal areas administration in the formulation and implementation of the schemes/programmes for their development and welfare. The Group has also recommended the need for rationalisation of education administration in tribal areas by bringing all institutions under control of Education Department.

Change in the Practice of Addressing the Courts

9579. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under

consideration of Government to do away with the practice of addressing the courts as "My Lord" and introducing the word "Shriman" or "Mahodya Ji";

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

(c) if not, the reasons for continuing with the practice which belongs to period when the country was under foreign rule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The word "My Lord" was used by the members of the Bar while addressing the Judges in the High Courts as also the Federal Court of India during the British times and till today has continued as a matter of convention and not because of any requirement of rule.

Theft Cases in Tamil Nadu

9580. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of theft cases reported during the last three years in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of cases detected so far and recoveries made, and

(c) the number of cases pending for investigation and the reasons for the delay thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). A statement showing the number of theft incidents reported in Tamil Nadu during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 is given below.

STATEMENT*The details of the theft incidents reported in Tamil Nadu during 1985 to*

Sl. No.	Particulars	1985
1	2	3
1.	No. of cases reported during the year	25660
2.	No. of cases detected during the year	23831
3.	No. of cases in which property was recovered	18274
4.	Value of property recovered	Rs.2.06 crores approx.
5.	Cases pending investigation at the end of the year	4399

Note:

1. Number of cases detected and cases pending investigation include some cases from the preceding years also for which break up is not available.
2. The reasons for pendency or delay in investigation are not available.
3. Figures for 1987 are based on monthly crime statistics and may be treated provisional.
4. Information for the year 1987 is not complete.
5. N.A. stands for 'Not available'.

Changes in Procedure of Manufacture of Computers

based indigenous technology as well as on imported technology;

9581. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the existing procedure for applications for the manufacture of computers/mini computers, micro processor

(b) whether Government have a proposal to make some changes in the existing procedure to apply for manufacturing these items;

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(d) the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The existing procedure requires licensing application to be made to the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA), Department of Industrial Development, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi in their prescribed proforma for the manufacture of computers/mini computers/micro-processor based systems. Small Scale Units are required to apply to Department of Electronics in addition to the State Directorate of Industries. Inter Ministerial to the State Committee (IMSC) considers the applications and its recommendations are sent to SIA which are considered by the respective Industrial Approval Committees. In cases where foreign collaboration is also envisaged only composite applications (Industrial Licence and Foreign Collaboration) are being entertained.

(b) No, Sir.

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

High Technology from Scotland

9582. SHRI SHRIKANTA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to import high technology from Scotland; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN):(a) and (b). Several collaborations for import of technology have been approved from companies in U.K. and in 1986 and 1987,

there were over 100 such collaborations in each year; some of these companies have their plants in Scotland. For instance, in a high technology area collaboration for a carbon fibre pilot plant approved in 1988, the plant facilities of the U.K. firm was in "Inverness" in Scotland. This collaboration for setting up a carbon fibre plant was between Indian Petrochemicals Limited and R.K. Textiles, U.K.

Hydro-Electric Projects in Panchayats

9583. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has set a target for setting up one mini hydro-electric project in each Panchayat;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government for its implementation;

(c) the mini hydro-electric projects for which the State Government of Kerala had sought Clearance;

(d) the projects which have already been cleared by Union Government; and

(e) the projects, if any, pending clearance and reasons for delay in clearing these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) No, Sir. Planning Commission do not fix target for setting up mini-hydro electric projects on the basis of Panchayat,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A list of mini-hydel projects (upto 2 MW for which clearance was sought by Government of Kerala and which have been cleared by Planning Commission so far during the Seventh Plan from April 1985 to March 1988) is given below in the Statement.

(e) No Mini-hydel project in Kerala is pending in Planning Commission for investment decision.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Date of Approval	Latest estimated cost (Rs. Crores)	Capacity MW
1.	Madupatty	12/85	2.92	2

Abolition of House Tax

9584. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to abolish payment of house tax in respect of LIC and Janata flats allotted by the Delhi Development Authority to provide relief to the economically weaker sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c). The Municipal Corporation of Delhi, through a Resolution, has exempted collection of property tax with effect from 1st April, 1985 on all residential properties upto the rateable value of Rs. 1000/-

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons

9585. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to replies given on 2 December, 1987 to Starred Question No. 372 and the Unstarred Question No. 3876 regarding loans to displaced persons and rehabilitation of refugees from East and West Pakistan and state:

(a) whether a large number of displaced persons from both West and East Pakistan who have been rehabilitated in the Union Territory of Delhi were also granted loans for various specific purposes like housing, trade, etc. for their proper rehabilitation;

(b) if so, the total amount of loans granted to such persons separately from West and East Pakistan;

(c) the amounts thereof that have written off separately for the two categories of displaced persons;

(d) whether Delhi Administration was also advised and empowered to remit/write off loans irrecoverable from refugees who have not been able to generate sufficient surplus to be able to repay the loans as per terms of sanction; and

(e) if so, the details of instructions/notifications issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Displaced persons from former West Pakistan were granted loans for their rehabilitation but not such loans were granted in case of displaced persons from former East Pakistan.

(b) No separate statistics are being maintained on loans granted to displaced persons from former West Pakistan.

(c) to (e). No proposal has been received for writing off rehabilitation loans, granted through Delhi Administration.

Cases of Assault and Rape

9586. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of murder, assault, rape etc. are also tried in those special courts which have been set up in

Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar with 50 per cent grant from Union Government for the trial of the cases of atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the number of such cases tried in these courts during the year 1987; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) The special courts set up with 50 per cent grant from Union Government in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar try also offences against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under IPC provisions covering offences such as murder, grievous hurt and rape except in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Digital Facsimile System Developed by ECIL

9587. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'digital facsimile system' has been developed by the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether this system has been experimented by ECIL;

(c) if so, the result thereof; and

(d) whether it is economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) ECIL manufactures and sells Digital Facsimile with know-how from Japan.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. This system is be-

ing used via telephone lines with satisfactory results.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Charging of Exorbitant Rate of Fare by Taxi/Scooter Drivers at New Delhi Railway Station

9588. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the absence of policemen on duty at New Delhi Railway Station, the taxi and Scooter drivers are harassing the night passengers and charging exorbitant rate of fare;

(b) if so, the action taken against such scooter and taxi drivers;

(c) whether policemen are posted there and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any surprise check was conducted by the senior police officials; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) It is not correct to say that the policemen are not put on duty at night at the New Delhi Railway Station to check the activities of Taxi and Scooter drivers.

(b) During the current year, upto 15th of April, 1988, 510 drivers were challenged for over-charging, refusal, and misbehaviour at New Delhi Railway Station. Besides, 95 drivers were also arrested by the New Delhi Police upto March, 1988 for contravention of various laws.

(c) 4 Sub-Inspectors, 6 Head-Constables and 8 Constables remain on duty round the clock on both sides of the New Delhi Railway Station.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) During the surprise checks last year, 1 Head-Constable and 1 Constable were placed under suspension and 2 Sub-Inspectors were transferred for slackness in duty.

Prosecutions Filed for Breach of Communal Harmony

9589. SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prosecutions filed in various States, State-wise, for offences concerning breach of communal harmony;

(b) the number of convictions registered in such cases; State-wise; and

(c) whether Government propose to make the penal code more stringent with a view to preventing communal propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Offences concerning breach of communal harmony falls under the purview of public order which is primarily the concern of the State Government. Hence, the Central Government does not maintain such statistics.

(c) The Law Commission has made certain recommendations in its 42nd Report for amending Section 153-A IPC, which will be kept in mind when the Indian Penal Code is amended next.

[*Translation*]

Family Pension to Dependent of Deceased Employees in Delhi Administration

9590. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases for which

pension facility has been given to the dependents of the deceased Government employees in Delhi Administration during the last three years;

(b) the number of those cases pending in which final decision has not been taken so far; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) 947 cases.

(b) 25 cases.

(c) Most of these cases are either *sub-judice* or pending for want of papers from the family members of the individual. Every effort is made by the Delhi Administration for clearing the pending cases.

[*English*]

Bomb Blast Incident in Kapurthala Coach Factory

9591. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kapurthala Rail Coach Factory was rocked with a bomb blast on the day the first coach was flagged off from the factory recently;

(b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry into the bomb blast incident; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Early Settlement of Widow Pension Cases in Ordnance Factories in Kanpur.

9592. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable delay in the Ordnance Factories in Kanpur and in the Inspectorate of General Stores, Kanpur now renamed as Quality Assurance Establishment (QS), Kanpur in the early settlement of widow pension cases following the amendment of rules of family pension;

(b) if so, the number of pending cases in each of the above units;

(c) the total number of claims preferred by the aforesaid departments/organisations during the last six months ending on 30 April, 1988 to the CDA(P), Allahabad, and

(d) the steps contemplated to get them finalised expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) It is presumed that the amendment referred to in the office Memorandum No. 1(11)/85-Pension Unit dated 18th June 1985 issued by the Ministry of Personnel and Training, Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Pension regarding grant of family pension to families of Government employees who retired or died before 1st January 1964. Settlement of widow pension cases are attended to with due despatch, in the Ordnance Factories in Kanpur and Inspectorate General Stores, Kanpur now renamed Quality Assurance Establishment (QS), Kanpur.

(b) and (c). Controller of Defence Accounts (Pension), Allahabad received and reviewed 93 normal family pension cases during last six months from Defence formations at Kanpur including Ordnance Factories. All cases received upto March 1988 have been cleared including 12 cases of pre-1964 received during the last six

months. As on date there are 15 cases under consideration in Ordnance Factories of Kanpur (of Kanpur-2, SAF, Kanpur-1, OPF Kanpur-6, OEF Kanpur-6) and one case of Quality Assurance Establishment(QS), Kanpur was referred to CDA(P) Allahabad on 21.4.1988.

(d) As and when family pension claims based on said amendment are received, immediate action is taken to process and finalise the cases.

Procurement of Gamma Ray Spectrometer and X.R.F. at C.F.R.I., Dhanbad

9593. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Audit's remarks regarding the procurement of Gamma Ray Spectrometer and XRF at CFRI, Dhanbad; and

(b) the reasons as to why the XRF is lying idle since its procurement for the last 4-5 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) *Audit's remarks*

(i) Audit comments had related to non-installation of Gamma Ray Spectrometer in 1980-81. (This was, however, Commissioned in August, 1981 and has been working satisfactorily).

(ii) Audit comments related to the procurement of XRF Spectrometer by CFRI, Dhanbad and its non-installation on account of damage suffered by it in transit.

(b) XRF Spectrometer

Some parts had been found damaged on receipt of the equipment. The matter was taken up with the supplier to replace the damaged parts to put the equipment in working condition. The supplying firm in

U.S.A. agreed to replace the damaged parts at its own cost, and also to extend the warranty period correspondingly. Certain parts were sent to the firm after getting R.B.I. clearance, and the replacement thereof is awaited.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

9594. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases for the sanction of the freedom fighters including Ex-INA personnel pensions to the widows of the freedom fighters who could not be sanctioned this pension while they were alive but who submitted their applications during their life-time, have been settled during the last three years including the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details of such cases, State-wise for each year;

(c) whether any such cases are still pending on account of verification including the production of required documents/evidence; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the likely date by which they would be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (d). Out of 4.46 lakhs applications received from freedom fighters and their dependents under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1972, 1,44,972 persons including their dependents have been granted pension as on 31st March, 1988. However, no separate records for the widows are being maintained. Special consideration is however shown as per existing instructions while processing the cases of widows.

To obviate the difficulties faced by the dependents of a deceased freedom fighter, the Government have already simplified the procedure for transfer of pension. The freedom fighter can send a simple declaration form to the Accountant General of the State for automatic transfer of pension in

the name of his eligible dependents in the event of his death. Moreover, Accountants General have also been advised to transfer pension in the name of the dependents on the recommendation of State Government of the deceased freedom fighter if he could not file declaration form in his life time. Instructions have been issued for expeditious transfer of pensions to the widows in the event of the death of the freedom fighter.

Army Officers on Deputation to BSF and ITBP

9595. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class I officers who are on deputation to the Border Security Force and Indo-Tibetan Border Police from the Armed Forces as on 31st March, 1988 alongwith the period for which they have been on deputation with the Border Security Force and Indo-Tibetan Border Police; and

(b) the reasons for which the officers are allowed to continue on deputation on those paramilitary forces, when sufficiently qualified personnel are available with those forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is no Group 'A' (Class I) Officer on deputation from Armed Forces in the ITBP. One Group 'A' (Class I) officer from the Army and 3 Group 'A' (Class I) officers from Indian Air Force (IAF) are at present on deputation to B.S.F. Details about these officers are given in the statement below.

(b) Group 'A' Officers from the Army and the IAF are taken in B.S.F. in accordance with the Recruitment Rules and the administrative instructions to meet the operational requirements of the force.

STATEMENT

The Class I Officers on Deputation from Armed Forces to B.S.F. as on 31st March, 1987.

Sl.No.	Post	Period of Deputation
1.	One Brigadier from Army	20.12.86 to 31.10.88
2.	One Navigator from I.A.F.	16.09.85 to 15.09.88
3.	Two Pilot Officers from I.A.F.	30.06.86 to 29.09.88

Qualification for Recruitment as Army Soldier

9596. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the educational qualifications for recruitment as soldier in the army has been raised; and

(b) if so, whether the raising of the educational qualifications for recruitment of soldiers in the army has considerably discouraged the youth from seeking recruitment in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes Sir. On account of modernisation of the Army and general rise in educational standards, the educational qualification for recruitment in the Normal Entry Rate except for the trades as per list given in the statement below has been raised to 10th Class with effect from 1st April, 1986.

(b) No, Sir.

STATEMENT

List of Trades for Which the Educational Standard has not been raised

1. Driver AT (ASC)

2. Farrier (RVC)

3. Pioneer (GD/Pnr)

4. Upholsterer (EME)

5. Baker (ASC)

6. Barber

7. Blacksmith (U)

8. Storehand (GD)

9. Textile repairer

10. Packer (APS)

11. Sowar GD(AC)

12. Sowar GD (Horse Cav)

13. Butcher (ASC)

14. Musician

15. Carpenter

16. Cook (U)

17. Cook (Mess)

18. Cook Special

19. Equipment Repairer

20. Masalchi

21. Painter (U)

22. Safaiwala

23. Tailor (U)

24. Waiter Mess

25. Washerman

26. Cook Hospital

27. Kennelman (RVC)

28. Saddler (U) (Various)

29. Syce

30. Tinsmith (U)

Nuclear Fuel Manufacturing Projects

9597. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects manufacturing nuclear fuel and their production, project-wise;

(b) whether the present production of nuclear fuel is sufficient to meet the required demand; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to set up another nuclear fuel project in the country; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) The nuclear fuel required for Atomic Power Reactors is manufactured and supplied by Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), Hyderabad. The present operating capacity of the plant is about 80 tonnes of fuel per year for Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR). In addition, slightly enriched uranium oxide fuel required for Tarapur Atomic Power Reactors is also manufactured at NFC using enriched uranium hexafluoride imported from France under an existing agreement. The present capacity of the plant meets the requirements fully.

(b) and (c). The present production capacities are adequate to meet the requirements of fuel for the existing operating PHWR reactors. The production capacities are being expanded at NFC from 80 tonnes to 225 tonnes by the year 1990-91 to meet the recurring demand upto Narora Atomic Power Project. For meeting the requirement of fuel for 10,000 MWe programme, separate facilities are under consideration.

Taxi Drivers as Money Lenders at Airport

9598. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the newsitem appearing in 'Indian Express' dated 10 January, 1988 captioned "Taxi Drivers as money lenders at Airport"; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove the difficulties of passengers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such complaint has been lodged with the Delhi Police by any passenger. The staff deployed at the airport has been briefed to keep a sharp watch on such type of persons and not allow them to come near the exit gate for meeting the passengers. The taxi counter has also been shifted away from arrival gates.

103 touts and 3 drivers were prosecuted during the year 1987 and upto February, 1988.

Emigration on Graduates and Post-Graduates

9599. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI N. DENNIS:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of graduates and post-graduates who leave India every year;

(b) the number of women among them;

(c) whether Government have chalked out any programme to retain the graduates and post-graduates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b). There is no system of maintaining data regarding Graduates and Post-Graduates (male/female) that leave India every year.

(c) and (d). It is necessary that the country gets the maximum benefit from the investment in Human Resource Development in the form of highly educated manpower like scientists, technologists, engineers and doctors etc. For this purpose, suitable work opportunities within the country need to be increased and the working environment made congenial, which would help in the retention of this manpower in the country. Among the measures taken in this regard are the following:-

- 1) Programmes have been launched through which "core" groups of scientists are created in the country with all necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.
- 2) There is a provision for temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of scientists' pool which also covers persons who have not been abroad but possess outstanding academic record.

There is also a UGC scheme to build a cadre of Research Scientists in Indian Universities so as to promote high quality research in Science, Humanities, Engineering and Technology by providing opportunities to persons with

outstanding merit and zeal for creative work.

- 3) A provision has also been made for creation of supernumerary posts.
- 4) New scientific departments/organisations such as Department of Bio-technology, Ocean Development, Environment, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Centre for Development of Telematics (CDOT) etc., have been set up and some of these are in high technology areas which are likely to provide significant opportunities for the scientists.
- 5) Outlay for Science and Technology has been increased in the successive Five Year Plans.
- 6) Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers has been made to scientific institutions to improve working conditions of scientists.
- 7) Advance increments are granted to specially qualified candidates on the recommendations of the State and Union Public Service Commissions.
- 8) Improvements in the service conditions of doctors particularly those serving in rural areas are being brought about by the State Governments/Union Territory Governments.
- 9) The nationalised banks offer loans to enable the doctors to establish clinics/nursing homes in rural areas and semi-urban areas.

Draft Friendship Treaty of Sri Lanka

9600. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the draft treaty of friendship sent by Sri Lanka in January, 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main features of the draft treaty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The draft Agreement codifies, inter alia, steps that can be taken to further strengthen the relations between the two countries.

Enterprises Manufacturing Defence Electronics Items

9601. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any public sector or private sector or joint sector units are to be involved in the manufacture of items relating to defence electronics;

(b) if so, the details of the enterprises to be involved and components to be manufactured by each of them; and

(c) the total allocation made for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It would not be in public interest to disclose the details of enterprises to be involved and components to be manufactured them.

(c) The quantum of orders placed keeps varying depending on the requirements of the users. No separate allocation is made for the purpose by the Government.

Expansion in Para-Military Forces

9602. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the strength of the para-military forces; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government of India reviews from time to time the strength of para-military forces and, taking into account the need for internal security and border duties, augments their strength.

(b) A statement containing the information is given below.

STATEMENT

Increase in the Strength of Para-Military Forces

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- (1) **CRPF:** In the year 1985, Government sanctioned 12 additional Bns. including one Mahila Bn. and they become operational in 1986-87. Recently, the Government have sanctioned 10 more Bns., three of which will be raised in 1987-88 and the remaining seven Bns. in 1988-89.
 - (2) **BSF:** The Government sanctioned 54 additional Bns. in 1986 to be raised in a period of five years starting from 1986-87 for increasing vigilance on Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders. Out of the 54 Bns., 18 Bns. have already become operational and the remaining 36 Bns. will be raised in the remaining period of 3 years @ 12 Bns. per year.
 - (3) **Assam Rifles:** In 1985, Government sanctioned 10 additional Bns. and all the Bns. have become operational.
 - (4) **ITBP:** The Government sanctioned 12 additional Bns. out of which 6 Bns. have become operational for bank security duties in Punjab. The

remaining 6 Bns., for increasing vigilance on Indo-Tibet border will be raised in a period of 3 years starting from 1988-89 @ 2 Bns. per year.

Increase in Rape Cases

9603. PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item published in the Indian Express, Chandigarh, dated 20 February, 1988 under the caption '17 rapes a day in India' also stating that in most cases the criminals go scot free and further that accused in most cases are the custodians of law and order and the victims are from the lower strata of society;

(b) if so, Government response to these comment by the Five Women's Organisation; and

(c) the steps taken to eradicate the crime against the women to provide them adequate protection and severe punishment to the policemen involved in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b). The Indian Express Chandigarh, dated 20 February 1988 does not appear to carry the news-item mentioned in the Question.

(c) The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 has been amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law more stringent. The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have also been amended to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women. In order to make good some inadequacies, the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women & Girls Act has been amended and the amended Act is known as Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1986. By the Criminal

Law (Second Amendment) Act, 1983, Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code was amended to provide for enhanced punishment in cases of custodial rape.

Ship Services to Haj Pilgrims

9604. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concession have been offered by Government to Haj Pilgrims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether increased number of ship are being operated from Bombay to Jeddah to meet the requirements;

(d) if so, the number thereof and frequency of ship plying on this route;

(e) whether there is any proposal to start ship service to Jeddah from Cochin; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). The facilities offered to pilgrims in previous years are being provided to them for Haj 1988. These include:

i) release of foreign exchange for 23,000 pilgrims:

ii) subsidised fare for sea pilgrims and special arrangements for charter flights;

iii) deputation of a 40 member Government's medical mission to Saudi Arabia to serve Indian pilgrims at our dispensaries and

iv) deputation of additional officers and personnel to look after the pilgrims

(c) and (d). The ship that was utilised since 1984 for Haj sailings will be utilised for the same purpose in 1988. On its three sailings from Bombay to Jeddah the ship will transport altogether 4681 pilgrims.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Visit of British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to India

9605. SHRI S.M. GURADDI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs visited India on 17 April, 1988; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held with him on various bilateral issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Lord Glenarthur came essentially on a goodwill and familiarisation visit. There were useful exchanges on various issues of bilateral as well as of regional and international interest.

Women in Police Services

9606. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether women police are engaged in Central Police Services and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether women police are also trained for intelligence work and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) One Mahila Battalion has been raised in the CRPF for performing the law and order duties.

(b) No, Sir.

Assistance to CISF

9607. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide necessary assistance to the Central Industrial Security Force for its modernisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether any special training courses have been started for them; and

(d) the steps taken to provide the security personnel better pay and allowances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Proposals for creation of a Technical Support Wing in the Central Industrial Security Force in connection with the introduction of electronic gadgets for security in some vital installations and public sector undertakings and for establishing a Technical Training Centre for training the CISF personnel in the use of modern security gadgets are under consideration.

(c) Till 1984, one Training College meant for Assistant Inspectors, Inspectors and Assistant Commandants and only one Small Recruits Training Centre for Constables and Head Constables were available for training purposes. During the last four years, five full fledged Recruits Training Centres (including the upgraded Recruit Training Centre at Bhilai) for training 2500 Constables/Head Constables and one Fire Fighting Training Centre were sanctioned by the Government. Subordinate officers and gazetted officers are being sent for undergoing specialised training courses in the Training Institutions under other Central Police Organisations and the Army.

(d) Pay scales of CISF personnel were generally revised on par with other paramilitary forces with effect from 1.1.1986 in the light of the recommendations of the

4th Pay Commission. All allowances of common type such as dearness allowance, city compensatory allowance, House Rent Allowance, Uniform Grant and Kit Maintenance Allowance etc. are admissible to CISF personnel as in the case of other para-military forces personnel. In the case of certain concessions like ration money, rates have been determined keeping in view the different conditions of service in different Forces.

UNICEF Assistance to Technology Development Project for the Handicapped

9608. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UNICEF is to help financially for technology development project for the handicapped;

(b) if so, how much financial help will be provided by the UNICEF; and

(c) by what time it will be made available?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) to (c). The question of having a Technology Development Project for the Welfare of the Handicapped is under consideration. However, no final decision has yet been taken in this regard. As such the question of UNICEF assistance does not arise at this stage.

Old Grant Terms for Private Buildings in Secunderabad Cantonment

9609. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of private buildings and other properties have been wrongly entered in GLR property register and held in old grant terms in Secunderabad Cantonment area;

(b) if so, whether the documentary title evidence for the private buildings are available with the Government;

(c) whether the citizens have been asked to establish the ownership title in respect of many private bungalows;

(d) whether Government propose to regularise all lease grant buildings in favour of lease-holders; and

(e) if so, when it will be done and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). Entries in the GLR, are made both for private properties as well as old grant properties. Such entries are to be made by the DEO on the basis of the documentary proof available with him. However, in few cases on verification it was found that the DEO was not having any documentary proof and on production of the same from the occupancy holders, the properties were declared as private ones instead of an old grant properties and the entries in the GLR were corrected accordingly.

(d) and (e). There is already a provision in the Defence land policy to convert such of the leases as are on resumable tenure and are located in the civil area of the Cantonment and are not needed for any Defence use into free hold on payment of prescribed conversion charges.

National Seminar on Blinds

9610. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether problems of blinds were highlighted at a Seminar on Problems of Blind held on 7 December, 1987 in New Delhi and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the last report on blindness in India was published in 1944?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) There is no information with Govt. regarding a Seminar on Problems of the Blind on 7.12.87 in New Delhi.

(b) A comprehensive report on blindness in India was published in 1944 by the Joint Committee appointed by the Central Advisory Board of Health and Central Advisory Board of Education. Various issues relating to blindness have been considered and reports on these have been published from time to time such as report on extent of blindness in India by National Sample Survey in 1981 and a report on the identification of jobs for the handicapped (including blind) in 1982.

Acquisition of Disc Magnets by Pakistan for Making Atom Bombs

9611. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:
SHRI H.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in its latest bid Pakistan is trying to obtain disc magnets for use in its secret laboratories to make atom bombs; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Government have seen reports about Pakistan's efforts to procure disc magnets for use in its weapons oriented nuclear programme.

Our apprehensions regarding Pakistan's clandestine procurement of nuclear technology, materials and components from a number of countries for its nuclear weapons programme have been confirmed by all available evidence. Government continues to maintain a constant vigil on this as well as on other developments having a bearing on the country's security.

Indian Rubats

9612. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased state:

(a) the names and locations of Indian

Rubats which are under negotiations with Government of Saudi Arabia;

(b) the names and locations of those Rubats which are existence and available for use by Indian Pilgrims during Haj season;

(c) the names and locations of those Rubats which have been demolished and for which compensation has been paid by the authorities concerned;

(d) the total amount of compensation in respect of Indian Rubats lying in deposit in Saudi Arabia;

(e) the reasons why the compensation has not been utilised for creating alternative facilities for the accommodation of Indian Pilgrims; and

(f) the suggestions made by Government of India for the utilisation of the compensation and the response of Government of Saudi Arabia thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) while the Saudi Government does not accept any locus standi of the Government of India in the matters of Rubats which might have been endowed by Indians during the last 50--150 years. Government have nevertheless sought to raise the matter with the Saudi authorities without any success so far.

(b) A list of such Rubats is given below in the Statement-I.

(c) The Saudi Government has not furnished any information about the Indian Rubats which might have been demolished during the last several years especially in connection with the expansion of the two Harams at Makkah and Madinah, or about those Rubats for which compensation might have been agreed to. However, our mission at Jeddah has prepared unofficially a list of such demolished Rubats which is given below in the Statement-II.

(d) Information is not available with

Government as the Saudi Government does not provide this information to us.

(e) The Saudi authorities insist on a complicated legal procedure before handing over compensation for such demolished property only to legally recognised heirs of the original endowers of the Rubats. In view of the absence of legal documentation or even legitimate successors it is difficult to pursue many cases for realisation of compensation that might be lying with the Saudi authorities. There has thus been no practical possibility of utilising compensation due.

(f) Though the Saudi Government does not accept the locus standi of the Government of India in the matter of Rubats, our officials in Saudi Arabia are in touch with the Saudi authorities at various levels to workout formulations for realising and utilising compensation lying with the Saudi Authorities. The response from the Saudi side is awaited.

STATEMENT - I

List of Indian Rubats which are in existence and are available for use by Indian Haj Pilgrims

I. At Makkah

1. Bhopal Rubat
2. Bohra Rubat (for pilgrims of the Bohra community)
3. Rubat Dilwarunnisa Begum (a Hyderabad Rubat)
4. Rubat Banno Begum of Bhopal
5. Arcot Rubat (It is located in an old building and is earmarked for demolition)

II At Madinah

1. Bhopal Rubat
2. Bohra Rubat (for pilgrims of the Bohra community)

3. Tonk Rubats (two)--now in the range of proposed demolition after the extension of Haram Shareef.

III. At Jeddah

1. Bohra Rubat (for pilgrims of the Bohra community)

STATEMENT II

The names and location of those Rubats which have been Demolished

I. At Makkah

1. *Hussain Bi Sahiba Rubat, Shamuja, Makkah*

This Rubat was under un-authorized occupation. After persistent efforts for a long time, the Nazir has got it vacated by payment of an amount of Rs. 1,50,000/-. After taking possession of the building the Nazir has demolished it to avoid any further encroachment. The Nazir plans to build another Rubat on this plot for Hyderabad pilgrim or to dispose of this plot and purchase another building to accommodate about 700 pilgrims from Hyderabad/Andhra Pradesh.

2. *Afzauddoula Rubat, At Shamiya*

Demolished by Saudia in road expansion. The money received as compensation utilised in building the new Hyderabad Rubat at Makkah (Rubat) Dilwar Honisa Begum.

3. *Hussain Bi Housem Jable Abu Qubais*

Acquired by the Saudi Govt. The compensation-lying with the Saudi Government can be claimed by Nazir (Mr. Sharif Mohammad) alone;

Two Tonk Rubats at Makkah have been demolished as they were unsafe for habitation. The vacant sites are still available. The matter reported to Tonk authorities as the Nazir is not cooperative.

4. *Chattari Rubat*

One of two *Chattari Rubat* in *Shamiya* acquired by *Saudis* for road expansion. The compensation is lying with *Saudis*. The difficulty is that the *Rubat* was not registered as a *wakf* and there is no *Nazir*. The successor of late *Nawab Chattari* has already been requested to take n.a.

5. *Rubat-e-Arifia*

The compensation is lying with the *Saudi* authorities as the descendants who are now in *Rangoon* are not interested in claiming the compensation.

6. *Dharmpur Rubat*

The compensation is reportedly lying with the *Saudi Govt.* but the present descendant of the original *waqif* has got no document to prove the *wakf* character of the property.

Enquiries under the Foreigners Act, and Illegal Migrant (Determination by Tribunal) Act

9613. *SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN*: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of enquiries initiated under the *Foreigners Act, 1946* since the installation of *AGP Government* in *Assam* upto 31 March, 1988;

(b) the number of enquiries completed;

(c) the number of cases referred to the *Foreigners Tribunals* and the number of persons found to be foreigners;

(d) the number of enquiries initiated under the *Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act* upto 31 March, 1988;

(e) the number of enquiries completed and referred to the screening committee;

(f) the number of cases referred to the tribunals;

(g) the number of persons found to be illegal migrants;

(h) the number of persons survived with expulsion orders; and

(i) the number of persons actually expelled upto 31 March, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (*SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI*): (a) to (i). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

NSA Detainees

9614. *SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN*: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of *NSA detainees* on 1 April, 1987, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons taken under detention under *NSA* during 1987-88;

(c) the number of persons released on review during 1987-88;

(d) the number of persons released on completion of one year term; and

(e) the number of persons in detention on 31 March 1988, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (*SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM*): (a) to (e). Statements I, II and III are given below.

STATEMENT- I*The number of NSA detainees on 1st April, 1987 and 31st March, 1988 Stat-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTS	Number of NSA Detainees on	
		1.4.87	31.3.88
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	-
2.	Assam	-	-
3.	Bihar	6	1
4.	Gujarat	29	2
5.	Haryana	-	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	NOT APPLICABLE	
8.	Karnataka	-	-
9.	Kerala	-	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	44	93
11.	Maharashtra	317	176
12.	Manipur	41	19
13.	Meghalaya	-	-
14.	Nagaland	-	-
15.	Orissa	38	25
16.	Punjab	109	159
17.	Rajasthan	50	10
18.	Tamil Nadu	10	5
19.	Tripura	-	-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	77	113
21.	West Bengal	-	-
22.	Sikkim	-	-

1	2	3	4
23.	Goa	-	-
24.	Mizoram	-	-
25.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
27.	Chandigarh	-	-
28.	D & N Haveli	-	-
29.	Delhi	6	3
30.	Daman and Diu	-	-
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	-
		721	619

STATEMENT- II

*The number of persons taken under detention under National Security Act during 1987-88
(1.4.1987 to 31.3.88) State-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTS	No. of Persons taken under Detention under NSA during 1987-88
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-
2.	Assam	-
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Gujarat	18
5.	Haryana	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	NOT APPLICABLE

1	2	3
8.	Karnataka	-
9.	Kerala	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	132
11.	Maharashtra	317
12.	Manipur	22
13.	Meghalaya	11
14.	Nagaland	-
15.	Orissa	31
16.	Punjab	283
17.	Rajasthan	15
18.	Tamil Nadu	5
19.	Tripura	-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	222
21.	West Bengal	-
22.	Sikkim	-
23.	Goa	8
24.	Mizoram	16
25.	Andaman and Nicobar	-
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
27.	Chandigarh	-
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-
29.	Delhi	3
30.	Lakshadweep	-
31.	Pondicherry	-

STATEMENT-III

Statement showing the number of persons released on review and on completion of one year term during 1987-88 (1.4.87 to 31.3.88) State-wise

S.No	Name of States/UT's	No. of persons released on Review	Completion
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	4
2.	Assam	-	-
3.	Bihar	3	4
4.	Gujarat	31	5
5.	Haryana	-	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	NOT APPLICABLE	
8.	Karnataka	-	-
9.	Kerala	-	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	47	37
11.	Maharashtra	183	95
12.	Manipur	10	34
13.	Meghalaya	11	-
14.	Nagaland	-	-
15.	Orissa	13	31
16.	Punjab	181	52
17.	Rajasthan	30	23
18.	Tamil Nadu	-	10
19.	Tripura	-	-
20.	Uttar Pradesh	137	49
21.	West Bengal	-	-
22.	Sikkim	-	-
23.	Goa	8	-

1	2	3	4
24.	Mizoram	3	-
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	-
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
27.	Chandigarh	-	-
28.	D & N Haveli	-	-
29.	Delhi	4	4
30.	Lakshadweep	-	-
31.	Pondicherry	-	-
		658	348

Central Clearance to Orissa Projects

9615. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects about which Government of Orissa approached Union government during the last two years for clearance and approval;

(b) the number and details of the projects that have been cleared so far; and

(c) the names of those projects which are yet to be cleared and the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected.

Funds for Providing Fire Fighting Equipments

9616. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10 crores for installing the requisite fire fighting equipments in Government highrise buildings as reported in the Indian Express dated 9 April, 1988;

(b) if so, the details of the Government buildings in which fire fighting equipments will be installed and approximate expenditure likely to be incurred on each building; and

(c) by when the task is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion of Ambazari Ordnance Factory in Maharashtra

9617. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the project of Ambazari Ordnance Factory in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the total investment likely to

be made by Government for its expansion; and

(c) the time by which expansion will take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). In connection with proposed production under licence of an equipment there is a possibility of expansion of the Ordnance Factory at Ambazari. It will not be in public interest to disclose further details at this stage.

[*Translation*]

Recruitment to the Forces from Hill Areas of Uttar Pradesh

9618. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who reported for recruitment and the number of persons recruited by Army, Navy and Air Force from hill areas of Uttar Pradesh during the year 1986 and 1987;

(b) whether the recruitment teams visited these areas for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the number of such visits paid by it during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The number of persons who reported for recruitment in the Army and Navy from hill areas of Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87 and 1987-88 were 32854 and 30646 respectively. No separate record is maintained for recruitment to the Air Force from the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh. It will not be in the public interest to disclose the number of persons recruited. However, the actual recruitment from the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh has been much higher than the ideal intake during these years.

(b) Application system of recruitment

has been introduced in Uttar Pradesh w.e.f. 1st October, 1987. Under the system, only those candidates who are selected after scrutiny of their applications will be required to appear for physical test at the venue and time intimated to them. With the introduction of application system, number of visits by recruiting teams will be reduced.

(c) During the Recruitment year 1987-88, the number of visits made by recruiting teams in the various hill areas of Uttar Pradesh for recruitment to Army and Navy was 16. For recruitment to the Air Force the recruitment teams did not visit any hill areas as no tests were held in the region.

Drinking Water Scheme in Ranikhet Cantonment, Uttar Pradesh

9619. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for one more drinking water scheme for defence personnel and civilians in Ranikhet Cantonment, Uttar Pradesh was sanctioned long time ago;

(b) if so, when it was sanctioned;

(c) whether construction work has been started in connection with this scheme; and

(d) if not the reasons for delay and the time by which construction work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). In 1972, Ministry of Defence participated in the Ranikhet-Tarikhhet Drinking Water Supply Scheme of U.P. Jal Nigam based on drawal of water from river 'Gagas' by way of an assistance of Rs. 73.85 lakhs to cater for 6 lakh gallons per day of water for the requirements of Defence establishments as well as civilian population of Cantt. Board Ranikhet. However, the water supply by the U.P. Jal Nigam was much less than the required level and hence in order to augment water supply by them, Ministry of

Defence sanctioned an advance of Rs. 11.24 lakhs for procurement of spare parts/repairs of pumping sets in January, 1986. Further, a loan of Rs. 65 lakhs has also been sanctioned in March 88 for provisioning of additional pumping sets and diversion of a minor channel to the source river 'Gagas'. However, no independent scheme has been sanctioned so far.

[English]

Demands of the All India Azad Hind Fauj Association

9620. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the demand of the All India Azad Hind Fauj Association consequent upon the transfer of the assets of Azad Hind Government (amounting to Rs. 114 crores in cash and gold worth hundred and crores of Rupees) from the Governments of Japan, Burma and Singapore, the amount should be utilised for setting up suitable memorials in New Delhi and all State Capitals, in honour of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and 30,000 Indian martyrs as reported in the Times of India (New Delhi of 22nd October, 1986;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the resolution passed by the Association to this effect; and

(c) the likely data by which memorials would be planned and set up and outlines of the projects regarding the memorials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) This Ministry have not received any such proposal.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

GNLf Issue

9621. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new formula has been worked out to bring about normalcy in Darjeeling area;

(b) the latest position regarding talks with GNLf leaders;

(c) whether compromise formula has been agreed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government have seen press reports indicating that Subhash Ghising President of GNLf, will not participate in further discussions regarding the proposed Hill Development Council. Efforts are, however, continuing to find a peaceful settlement to the issues.

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

Priority to Seven Areas in Eighth Plan

9622. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether seven areas crucial to the country's development have been marked out for special attention by the Planning Commission as part of the exercises in the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the seven areas that will be given priority; and

(c) to what extent it will be helpful for the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) Planning Commission carries out studies in the areas of importance to national development from time to time.

Recently some more topics were considered for special studies.

(b) and (c). Selection of topics for studies does not necessarily reflect developmental priorities.

Budgetary Plan Support and Assistance to States

9623. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the approved plan outlays for each State for the year 1988-89 and the percentage of increase over the current years outlay;

(b) whether the total increase in investment is nearly 6.4 per cent or so, compared to an annual increase of around 20 per cent in each of the last two plans, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether with the increase of prices by over 10 per cent this year, the plans approved for 1988-89 will indicate shrinkage of investments in real terms;

(d) whether the budgetary support of the Centre to the States plans from domestic resources has come down from 13000 crores during the current years to 125000 crores for 1988-89; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) Increase in outlays of State Plans was 21.2 per cent in 1986-87 and 17.8 per cent in 1987-88 as against 7.7 % in 1988-89.

(c) The percentage increase/decrease of investment in real terms under State Plans in 1988-89 over that of 1987-88 can be worked out only as and when the wholesale price index for 1988-89 is available.

(d) & (e). Central assistance for State Plans has increased from Rs. 6888 crores in 1987-88 to Rs. 7669 crores in 1988-89.

STATEMENT

Annual Plan 1987-88 & 1988-89—Plan Outlays

(Rs. crores)

States	Annual Plan 1987-88 Approved Outlay (Original)	Annual Plan 1988-89 Approved Outlay	%age increase of col.(3) over col. (2)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1200.00	1250.00	4.2
Arunachal Pradesh	110.00	126.00	14.5
Assam	575.00	610.00	6.1
Bihar	1500.00	1600.00	6.7
Goa	79.75	92.00	15.4
Gujarat	1160.00	1275.00	9.9
Haryana	585.00	600.00	2.6

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	235.00	260.00	10.6
Jammu & Kashmir	375.00	450.00	20.0
Karnataka	870.00	900.00	3.4
Kerala	440.00	500.00	13.6
Madhya Pradesh	1570.00	1702.00	8.4
Maharashtra	2320.00	2430.00	4.7
Manipur	105.00	122.50	16.7
Meghalaya	110.00	130.00	18.2
Mizoram	70 00	85.00	21.4
Nagaland	94 00	110.00	17.0
Orissa	750.00	835.00	11.3
Punjab	650 00	700.00	7.7
Rajasthan	645 00	710.00	10.1
Sikkim	57.00	63.00	10.5
Tamil Nadu	1250.00	1457.00	16.6
Tripura	122.00	144.00	18.0
Uttar Pradesh	2500 00	2540.00	1.6
West Bengal	862 00	951.00	10.3
Total	18234.75	19642.50	7.7

Cases of Discharge from Army

9624. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons discharged from the Indian Army during 1987 in all categories;

(b) the reasons for discharging them; and

(c) whether Government propose to give them the status of Ex-servicemen after discharge for taking up other jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). A total of 44 officers and 17102 persons below officers' rank have been discharged from the Army during the year 1987 for reasons indicated against them:--

Grounds	Officers	Personnel Below Officers' Rank
(i) Medical grounds (including invalided persons)	29	5305
(ii) Disciplinary grounds	-	627
(iii) Administrative reasons (i.e. not passing promotion exam. within stipulated time, services no longer required, compassionate grounds, unlikely to become efficient soldier etc.)	15	11170
Total	44	17102

The above figures do not include figures of personnel who have retired voluntarily or on superannuation or on completing the period of engagement.

The following personnel are categorised as Ex-servicemen after release from the Regular Army for purposes of employment in the civil sector:

- (i) Persons who retire from service after earning a pension.
- (ii) Persons released from services on medical grounds attributable to military service with an invalid or disability pension.
- (iii) Persons released from the service due to reduction in establishment.
- (iv) Persons who are released after completing a specific period of engagement.

There is no proposal to give the status of ex-servicemen to those discharged from service on grounds other than those mentioned above.

Primitive Tribal Groups

9625. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of primitive tribal groups spread all over the country and the number of families of such group State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the type of benefit they are getting through Tribal Sub-Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) Seventy-four primitive tribal groups have been identified so far. A statement showing the number of families of such groups State/Union Territory-wise given below.

(b) Under Tribal Sub-Plan, special allocation is made for micro projects meant for primitive tribal groups. Such micro projects take into account felt needs of the primitive tribes with emphasis on education, health care, housing, communication, drinking water supply and re-settlement programmes, etc.

STATEMENT

State/UT	Primitive Tribal Families
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	21563
Bihar	33788
Gujarat	12101

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	103509
Maharashtra	40622
Orissa	36144
Rajasthan	7000
Tripura	12935
West Bengal	9378
Uttar Pradesh	2074
Karnataka	2652
Kerala	1518
Manipur	908
Tamil Nadu	4000
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	102

**Design for Third Aircraft Carrier from
M/s. Swan Hunters**

9626. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in close touch with the leading British maritime concern - Swan Hunters for the design of the third aircraft carrier;

(b) whether Government propose to manufacture the aircraft carrier indigenously;

(c) if so, whether the competence and the technical know-how required to undertake this job successfully is available in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). Indigenous construction of a Sea Control Ship is under consideration of the Government. Concept design studies for the purpose are proposed to be undertaken shortly with

foreign collaboration. The process of choosing the foreign collaborator is underway. M/s. Swan Hunter's is among the offers of collaboration being considered. The feasibility of the indigenous construction of the Sea Control Ship will be viewed after the completion of the concept design studies.

**Coast Guard District Headquarters in
Paradeep**

9627. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Coast Guard district headquarters will be commissioned at Paradeep in Orissa during this year; and

(b) if so, the names of other places where district Headquarters are functioning at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) District Headquarters are functioning at:

(a) Porbandar

(b) Bombay

(c) Cochin

(d) Madras

(e) Visakhapatnam

(f) Haldia

(g) Diglipur

(h) Campbell Bay

Biggest Lok Adalat during 1987-88

9628. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats held during 1987-88;

(b) the biggest Lok Adalat held during this period;

(c) the common nature of grievances/disputes settled at this Lok Adalat;

(c) Whether the same worked out successfully and

(d) If so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. Bhardwaj): (a) On the basis of the information available with the Committee For Implementing Legal Aid Schemes, 677 Lok Adalats have been held during the year 1987-88.

(b) The biggest Lok Adalat during 1987-

88 was held at Visakhapatnam on 31st March, 1988.

(c) The Visakhapatnam Lok Adalat was devoted to the payment of compensation to about 25,000 persons residing in 61 villages whose land had been acquired for the purpose of setting up the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Through the Lok Adalat, the affected persons were paid compensation at a rate almost ten times higher than the one awarded by the Land Acquisition Officer. The awards were earlier passed on the basis of the market value prevailing, as on 1-4-1966 i.e. Rs. 1890 to 2500 per acre for wet land, Rs. 1050 to 1275 per acre for dry land and Rs. 2.75 to Rs. 4/- per sq. yard for village site whereas the rate of compensation paid at the Lok Adalat held at Visakhapatnam on 31-3-1988 was as under:—

1. Wet Land	Rs. 20,000 per acre
2. Dry Land	Rs. 17,000 per acre
3. Village site	Rs. 6/- per sq. yard.

With a view to ensuring that the compensation amount forms a long term source of income to the awardees, 16 Banks including a Gramin Bank, were persuaded to open their branches to cover all the villages and the amounts of compensation were deposited directly into the accounts of the awardees, with these banks. At the Lok Adalat, bank pass books were given to the claimants.

IPKF's Role in Sri Lanka

9629. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion was held between India and Sri Lanka recently regarding the role to be played in future by the Indian Peace Keeping Force in Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Survey Regarding Anti-Dowry Cell

9630. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will

the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study or survey has been conducted to determine the functioning of Anti-Dowry Cell of Delhi Police; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANJ PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Pending Passport Application in Regional Passport Offices in Andhra Pradesh

9631. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for passports pending at the various Passport Offices in Andhra Pradesh as on 31st March, 1988;

(b) the time since these applications are pending;

(c) the number of passports issued during 1987-88 from these Regional Passport Offices; and

(d) the number of applications rejected together with reasons during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) 11,834 applications for passports were pending as on 31.3.1988 in the Passport Office, Hyderabad in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) (i) Cases pending for less than 3 months: 10,008

(ii) Cases pending over 3 months but less than 6 months: 1,826

(c) 70,143 from 1 April, 1987 to 31 March, 1988.

(d) No application was rejected by Passport Office, Hyderabad during 1987-88.

Maintenance of All Weather Border Roads

9632. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether border roads that have been declared as "all weather roads" are being maintained properly;

(b) if not, the details of such roads and the extent to which maintenance thereof is poor;

(c) the amount spent for their maintenance and repairs during the last three years, particularly in the areas bordering Pakistan and China; and

(d) the steps taken for their proper maintenance in future?

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

(b) Does not arise,

(c) The amount spent by the Border Roads Organisation on maintenance of border roads during the last three years, is given below:--

Year	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1985-86	1389
1986-87	1417
1987-88	2707

(d) Proper maintenance will continue.

IAS/IPS Women in Tamil Nadu

9633. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of women IPS and IAS cadres allotted to Tamil Nadu till date;

(b) the total number of employees from Tamil Nadu State Cadre;

(c) whether the selection is made on the basis of the total number of women in Tamil Nadu in the above cadres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). There are 4 women IPS officers and 28 women I.A.S. officers borne on the cadre of Tamil nadu, as on 1.1.1988, as against the total number of 126 I.P.S. officers and 282 I.A.S. officers in the Cadre,

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Appointment to the I.A.S. and the I.P.S. is made (i) by direct recruitment on the results of the Civil Services Examination, and (ii) by promotion from among eligible officers in the State Services. Selection of women for appointment to the I.A.S. and the I.P.S. cannot, therefore, be made on the basis of the total number of women in a state.

CTV Picture Tubes Manufactured by B.E.L.

9634. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Electronics Limited has taken steps to manufacture Colour Television Picture Tubes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which BEL is expected to start the production of colour picture tubes and the sizes of the tubes proposed to be manufactured; and

(c) the number of CTV tubes proposed to be manufactured annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Bharat Electronics Ltd. had submitted an application for industrial licence for manufacture of colour TV picture tubes. The application has not been approved pending investment decision which is dependent on whether this line of manufacture fits in with the objectives and growth strategies of BEL as a Defence production undertaking.

(b) and (c). In view of reply to part (a), (b) & (c) do not arise.

Computer Units of E.C.I.L.

9635. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many computer units of Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. are located in the country;

(b) whether there is a proposal under the ECIL to set up some more computer units;

(c) if so, the details of the sites selected and when those units are going to be set up; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) There are two Computer Units namely, Computer group and Mainframe Computer Unit both under ECIL located in Hyderabad.

(b) There is no proposal from ECIL to set up some more Computer Units.

(c) and (d). Not applicable.

Retrenchment of Government Employees

9636.—SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are resorting to a large scale retrenchment of employees working in various Departments; and

(b) whether some Government Departments have propounded some schemes to benefit their employees to be retrenched and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is already a scheme in force since 1966 for redeployment of such of the employees as are found to be surplus, if they satisfy the conditions of eligibility prescribed for the purpose. Besides, the temporary Group C and D employees who are retrenched after rendering at least 3 years continuous regular service, are also eligible for redeployment under orders in force since 1976.

Korean Electronics Units in India

9637. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Korean electronics units are keen to establish ties with Indian companies for manufacturing electronic goods;

(b) if so, the number of proposals received from the Korean companies so far;

(c) whether Government have examined those proposals; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d). No, Sir. No proposals has been received from Korean companies to have ties with Indian companies for manufacturing electronics goods. However, some Indian companies are obtaining technical collaborations from South Korean companies.

Amount for Poverty Alleviation Programmes

9638. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted for poverty alleviation programmes in Kerala during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of persons who have been provided assistance under the poverty alleviation programmes in the State in each of these years; and

(c) the number of persons brought above poverty line in the State during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) There are three major Poverty Alleviation Programmes viz: Integrated Rural Development (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). The amounts allocated for these programmes in Kerala during the last three years were as follows:

Year	Amounts allocated (in Rs. Lakh)
1985-86	6457.22
1986-87	6371.42
1987-88	6300.29

(b) Number of households assisted under IRDP and mandays of employment

generated under NREP and RLEGP during the last three years were as follows:

Programme	Unit	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88 (provisional)
(i) IRDP	No. of Households	71,376	1,43,399	1,10,684
(ii) NREP	Lakh mandays	84.23	105.32	63.99 (till Feb., 1988)
(iii) RLEGP	-do-	76.89	113.72	71.86 (till Feb., 1988)

(c) The number of persons brought above the poverty line would be known when the results of the next quinquennial survey of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) are received.

Registered Voluntary Organisations in Kerala

9639. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the registered voluntary organisations engaged in welfare activities in Kerala which are getting Central assistance;

(b) the total assistance given to each of these organisations during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the basis on which assistance is given to voluntary organisations.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI

ORAON): (a) and (b). A statement regarding voluntary organisations in Kerala getting assistance from Ministry of Welfare is given below:

(c) For different Schemes handled by the Ministry of Welfare different criteria have been laid down. However, some of the basic requirements that a voluntary organisation should inter-alia fulfil, are:-

- (i) The organisation should be registered under the Societies Registration Act.
- (ii) The organisation should normally be of an all-India character.
- (iii) The organisation should be in existence for more than two years.
- (iv) The organisation should have experience in the relevant field.
- (v) The services of the organisation should be available to all without any distinction of caste, colour or creed.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the organisation	Amount of grant released during		
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A.	<i>Scheme for Welfare of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribes</i>			
1.	Sh. Ramakrishna Advaita Ashrama, P.O. Kalady, Kerala	1,61,169	2,27,655	2,50,343
B.	<i>Scheme of Organisational Assistance</i>			
1.	Kerala Federation of the Blind, Trivandrum	50,000	50,000	50,000
2.	Santhigiri Ashram, Kerala	35,636	19,409*	17,291
3.	Kuriakose Elias Service Society, Trichur, Kerala	16,130	-	-
4.	Association for Welfare of the Handicapped, Calicut, Kerala	-	28,596	40,640

*Balance grant in aid for 1986-87 and the grant in aid for 1987-88 is yet to be sanctioned.

C. Scheme for Welfare of Children in Need of Care and Protection

Under this scheme, grants are sanctioned to voluntary organisation for meeting recurring expenditure on maintenance of children and on rent and non-recurring expenditure for purchase of furniture, vocational training equipments, bedding, utensils etc. and for construction of cottages. The expenditure is shared by the State Government, Central Government and the voluntary organisations in the ratio of 45%: 45%: 10%. In case of a voluntary organisation in tribal area it is required to bear only 5% of the share. The grants are sanctioned on the basis of the recommendations received from the State Governments. The

grants to the voluntary organisations are disbursed by the State Governments who have the direct responsibility of implementing the scheme in their respective States. The grants released as central share to the State of Kerala during last three years are as under:

1985-86	Rs. 2,40,000/-
1986-87	Rs. 6,07,520/-
1987-88	Rs. 5,90,532/-

The following voluntary organisations received grants-in-aid under the Scheme for Welfare of Children in Need of Care of Protection:

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|--|
| 1. | Nair Service Society, Changanacherry, | 10. | Darunnujoom Orphanage, Perambra, Calicut. |
| 2. | Irshadul Muslimeen Orphanage, Trichur. | 11. | Mount Carmel, Orphanage, Jellippara, Attapaddy, Palghat. |
| 3. | Sree Sankara Balasramam, Kawdiar, TVM. | 12. | Nazereth Bhavan, Agaly, Palghat. |
| 4. | Nooriya Yatheemkhana, Pattikad, Mallapuram. | 13. | Rahmaniya Orphanage, Irikkur, Cannanore. |
| 5. | St. Joseph's Boys Home, Irinjalkuda, Trichur. | 14. | St. Joseph's Orphanage, Brahamakulam, Trichur. |
| 6. | St. Francis Assissi Orphanage, Karuvenur, Trichur. | 15. | Noorul Islam Orphanage, Alampdy, Kasargode. |
| 7. | Statto Sadanam, Karanachira, Trichur. | 16. | Elamaram Yatheemkhana Vazhakkad, Malapuram. |
| 8. | Girls Town, Palai, Kottayam. | 17. | Mookom Muslim Orphanage, Mookom, Calicut. |
| 9. | Tirurkad Orphanage, Tirurkad, Malapuram. | 18. | Marthimothoun Memorial Orphanage, Kalathode, Trichur. |

D. Scheme of grants-in-aid to voluntary organisations for Welfare of Aged.

Name of the organisations	Amount of grant released during.		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Samaritan Society, Palai Karray, Distt. Kottayam.	62,500		

E. Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled Persons.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	Name of Organisation	Amount of grant released during		
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Social Welfare Centre, Trichur.	2.58	2.69	2.75
2.	Kerala Fed. of the Blind, Trivandrum.	6.05	6.21	5.62

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bala Vikas Society, Trivandrum.	0.07	0.23	0.39
4.	Karthika Nair Samarak Samiti. Reh. Centre for P.H. at Villamkutam (East) Kerala.	0.45	0.55	0.58
5.	Young Women's Christian Asso., Quilon.	0.20	0.26	0.26
6.	Samaritan Society, Palai Karoor P.O.	1.50	0.40	0.10
7.	Kerala Blind School Society, Alwaye.	0.65	-	-
8.	Women's Welfare Centre, Varuvilla Kottukonam Vellarada (Kerala)	1.00	0.20	-
9.	Snehabhavan Chantable Society, Innjalakuda	2.21	1.38	1.45
10.	Asha Nilayam (School for M.R.Children) Chalakudy East, Trichur	0.25	-	-
11.	Santhi Bhavan Sacred Heart Convent G.H. School Chalakudy East, Trichur.	0.64	0.53	1.06
12.	Rotary Institute for Children in Need of Special Care, Trivandrum.	-	2.28	0.50
13.	Calicut Islamic Cultural Society, Calicut.	-	0.35	0.09
14.	Cherupushpam Industrial Instt. Nalamchira, Trivandrum.	-	1.50	1.90
15.	Kottayam Social Service Society, Kottayam.	-	0.07	-
16.	Society for the Rehabilitation of M. Deficient Children Cannanore.	-	-	0.11

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Vimla Mahila Samajam, Mewattupuzha.	-	-	0.45
18.	Association for Welfare of Handicapped, Calicut.	-	-	1.50

F. Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of Aids/Appliances.

1.	Kerala State Handicapped Persons Welfare Corporation Ltd., Trivandrum.	-	2.00	-
2.	Association for the Welfare of Handicapped, Calicut.	-	-	0.40

**Damages to Indian Embassy Building in
Tehran**

9640. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an Iraqi missile hit the Indian Embassy building in Tehran;

(b) if so, whether there was any casualty;

(c) the extent of damage caused to the Embassy building; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for the safety of members of the Indian Mission and the Indian families in Iran?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c). Our Mission in Tehran reported that on April 13 1988 a small shrapnel measuring about 10"/8" with some wiring apparently from a missile fell on the Chancery building without causing any casualty or damage.

(d) A limited evacuation of 120 families of India based Embassy staff and a few Indians in Tehran was undertaken by the Government on March 10, 1988. The staff

and remaining family members of the Indian Embassy in Tehran have been suitably dispersed to safer places. Other Indians residing in Iran have been similarly advised.

**Compensation to Peasants for land
Acquired**

9641. PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether land aggregating three thousand Bighas belonging to 131 peasants of village Udasar Tehsil and District Bikaner was acquired about five years back in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether Government have arranged payment for the land so acquired;

(c) if so, whether the concerned peasants have since been suitably rehabilitated; and

(d) if not, the time within which such rehabilitation will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) An area measuring

4118.02 acres (4032.65 acres of State Government land and 85.43 acres of private land) was acquired/transferred and possession thereof was taken over in 1983. This includes land belonging to 134 khatedars, out of which 4 khatedars had ownership rights.

(b) Compensation has been paid to the State Government of Rajasthan in respect of the entire land on various dates during 1982-83 and 1983-84.

(c) and (d). It is the responsibility of the State Government to rehabilitate the affected persons. It is understood that the Colonisation Commissioner, Bikaner has allotted alternative State Government land to 130 Khatedars in lieu of the land from which they were disposed.

India's Help Sought for solving Kampuchean Issue

9642. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister of Singapore has sought India's help in taking initiative in withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea;

(b) if so, whether a number of countries have also asked India to initiate the help to solve Kampuchea issue;

(c) if so, the initiative taken by Government;

(d) to what extent Kampuchea problem has been solved; and

(e) to what extent India has agreed to intervene in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). The Government of India has been in touch with the concerned parties with regard to finding a solution to the Kampuchean issue. It played a significant

role in bringing about the first meeting between Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen of the People's Republic of Kampuchea which broke the deadlock in efforts to resolve the Kampuchean issue.

Fencing on Jammu and Kashmir Border

9643. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started fencing on the Jammu and Kashmir-Pakistan border;

(b) if so, the time by which the fencing would be completed; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the fencing work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

(a) No, Sir.

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

New Format for Writing Annual Confidential Reports of IPS Officials

9644. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has developed a new format for writing the annual confidential report of Indian Police Service Officers (IPS);

(b) whether such new format for writing the annual confidential reports would be extended to other services like Indian Administrative Services (IAS); and

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Similar formats for writing annual confidential reports of officers of other All India Services viz. Indian Administrative Service and Indian Forest Service have also been prescribed.

Representation of SC/STs in High Judiciary

9645. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have advised the States to make every possible effort to appoint members of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes and religious minorities as Judges of High Courts, from the judicial services as well as from the bar;

(b) if so, the date of issue of the first guideline in this regard and the date of the last reminder on the subject;

(c) the number of judges belonging to the above-mentioned categories in the country as a whole as on 31 December, 1987 and the total number of High Court judges in position; and

(d) the break-up of the High Court judges as well as those belonging to the above-mentioned communities by source of recruitment -- judicial services or the bar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). In December 1987, the Central Government addressed a letter to the Chief Ministers and Governors of States and the Chief justices of High Courts requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, minorities and women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges, so as to give them better representation on the High Courts than that exists at present.

The instructions to the State Governments in this regard were first issued in

August 1980, and subsequently reiterated in May, 1984, March, 1986 and December 1987.

(c) and (d). The requisite information is being collected from the Registries of the High Courts and will be laid on the Table of the House after it has been received.

Peasant Movement in Bihar

9646. DR. G. S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a five member central team has visited Bihar recently to assess the impact of the peasant movement in the rural Bihar;

(b) whether the central team has suggested measures to contain the growing peasant insurgency and role of the State in this regard;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and whether the central team has submitted its report to Government; and

(d) further action Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) A Central Team visited Bihar to study the Left-Wing extremist problem in the State.

(b) and (c). The Team is yet to submit its report.

(d) Does not arise.

Implementation of 15 Point Programme for Minorities by Gujarat

9647. SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat have fully implemented the 15-Point Programme for the welfare of minorities in so

far as it concerns the recruitment of minorities in Police and other branches of Government establishments;

(b) the reasons for shortfalls, if any; and

(c) the steps contemplated by Union Government to implement this programme in Gujarat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) The Gujarat State Government fully agrees with the Principle contained in the 15-Point Programme, in so far as it concerns recruitment, that there should be adequate representation of minorities in the public services including the Police and in the public sector enterprises. The Gujarat State Government does not consider it necessary to have minority representation in each Selection Committee as the existing committees are considered to be adequate to implement the essentials of 15-Point Programme.

(b) and (c). The 15-Point Programme does not envisage reservations for the minorities. The question of shortfall does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen in Sikkim

9648. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ex-servicemen settled in Sikkim as on 15 April, 1988;

(b) the total number of widows of ex-servicemen settled in Sikkim as on 15 April, 1988;

(c) the total number of ex-servicemen of sikkim rehabilitated as on 15 April, 1988; and

(d) the total number of widows of ex-servicemen of Sikkim rehabilitated as on 15 April, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The information relat-

ing to the number of ex-servicemen is collected on year-wise basis. As on 31st December, 1987, the total number of ex-servicemen in Sikkim was 1517.

(b) The information relating to the widows of ex-servicemen is also collected on year-wise basis. As on 31st December, 1987, the number of widows of ex-servicemen in Sikkim was 226.

(c) The statistics regarding placement of ex-servicemen of sikkim is being collected only from 1983 onwards. The total number of Ex-Servicemen of Sikkim placed in employment from 1983 to 1987 is 59. This does not include the figures for the period January-June 1984, for which information is not available.

(d) Information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Diagnostic Kit Developed of Amoebiasis

9649. SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESHWARA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether sero diagnostic kit for Amoebiasis has been developed by CDRI, Lucknow;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in marketing;

(c) whether similar kits are being imported as at present; and

(d) if so, the details of value of imports for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. M/s. Curewel (India) Ltd., New Delhi to whom the technology for manufacture on sero diagnostic kit has been transferred has not been able to obtain manufacturing licence for the same so

far. However, the kit is expected to be marketed in near future.

(c) and (d). Diagnostic kits using non-pathogenic axenic amoeba antigen is being imported at present. Since the import is permissible under OGL, the details of value thereof are not available.

World-wide Quakes

9650. SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL:
DR. B. L. SHAILESH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the news item captioned 'World-wide quakes predicted' appearing in the 'Times of India', New Delhi dated the 14th April, 1988; and

(b) if so, whether Government are conducting any scientific study of the problem created by the interplay of earth bound events in the context of the modern theories of physics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN):
(a) Government has seen the news item.

(b) Considerable research work is being done in the Science of earthquake (including prediction techniques) at a number of institutions including Government Departments, autonomous scientific research institutions and universities etc.

However, no reliable method for earthquake prediction has emerged as yet.

Non-utilisation of Plan Funds by States

9651. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to each State/Union Territory for annual plan for 1987-88;

(b) the amount remain unutilised by each State/Union Territory during the above period;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government have given any instructions to such States in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c). A Statement indicating State and U.T.-wise approved outlays and anticipated expenditure for the Annual Plan 1987-88 is given below. The Plan expenditure during 1987-88 shows a shortfall in respect of a number of States in comparison to the approved outlay mainly on account of deterioration in their own resources brought about by various factors like drought and floods, revision of pay and D.A. of State Employees, etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Annual Plan 1987-88-States/UTs

(Rs. in Crores)

States	Originally approved outlay	Anticipated Expenditure*	Variation (Col.1-Col.2)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1200.00	1112.43	(-) 87.57
Arunachal Pradesh	110.00	110.00	-
Assam	575.00	575.00	-
Bihar	1500.00	1400.00	(-) 100.00
Goa	79.75	79.75	-
Gujarat	1160.00	890.51	(-) 269.49
Haryana	585.00	430.28	(-) 154.72
Himachal Pradesh	235.00	235.00	-
Jammu & Kashmir	375.00	387.50	(+) 12.50
Karnataka	870.00	769.45	(-) 100.55
Kerala	440.00	380.60	(-) 59.40
Madhya Pradesh	1570.00	1516.11	(-) 53.89
Maharashtra	2320.00	2100.00	(-) 220.00
Manipur	105.00	105.00	-
Meghalaya	110.00	110.00	-
Mizoram	70.00	70.00	-
Nagaland	94.00	94.75	(+) 0.75
Orissa	750.00	742.02	(-) 7.98
Punjab	650.00	650.00	-
Rajasthan	645.00	606.00	(-) 39.00
Sikkim	57.00	54.10	(-) 2.90
Tamil Nadu	1250.00	1250.00	-

1	2	3	4
Tripura	122.00	125.00	(+) 3.00
Uttar Pradesh	2500.00	2009.78	(-) 490.22
West Bengal	862.00	871.25	(+) 9.25

* Outlays were revised at the close of the year and the outlays thus revised have been taken to be anticipated expenditure.

SC/ST Below Poverty line in Rajasthan.

9652. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan who crossed the poverty line by the end of the Sixth Plan;

(b) whether Government have undertaken some programmes for the economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Rajasthan expected to cross poverty line by the end of the Seventh Plan; and

(d) the target set in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) No specific survey has been conducted by the Government of Rajasthan to ascertain the number of SC/ST beneficiaries who have crossed the poverty line. However, it has been reported by Government of Rajasthan that a survey was conducted for the IRDP beneficiaries of the Sixth Five Year Plan. The findings of the survey reveal that about 49% of the IRDP beneficiaries including SCs/STs would have crossed the poverty line as per the old norms. On the basis of these norms, it has been assessed by Government of Rajasthan that out of 5,23,884 benefitted SC families, about 2,56,703 would have crossed the poverty line during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

The number of ST families assisted economically during the Sixth Plan was 205703. As per the above survey, more than 90,000 persons would have crossed the poverty line. However, exact figures in this regard are not available.

(b) Programmes have been undertaken by the Government of Rajasthan for the economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes as well as Scheduled Tribes. The schemes fall in the sectors of agriculture, horticulture, minor irrigation, animal-husbandry, fishery, forestry, sericulture, cottage industries, etc.

(c) and (d). During the Seventh Five Year Plan, more than 6 lakh SC families are expected to be economically assisted. During the first 3 years of that Plan, 3,82,442 SC families had been economically assisted. The target for 1988-89, as reported by Govt. of Rajasthan, is to benefit 1.25 lakh SC families.

About 3 lakh ST families are targetted to be economically assisted during the Seventh Five Year Plan. In the first 3 years of that Plan, 2.42 lakh tribal families had been assisted.

Government of Rajasthan have proposed to cover 70,000 ST families under economic assistance during 1988-89.

Octroi on Imported Goods Landing at IGIAP

9653. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether goods imported by the users of Northern States like Haryana, Rajasthan, UP and Punjab etc. landed at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi is being subject to octroi by tax authorities of Delhi;

(b) whether these authorities refuse to issue Behti in respect of these imported goods (raw material) which is to be used for manufacture of goods in their respective States; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Transit pass facilities under Rule-17 of Delhi Terminal Tax Rules, 1958 as an interim measure has been extended on imports which are meant for immediate export outside the Union Territory of Delhi. Goods in transit are given refund Behti against specified routes and time which are cross checked at Export barrier.

Allotment of Security Contracts of Public Undertakings to Ex-Servicemen

9654. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of Security Contracts for the Public Sector units has been regulated through the Security Agencies managed by ex-servicemen duly registered with the Director General of Resettlement;

(b) the details of the agencies registered

with the Director General of Resettlement as on 31st March, 1988; and

(c) the contracts allotted to various agencies with details of approximate number of ex-servicemen employed by these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) To prevent exploitation of Ex-Servicemen by Ex-Servicemen Companies offering Security Services, the Directorate General of Resettlement has approached some Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and requested them to channelise their requirement through this Organisation. Ex-Servicemen Security Companies which are properly constituted, sign an agreement with the Directorate General of Resettlement to pay the ex-servicemen employed by them according to the pay-scales stipulated by the Directorate General of Resettlement and then are sponsored on receipt of request made by Public Sector Undertakings. In addition, the security agency sponsored by the DGR is authorised to collect 10-15% of total monthly salaries to the ex-servicemen as service charges from the PSU.

(b) 21 Security Agencies have been registered with the Directorate General of Resettlement upto 31st March, 1988. The details of these are given below in the Statement.

(c) Contracts allotted to various security agencies in respect of Public Sector Undertakings together with number of ex-servicemen employed with each is given as per details below:-

Agency	Public Sector	No. of Ex-Servicemen employed
1	2	3
(a) Ex-servicemen Welfare Assn. Bihar.	CSIR Lab at Dhanbad	37
(b) Ravi Security Agency	CSIR Lab at Bhopal	13

	1	2	3
(c)	Sainik Security Services	CSIR Lab at Ghaziabad	15
(d)	Apex Security & Detective Force Pvt. Ltd.	CSIR Lab at Delhi	38
(e)	M/s Super Safeways Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka Bhawan	7
(f)	M/s Super Safeways Pvt. Ltd.	SCOPE; Cabinet Secretariat, Khelgaon.	25 8
(g)	Indian Protective & Consultancy Services	IAAI Ex.Officers Ex.JCO's & ORs	5 223
(h)	Sainik Security IAAI Services.		16

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Agency</i>
1	2
1.	Apex Security & Detective Force 91 E, Kalkaji, New Delhi 110 019 (Lt Col Inderjit Singh, Retd)
2.	M/s Super Safeways Pvt Ltd 096, Anand Niketan, New Delhi (Col MML Puri, Retd)
3.	Sainik (Ex) Security Services 193, Satya Niketan, Moti Bagh, New Delhi (Col Vijay Pal, Retd)
4.	Great Ex-servicemen Security and Transport Services (p) Ltd., New Delhi.
5.	Indian Protective & Consultancy Services, Som Vihar, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 66
6.	Ex-Servicemen Welfare Association

1	2
	Bihar, Birsa Nagar, Ranchi - 834 002 (Capt Inderjit Singh, Retd)
7.	Ravi Security Agency, 126 Mayur Market, Thatipur, Gwalior (MP) (Lt Col. K.N. Tiwari, Retd)
8.	Kare Security Group, A-8/B, DDA Flat, Munirka, New Delhi (Brig R.S. Randev, Retd)
9.	Ex-Servicemen Black Gold Transporters (India) Pvt Ltd E-702, Som Vihar, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 66
10.	Premier Ex-servicemen's Transport Services (P) Ltd 175/33-A, Chandigarh (Maj Gen KMKS Barach, Retd)
11.	Ex-Servicemen Black Diamond Carriers (P) Ltd, Ranchi (Brig B C Vadera, Retd)
12.	Pesco Services (P) Ltd. 177, Sector 33-A, Chandigarh (Brig K. I. Kumar, Retd)
13.	Ex-servicemen Airlink Transport Services Ltd., 62, Yashwant Place, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
14.	Purbanchal Ex-servicemen Welfare Association, 2, Camac Street, Calcutta - 16
15.	Indian Ex-servicemen League (WB) 90/6-A, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Calcutta - 7
16.	Sanchi Security Company 1576, Sector 36/D, Chandigarh (Brig Gurinderjit Singh, Retd)
17.	Shiva Sainik Security Detective & Transport Services (P) Ltd (Maj Parbhu Singh, Retd)
18.	Bhut Purva Sainik Kalyan Sangathan Aligarh (UP) (Hav Prem Dutt Gautam, Retd)
19.	Security and Vigilance Services (Brig B. K. Khandari, Retd)
20.	Rana Security Services, Regd Rana Nela, Chandra Bani Clement Town, Dehra Dun (UP)
21.	Tamil Nadu Ex-servicemen Corpn Ltd 22, Sydenhams Road, Madras 600 003.

Attack on Alitalia Pilot

9655. PROF. RAM KRISHNA MORE:
SHRIMATI USHA
CHOUHARY:
DR. B. L. SHAILESH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an attack on the pilot working for the Italian Airlines (Alitalia) was recently made at Bombay Airport with pistols and hand grenades and that an organisation of Arab Fedayeen (Guerilla) cell has claimed responsibility for the attack;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government to check the violent and illegal activities of such organisation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). On 25.3.88 when the crew members of the Alitalia flight were boarding a bus outside Sahar Airport, a young man apparently of Palestinian origin entered the bus forcibly and fired a few shots inside the bus, injuring the Captain of the Crew. He also threw two hand-grenades near the bus which did not explode. After this, the assailant threw the weapon and tried to flee but was overpowered. The case is being investigated.

(c) As a precautionary measure against

hijacking, sabotage and terrorist acts, an alert has been issued. The security arrangements on the airport have been further strengthened.

Non-Utilisation of Plan Allocation by Maharashtra

9656. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual plan allocations for 1987-88 for Maharashtra has been utilised by Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the total amount granted and the amount actually utilised;

(c) the sector where the amount could not be fully utilised and the reasons thereof; and

(d) whether any guidelines have been issued to Maharashtra in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c). A statement indicating Maharashtra's Annual Plan 1987-88, sector-wise approved outlay/anticipated expenditure is given below. Against an approved outlay of Rs. 2320 crores, likely expenditure is Rs. 2100 crores. Due to constraints of resources following scarcity conditions, Maharashtra State effected a net cut of Rs. 220 crores as indicated in the Statement.

(d) No, Sir.

STATEMENT*Annual Plan 1987-88 Maharashtra*

(Rs. crores)

Head of Development	Approved Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	Variations
1	2	3	4
1. Agriculture & Allied Services.	150.68	139.00	(-) 11.68

	1	2	3	4
2. Rural Development		276.72	288.50	(+) 11.78
3. Special Area Programme		2.44	2.06	(-) 0.38
4. Irrigation & Flood Control.		510.66	420.93	(-) 89.73
5. Energy		505.96	464.55	(-) 41.41
6. Industry & Minerals		85.75	71.24	(-) 14.51
7. Transport		151.24	132.85	(-) 18.39
8. Science, Technology & Environment		2.27	1.36	(-) 0.91
9. General Eco. Services		2.03	1.59	(-) 0.44
10. Social Services		610.99	560.36	(-) 50.63
11. General Services		21.26	17.56	(-) 3.70
GRAND TOTAL		2320.00	2100.00	(-) 220.00

Anomalies in Pay-Fixation for Re-Employed Ex-Servicemen

9657. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various ex-servicemen organisation have submitted representations pointing out anomalies in pay fixation rules for ex-servicemen on their re-employment in Civil Services issued by the Ministry of Personnel, vide their letter dated 31st July, 1986;

(b) if so, action taken on the representations;

(c) whether any proposals have been sent to the Ministry of Personnel to overcome the anomalies and to redress the grievances of re-employed ex-servicemen; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Various organisations of ex-servicemen have submitted representations demanding, *inter-alia* counting of Military Service for pay fixation on re-employment in a civil post. These representations have been examined by the Ministry of Defence.

The demand was also raised before the High Level Committee on problems of Ex-Servicemen constituted by the Government in the year 1984. The Committee did not accept the demand in the case of ex-servicemen in receipt of military pension. It was felt by the Committee that counting of military service for additional increments would amount to giving them double benefit, especially when their full military pension and other terminal benefits are already exempted in fixation of their pay on re-employment with effect from 25th January, 1983 in the case of personnel below officer rank and the first Rs. 500/- of terminal

benefits in the case of officers. Ex-servicemen who are not in receipt of pension are given the benefit of military service in pay fixation on re-employment, subject to certain conditions.

(c) As there is no merit in the demand, no proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Personnel.

(d) Does not arise.

Counting of Military Service for Promotions in Civil Jobs

9658. SHRI R. M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received by the Ministry of Defence from Ex-servicemen organisations for counting of Military Service for the purpose of relaxation in rules governing promotions in Civil jobs on their re-employment;

(b) whether some rules to this effect already exist and are applicable in Public Sector Banks;

(c) the reasons for non-extension of these rules to other sectors; and

(d) whether Government propose to amend the rules already prevailing for their uniform extension to ex-servicemen re-employed in all sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Various Ex-servicemen organisations have submitted representations for counting of military service for seniority on re-employment of Ex-servicemen in the civil jobs.

(b) to (d). Ex-servicemen re-employed in the Public Sector Banks are given a limited benefit of military service for seniority in promotions subject to certain conditions. This benefit is, however, not admissible to ex-servicemen re-employed under the Central Government as the services under the Central Government and Public

Sector Banks are on different footing. Ex-servicemen re-employed under the Central Government are governed by instructions issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions. As persons re-employed in different sectors are governed by different rules regarding conditions of service including promotions, it is not feasible to have uniformity in such matters. The High Level Committee on problems of ex-servicemen constituted by the Government of India had also examined the demand raised by Ex-servicemen for counting military service for seniority purposes. The Committee did not accept the same. There is, at present, no proposal for reconsideration of the same.

Criteria for Reservation for Handicapped

9659. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has issued any orders giving the uniform definitions of disabilities and classification of disabled;

(b) if so, whether the eligibility for concessions benefits to persons having a minimum degree of disability of 40 percent has been notified by the Ministry of Labour in the employment service manual;

(c) whether Government are aware of refusal to follow the said orders by Government agencies especially by the Delhi Administration on the plea of not notifying the orders in the employment service manual by the Ministry of Labour; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): The Ministry of Labour has been requested to implement the orders regarding uniform definitions.

Meeting between Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan on Siachen

9660. DR. B. L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has turned down an Indian proposal for a meeting between the Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan towards the end of April, 1988 to resume negotiations for settlement of the dispute over the Siachen Glacier;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this response of Pakistan is in anyway linked with Pak President's recent statement that Pak troops in Siachen are engaged in a holy war; and

(d) if so, how do the Government view this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Pakistan Government have expressed their inability to hold the Defence Secretary level talks on the Siachen issue in the week commencing April 25, 1988 as proposed by our Government on grounds that their officials are pre-occupied with the enquiries kinto the recent ammunition dump blow-up near Rawalpindi. They have, however, indicated that they would soon suggest dates for the talks in the period after Id.

(c) and (d). Government have seen the statement made by the President of Pakistan. Government are, however, in favour of a peaceful resolution of the Siachen issue.

[*Translation*]

Cultural and Religious organisations receiving assistance from Pakistan

9661. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cultural and religious organisations of Bihar, Punjab and Uttar

Pradesh which are receiving financial assistance from Pakistan; and

(b) the amount of financial assistance received by these organisations during 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GREIVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Darul Uloom Deoband in U.P. and Radha Soami Satsang Beas in Punjab have so far reported as having received foreign contribution from organisations/individuals from Pakistan during 1987.

(b) Darul Uloom Deoband, Rs. 38,859.35 U.P.

Radha Soami Satsang Beas, Punjab. Rs. 25,820.00.

[*English*]

Allocation for Industrial Development

9663. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation for industrial development in Kerala for 1988-89; and

(b) the details of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) the Allocation for industrial projects (in the central sector) is done undertaking-wise. As some of the undertakings have a large number of units spread over different States, it is not possible to indicate a precise State-wise break up of this allocation. However, the total outlay for industrial development in Keara for 1988-89 is estimated at approximately Rs. 218.36 crores comprising Rs. 165.36 crores for Central industrial and mineral projects and Rs. 53 crores for the schemes in the State Plan.

(b) A detailed statement is given below:

STATEMENT

*Allocation of outlay for Industrial Development in Kerala - 1988-89***A) Allocation of outlay for Central Industrial & Mineral Projects Located in Kerala**

Sl. No.	Ministry/Department Project/Schemes	Outlay 1988-89 (Rs. crores)
1	2	3
I.	<i>Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas</i>	36.89
a)	Cochin Refineries Ltd. (Aromatic Recovery facilities, refinery projects etc.)	36.39
b)	Balmer Lawrie & Company Ltd. - Replacement & Renewals	0.50*
II.	<i>Department of Fertilizers</i>	100.00
	Fertilizers and chemicals (Travancore) Ltd. (Caprolactam Project and Revamping, rehabilitation, modernisation, retrofitting, etc.)	
III.	<i>Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals</i>	5.00
	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. (Captive Power Plant, Cochin)	
IV.	<i>Department of Public Enterprises</i>	1.04
a)	HMT Ltd., Kalamaserry (Replacement, renewals, etc.)	0.50*
b)	Instrumentation Ltd., Palghat (Balancing Range of Y.H. Valves)	0.08
c)	Fluid Control Research Institute, Palghat	0.46
V.	<i>Department of Electronics (various programmes)</i>	2.50*
VI.	<i>Department of Atomic Energy</i> Indian Rare Earths Ltd. (Mining and Wet concentration at Chavara, Replacement and renewals)	2.50*

1	2	3
VII.	<i>Ministry of Commerce</i>	2.28
a)	Export Processing Zone, Cochin	1.78
b)	Marine Products Export Development Authority, Cochin	0.50*
VII.	<i>Department of Surface Transport</i>	6.40
	(Ship building & Repair) Cochin Shipyard (Rectification of imbalances, additional quay, New Design & modifications, production consultancy, augmentation of training facilities, replacement & renewals etc.)	
IX.	<i>Ministry of Communications</i>	8.75
	Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., Palghat (Phase-III) Switching Equipment and other schemes allocated)	
	<i>Total - Central Sector</i>	165.36

B) State Plans

Project/Schemes		Outlay 1988-89 (Rs. crores)
1	2	3
(1)	<i>Village & Small Industries</i>	20.00
a)	Small Scale industries Including Industrial estates	10.13
b)	Coir Industry	4.25
c)	Khadi & Village Industries	2.00
d)	Handlooms	2.75
e)	Powerlooms	0.25
f)	Handicrafts	0.62

1	2	3
(2)	<i>Large & Medium Industries</i>	32.20**
1)	Kerala Financial Corporation	2.25
2)	Kerala State Industrial Development Corpn.	5.50
3)	State Investment Subsidy	0.90
4)	Preparation of feasibility/project reports	0.15
5)	Centre for management development	0.15
6)	Export Processing Zone at Cochin	0.05
7)	Kerala State Export Trade Development Council	0.05
8)	Industrial Areas	0.40
9)	Kerala State Electronics Development Corpn.	7.00
10)	Kerala State Industrial Enterprises Ltd.	1.50
11)	Malabar Cements Ltd.	0.80
12)	Transformers & Electricals, Kerala Ltd.	1.00
13)	Trade Cable Company Ltd.	1.70
14)	Kerala Special Refractories Ltd.	7.00
15)	Steel Industries Kerala Ltd.	1.00
16)	Kerala State Textile Corporation Ltd.	1.60
17)	Kerala Automobiles Ltd.	0.05
18)	Investment in Viable new Project	0.40
19)	Rehabilitation of sick industries	0.80

1	2	3
(3)	<i>Weights & Measures</i>	0.20
(4)	<i>Mineral Development</i>	0.60
	<i>Total State Plans</i>	53.00
Grand Total		218.36

* The outlays are provided for the public sector undertaking as a whole. The outlay for the schemes/projects in Kerala has been allocated approximately on the basis of available data.

** The allocations have been suggested by Planning Commission.

Note: Apart from the Central Sector Industrial Schemes in Kerala an outlay of Rs. 0.01 crore has been provided for Hindustan Latex Limited under the Department of Family Welfare.

Role of Voluntary Societies

9664. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to review the role of voluntary societies in Delhi in the activities and programmes concerning the residential need of the orphans, destitute children, men, women, the old and infirm, orthopaedically handicapped and other categories of destitutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that the procedure for registration of these societies is cumbersome; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to simplify the procedure to reduce red-tapism and irregularities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The procedures are not

cumbersome. However, they are reviewed from time to time to further simplify them. The Registrar of Firms and Societies, Delhi has taken the following steps:-

i) Guidelines have been simplified and are made available in the office free of cost to the public.

ii) Time norms have been laid down for disposal of application in time bound manner.

iii) Counters have been opened in the office to attend to the enquiries of representatives of applicant societies.

Development of Synthetic Drugs

9665. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether centropacine drug, a mood elevator is under trials and development at CDRI, Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the other synthetic drugs developed which are under various stages of intensive clinical trials; and

(d) when these drugs would be made available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). The drug has completed phase II clinical trials. Permission of the Drug Controller of India is being sought to undertake phase III clinical trial.

(c) The other synthetic compounds under clinical trials are:

- (i) Centchroman - a once-a-week oral contraceptive pill which is in phase III clinical trial; and
- (ii) Chandonium Iodide - a neuromuscular blocking agent, which has completed phase II clinical trials. Permission for undertaking phase II clinical trials for this compound is being sought from the Drug Controller.

(d) Limited marketing permission for centchroman as an oral contraceptive has been obtained. Other compounds are expected to be marketed by 1990-91.

Setting up of R & D Units by Foreign Companies

9666. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to allow foreign companies to set up 100 per cent owned Research and Development units in the country;

(b) if so, whether the modalities have been worked out;

(c) if so, the main reasons for taking such a decision; and

(d) to what extent it will encourage Research and Development in high technology areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Ministry of Science and Technology (DSIR) has a scheme of accordin recognition to in-house R & D units in the industry and under this scheme, companies having foreign equity have also been accorded recognition.

(b) The scheme of recognition has been in operation from 1973. An Inter-Departmental Committee examines the applications received from the industrial units and recommends recognition/rejection. Normally the recognition is granted for three years. Renewals are accorded on the basis of a review.

(c) One of the main objectives of the scheme is to encourage R & D in industry by industry; it also improves interaction between industries and other scientific research organisations.

(d) The scheme has enabled the in-house R & D Centres to create impressive infrastructural facilities including sophisticated instrumentation and equipment facilities as well as pilot plant facilities for carrying out R&D work relating to the areas of manufacturing activities of the firms, including those involving high technology areas.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a bomb has been thrown at Shri Narayan Ghoubey's house. The supporters of C.P.I. (M) have thrown bomb at the house of a C.P.I. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Are they quarrelling among themselves?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, they quarrel with each other.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, contrary things are being witnessed today in the House.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I want to bring to your notice the fact that in the past whenever we gave privilege notices, they were disposed of quite early. Now we find that on the Bofors question my privilege notice against the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister have been kept pending for a long time, because they made a statement on 20th April, 1987... (Interruptions).

I would like to know what has happened to it.

MR. SPEAKER: No question. We will discuss it now. I am getting it.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let us first get the explanation from the Prime Minister and others. (Interruption)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY (Buxar): Sir, in Bangladesh, an Islamic Republic has been declared.

It will have political repercussions in India...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us start with the business as we have decided in the Business Advisory Committee.

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: It will have socio-political repercussions in India. Therefore, we would like to know the position of the Government because it is a democratic struggle. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You give me notice.

[English]

This is not the way to do it. You have to

give me a notice. You cannot have a discussion like that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have decided in the Business Advisory Committee to start just immediately after the Question Hour the debate on Bofors. Then, we have to see that it ends this evening, even if we have to sit a bit longer. The reply to this discussion will be tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a privilege motion... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am processing it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Sir, I have given a privilege motion against the Minister of State for Home Affairs Mr. Chidambaram... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already taken it up. I am processing it.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Allow me thirty seconds. (Interruptions)

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): Sir all of us were shocked at the death of Shri Panicker... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am processing it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: The matter must be investigated. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is under investigation.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification Under Indian Telegraph Act

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Electronic Gadgets (Exemption from Licensing Requirements) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 212 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1988 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6050/88]

Memoranda re.- Action on Recommendations in Report of Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1980-81 and 1981-82 and Seventh Annual Report of Commission for SC & ST for 1984-85, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum (Hindi and English versions) outlining the Detailed Action Taken on the Recommendations contained in the Third Annual Report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1980-81. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6051/88]
- (2) A copy of the Memorandum (Hindi and English versions) outlining the Detailed Action Taken on the Recommendations contained in the Fourth Annual Report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1981-82. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6052/88]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Seventh Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1984-85.

- (ii) A copy of the Memorandum (Hindi and English Versions) of the Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the Report. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6053/88]

Notifications Under Central Excise Rules and Under Finance Act 1979

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:-
 - (i) G.S.R. 446 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to bobins, spools, cops and similar supports of paper pulp, paper or paper board (whether or not perforated or hardened) from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 465 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th April, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 89/88-Central Excises dated the 1st March, 1988 so as to increase the basic excise duty on silicon electrical steel from Rs. 500 per tonne to Rs. 715 per tonne.
 - (iii) Notification No. 160/88-Central Excises published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd May, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to sugar produced in a factory during the period from 1st May to 31st July, 1988 which is in excess of the average production of the corresponding periods of the three sugar years, namely, 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6054/88]

(2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 476 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st April, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Royal Highness Crown Prince El Hassan Bin Talal, Her Royal Highness Princess Harvath El Hassan and His Royal Highness Prince Rashid El Hassan of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and other twenty members of the delegation who visited India from 23rd to 27th April, 1988 from the payment of foreign travel tax in respect of their international journey to any place outside India at the end of the said visit under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6055/88]

Hundred and Twenty-first Report of Law Commission

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to lay on the Table of copy of the One Hundred and Twenty first Report (Hindi and English versions) of the *Law Commission on a New Forum for Judicial Apointments*. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6056/88]

Annual Report and Audited Accounts of Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi for 1986-87

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): On behalf of Shri K. Natwar Singh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6057/88]

Annual Report of and Review on Central Machine Tool Institute, Bangalore, for 1986-87

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: On behalf of Shri M. Arunachalam, I beg to lay on the Table:--

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Machine Tool Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Central Machine Tool Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1986-87. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6058/88]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to lay on the Table--

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:--

(i) The All India Services (Conduct) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 189 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1988.

(ii) The All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Second Amendment Rules, 1988 published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 191 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6059/88]

(2) A copy of the Border Security Force, Chief Law Officer and Law Officers Recruitment and Conditions of Service (Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 93 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1988 under sub-section (3) of Section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6060/88].

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 37

of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985:--

(i) The Central Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Members) Third Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 324 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd March, 1988.

(ii) The Orissa Administrative Tribunals (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 423 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1988.

(iii) The Himachal Pradesh Administrative Tribunals (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 424 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1988.

(iv) The Karnataka Administrative Tribunals (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 425 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6061/88].

Review on Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd., New Delhi for 1986-87

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): I beg to lay on the Table--

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited., New Delhi, for the year

1986-87 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6062/88]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Lubricating Oils and Greases (Processing, Supply and Distribution Regulation) Amendment Order, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 373(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 1988 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 6063/88].

12.03 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:--

"In accordance with the provisions of the rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1988 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th April, 1988."

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

As passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

[English]

Fifth Report

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE
LEGISLATION*[English]*

Nineteenth Report

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Sir, I beg to present the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.05 hrs.

*[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]*STATEMENT RE: PROCURE-
MENT/MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES FOR
PADDY, KHARIF COARSE CEREALS,
PULSES, OILSEEDS AND RAW COTTON
FOR THE 1988-89 SEASON*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): Sir, the Government have fixed the procurement prices for paddy, kharif

coarse cereals, kharif pulses, kharif oilseeds and raw cotton for 1988-89 season. The procurement price of all varieties of paddy in common group of fair average quality has been raised from Rs. 150 per quintal during 1987-88 marketing season to Rs. 160 per quintal for the 1988-89 marketing season.

For fine variety of paddy, the price will be Rs. 170 per quintal and for superfine variety of paddy Rs. 180 per quintal for the 1988-89 season.

The Government have fixed the procurement price for kharif coarse cereals viz., jowar, bajra, maize and ragi, of fair average quality at Rs. 145 per quintal for 1988-89 season, marking an increase of Rs. 10 per quintal over the price of Rs. 135 per quintal fixed for 1987-88 season.

It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide incentive to the farmers to step up the production and productivity of pulses. Accordingly, the minimum support prices of kharif pulses, namely, tur (arhar), urad and moong of 1988-89 crop have been fixed at Rs. 360 per quintal, marking an increase of Rs. 35 per quintal over the corresponding price for the produce of 1987-88 crop.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has been designated as the Central nodal agency to undertake purchase of kharif pulses of 1988-89 season at the minimum support price in collaboration with the State Cooperative Marketing Agencies designated by the State Governments.

To give a further boost to the production of oilseeds, the government has also increased the minimum support prices of oilseeds substantially. Accordingly, the minimum support price of groundnut-in-shell of 1988-89 crop has been fixed at Rs. 430 per quintal, marking an increase of Rs. 40 per quintal, over the previous year's level.

The minimum support price of soybean (yellow) of 1988-89 crop shall be Rs. 320 per quintal as against Rs. 300 per quin-

tal for the last year. Similarly, the minimum support price of soyabean (black) has been increased by Rs. 15 per quintal and fixed at Rs. 275 per quintal for the 1988-89 season. Likewise, the minimum support price for sunflowerseed, an upcoming oilseed crop, has been increased by Rs. 60 per quintal and fixed at Rs. 450 per quintal for 1988-89 season.

For the basic variety, H-4 in the long and superior long staple group of cotton, the minimum support price shall be Rs. 600 per quintal which marks an increase of Rs. 50 over the previous season. For F-414/H-777 variety, the minimum price shall be Rs. 500 per quintal. Not only is this price higher by Rs. 60 per quintal over the corresponding price of the previous season, but is also higher by Rs. 15 per quintal than that recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. This has been done to remove varietal imbalance, particularly between demand and supply for medium staple cotton varieties and to provide sufficient cotton to the exporters of cotton and cotton yarn.

The Cotton Corporation of India will undertake price support operations in all cotton growing States, except Maharashtra, in case market prices tend to fall below the level of the minimum support prices fixed by the Government.

I am sure the incentives offered by the Government in terms of substantial increases in procurement/minimum support prices will enthuse our farmers to achieve the desired increases in productivity and production of both food crops as well as oilseeds and cotton.

12.07 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

[English]

Central Advisory board of Education

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): On behalf of Shri Laliteswar Prasad Shahi, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of paragraph 5(b) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) Resolution No. F.1-2/85-PN.2, dated the 10th April, 1986, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution vice Shri P. Namgyal resigned from the Board."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of paragraph 5(b) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) Resolution No. F.1-2/85-PN.2, dated the 10th April, 1986, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution vice Shri P. Namgyal resigned from the Board."

The motion was adopted

12.08 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Fifty Fourth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 2nd May, 1988."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Business Advi-

sory Committee presented to the House on the 2nd May, 1988."

The motion was adopted

SPECIAL PROTECTION GROUP BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution and regulation of an armed force of the Union for providing proximate security to the Prime Minister of India and the members of his immediate family and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution and regulation of an armed force of the Union for providing proximate security to the Prime Minister of India and the members of his immediate family and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I introduce the Bill.

12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

(i) Demand for direction to Rajasthan Government for stopping recovery of loan advanced to farmers for construction of water courses for carrying water from Indira Gandhi Canal to their fields

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Indira Gandhi Canal

Project is being built with special cooperation and assistance of the Central Government. Pucca water courses for this project have been built. In addition to the estimated expenditure administrative expenditure along with interest and compound interest have swelled upto 5 to 6 times.

Farmer's land has been acquired for constructing water courses. By constructing these water courses, irrigation capacity has increased and the State Government will get more water tax. Why then money is being charged from the farmers? This cost should be borne by the Government.

Notices of attachment are being served by the banks on farmers in case they fail to repay their loans. This has made them restless. If burden of departmental embezzlement is shifted on the farmers, how will the poor farmers bear it? This area is being engulfed by *Sem* and the water courses are disappearing. In the nearby states of Haryana and Punjab, the respective Government have stopped recovery of loans advanced to farmers for construction of water courses. Similar directions should be issued to the Rajasthan Government.

Therefore, I would urge the Central Government that in view of the importance of the matter, directions should be given to the Rajasthan Government for stopping recovery of loans so that anxiety of the farmers is removed and their problems are resolved.

(ii) Demand for laying a broad gauge railway line between Bikaner and Jaisalmer and Jaisalmer and Ramgarh

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter of public importance before the House.

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 4.5.1988.

56 crores tonnes of chemical grade lime stone has been discovered in Jaisalmer district. This lime stone contains less content of silica which is used in manufacturing steel of L.D. quality.

There is a need of broadgauge railway line from Bikaner to Jaisalmer and Jaisalmer to Ramgarh to carry this chemical lime stone from Jaisalmer district. This railway line is of great strategic importance also. Besides, it would help in accelerating the pace of construction of Indira Gandhi Canal and carrying foodgrains produced in this area to different parts of the country. Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Ltd. are exploring oil and gas reserved in those areas where the possibilities of oil and gas reserves have increased tremendously on a war footing.

Therefore, it is requested that the Central Government should formulate such plan so that Departments of Railway, Water Resources, Steel and Defence may contribute equal shares towards laying of broad gauge line from Bikaner to Jaisalmer and Jaisalmer to Ramgarh, so that the whole burden does not fall on one department.

The laying of the above railway line, will not only help in connecting Pathankot and Delhi to Jaisalmer directly but also help in progressing the backward desert area. This in turn will help in national progress.

(iii) Demand for effectively implementing the scheme for freeing Ganga of pollution, particularly near Kanpur

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through you, on following subject under rule 377.

When this Government came to power in the beginning of 1985 under the leadership of our young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, one of the important decisions taken by the new Government at that time was that of establishing Ganga Development Authority. Our Prime Minister is also Chairman of this Authority. Ganga Devel-

opment Authority was entrusted with an important responsibility of cleaning Ganga of pollution and this task was to be completed in the stipulated period. The authority started work on this plan and its sought cooperation from some foreign companies too. But this work is not being carried at the desired speed and it continues to be very slow. The importance of cleaning Ganga of pollution has not only religious significance, but also strengthen our social and cultural identity. Besides it has importance from ecological and health point of view. Pollution of the Ganga is maximum at Kanpur and it has drifted 7 Kms. away from bathing ghats towards Unnao, resulting in acute scarcity of drinking water in Kanpur.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government that the scheme to clean the Ganga of pollution at Kanpur and bringing it back to the Ghats once again, should be accelerated at a greater speed, and the work which was started with the help of people of Kanpur, should be completed by the Central Government by providing direct or indirect assistance to the State Government, so that this problem is solved permanently. The construction of barrage on Ganga should also be taken up simultaneously.

[English]

(iv) Demand for improving the condition of slum dwellers in Nagpur

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): At present, 6 lakh people are living in Nagpur. They are living in worst conditions. Different schemes sponsored by the Government have been provided to them even till date. Upgradation schemes have also not been launched by the government. HUDCO's Housing schemes for weaker section of society and slum upgradation schemes have not been implemented in the Nagpur City.

Minister of State for Urban Development (Shri Dalbir Singh) has visited Nagpur City twice. He has himself seen the worst condition of slums and lack of houses.

There is an urgent need that the Central Government should assist in preparing schemes for slum upgradation and Housing so that the weaker sections of the society are benefited and their condition is improved. The policy of the Government is to uplift the weaker sections of the society. For preparing the schemes and in assisting the local authorities and State Government, I demand all possible help through HUDCO.

I also suggest to open an office of HUDCO in Nagpur which could cater to the need of entire Vidharba region including Nagpur and also part of Madhya Pradesh. I hope that Central Government will take urgent steps in this direction.

[Translation]

(v) Steps to control the disease affecting mango crop in Rajkot

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI (Rajkot): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, mangoes are grown on a large scale in my area Rajkot, and in many areas like Surat, Vadodhara, and Bharuch in Gujarat and Saurashtra. These are also exported and help in earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. Mango crop is the means of livelihood for thousands of poor people. Fine qualities of mangoes like Hafus, Jamadar, Pairi, Kesar etc. are produced in this area. But for last few years, the mango crop has been affected by disease and has got destroyed. Consequently, the poor people are deprived of their means of livelihood and they suffer a lot.

The pesticides which are used to destroy the pests is very costly and the poor farmers cannot afford to purchase it. Therefore, I request the Government that scientists from I.C.A.R. should be sent to identify the disease in order to save mangoes from further destructions and also to destroy the pests completely. Along with this, arrangements should be made for free distribution of pesticides or supplying them at cheaper rates to the farmers.

[English]

(vi) Demand for no bar of distance in the matter of advancing loans etc. to people of Mirzapur district of U.P. under IRDP and special component programmes

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): In spite of Central Government and State Government's efforts, the lead banks in Mirzapur District are not advancing loans to the poor people, especially to those who are entitled to get such benefits under the IRDP, special component programmes in the interior areas of District.

It is the need of the hour that villages of the district should be linked up with some Bank. Otherwise, the developmental programmes will not reach the poor. Actually, the benefits are only confined to those villages which are situated near some banks. It has been stated by the Reserve Bank of India that so far as IRDP, special component programmes are concerned, there shall be no bar of distance in benefitting the poor especially those who are below the poverty line. In practice, no bank is coming forward to go beyond a certain distance.

While presenting the budget the Finance Minister had stated that all the villages will be covered by 40,000 branches of the nationalised banks as early as possible. That has also not been done till now.

I therefore urge upon the Finance Minister to look into the matter and do the needful.

[Translation]

(vii) Demand for a proper status to Sanskrit in the new Education Policy

*SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, Sanskrit Scholars and lovers of Sanskrit, throughout the country are expressing concern because the New Education Policy does not give

[Shri Umakant Mishra]

due importance to teaching of Sanskrit. Sanskrit has not been provided a place under three-language formula in Navodaya schools. Sanskrit is not even one of the optional subjects. Though the Department of Human Resource is providing a huge sum of money for the development and propagation of Sanskrit language; Sanskrit Universities have been established and encouragement is being given to publish the ancient Sanskrit literature, but this is not sufficient. The lovers of Sanskrit want that Sanskrit should be provided an important place in the New Education Policy, because highest ideals and basic principles of human life are available in Sanskrit literature. The Sanskrit Scholars have spoken of the entire world as one family. The highest ideals, national integrity, unity and love for humanity can be found in abundance in Sanskrit language and literature.

Sanskrit is a secular and divine language. It does not belong to any community nation or country. It is a source of inspiration for the entire world. Therefore, it is necessary to give due respect to Sanskrit.

It is not possible to provide a place to Sanskrit under three-language formula but it should find a place as an optional subject in the study of ancient languages.

Therefore, I request the Minister for Human Resource Development that provision should be made to give due place to Sanskrit keeping in view the sentiments of Sanskrit lovers. Thank you.

[English]

(viii) **Demand for exemption from duty on all parts of electric motors required for production of submersible pumpsets**

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): From April 1981 onwards, the Central Excise Officers at Coimbatore had been holding that Electric Motor does not come into existence in an identifiable manner and is not separable but that the stators and rotors forming component

parts of monobloc pump sets are liable to pay duty under erstwhile tariff item 30 (D) of the Central Excise and rotors forming component parts of monobloc pump sets are being held as dutiable under Heading No. 85.03 as parts primarily designed for use in machines under Heading No. 85.01. Government of India with a view to give sufficient relief to the agriculturists have issued notification dated 1.3.1988 granting complete exemption from excise duty on the electric motors used in the manufacture of monobloc pumpsets, thus extending full exemption from duty including one on the prime mover portion of monobloc pump set under Notification dated 10.2.1986 as amended as the monobloc pump set had been held to be only a centrifugal pump primarily designed for handling water. Consequent on rescinding of Notification dated 10.2.1986 as amended under Notification dated 1.3.1988, it is being held by the department that the Notification dated 3.4.1986 becomes inapplicable as the parts of electric motors are being captively consumed in the production of electric motors for monobloc pump sets, on which duty is exempted, the Central Excise duty on these parts are to be paid by manufacturers from 1.3.1988. In case of submersible pump sets which are also included for present exemption from duty under the said Notification dated 1.3.1988 unless the exemption from the duty on all parts which go into the production of Electric motor for production of submersible pump sets is granted no relief of excise duty can be passed on to the benefit of the agriculturists. I request that action may be taken early to see that the exemption as required is granted to reduce the excise duty and thus pass on the same to the agriculturists as announced.

(ix) **Demand for stern action to prevent glorification of sati in Deorala (Rajasthan)**

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI (Nabadwip): Seven months after the event of burning a young woman alive in Deorala, Rajasthan, open sale of Sati memorabilia and proliferation of myths are being encouraged unabated. Daily people are

allowed to gather at the site and perform various rituals all day and family members of the murdered unfortunate girl, are collecting money. Although there is a police picket at that place but they are not instructed to stop the worship and collection of money. They are only registering their presence and nothing else.

Whereas the police is totally inactive in preventing glorification of sati and collection of money, they are very active in preventing outside visitors from taking photographs and collecting other information from villagers on the subject. The whole issue of worship and collection of money is illegal. The reason for inaction can only be the fear of alienation of the powerful Rajput votes of the area. There is no hope that with the passage of time, interest in this Sati and *ipso facto* in the temple will play itself out. Stern action to prevent this glorification of Sati and collection of money is the need of the hour so that this barbarous custom is confined only in dictionary of words.

12.25 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

[English]

**Report of the Joint Committee to enquire
into Bofors Contract**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will go to next item. Discussion under rule 193. Shri Jaipal Reddy.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Before he begins the discussion, I want to point out to you on Bofors discussion, on various aspects, the Prime Minister is very much concerned. But we find that he is not present for such a serious debate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Defence Minister is here.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar): It is a debate in the House. I strongly protest against the insinuation of Mr. Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has made several statements and policy pronouncements.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: It stands in the name of Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, and, as in the past, the discussion must go on. He has no ground for saying this. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please. Any-how, the Defence Minister is here.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. Order, Order. Defence Minister is here who will look after. It is not necessary to discuss this point.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Only Mr. Jaipal Reddy's speech will go on record, not others. I do not want any discussion.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I can understand the studied absence of the Prime Minister for it carries its own profound significance.

Sir, today, I rise to speak more in anguish than in anger. If Bofors kickbacks is the biggest scandal (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please Order. The Minister is on his legs. I am not allowing anyone except the Minister.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT): I thought, Mr. Jaipal Reddy knows that the President of Afghanistan is coming today, now. Therefore, both Prof. Dandavate and Mr. Jaipal Reddy know that the Prime Minister has to receive him and there are discussions. Therefore, there should be at least enough charity between us to accept the facts as they are. These are the facts. (*Interruptions*)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. Nothing will go on record.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: If Bofors kick-backs is the biggest scandal in free India's history, the JPC report may well be described as the biggest white-wash in the Parliamentary history of the world. It is a classic case of white-wash and hog-wash which has left indelible stains on the walls of Indian Parliament and generated such stink that has filled the nostrils of 750 millions of Indians. I have nothing but to envy and admiration for my senior and distinguished colleague, Shri Shankaranandji and his esteemed colleagues and the Joint Parliamentary Committee for the equanimity, composure and restraint they have shown in the face of frontal, brutal assault by the villainous opposition and vicious press. It is axiomatic that the House Committee had the same privileges and same powers as the august House itself. What is more, the proceedings of the House Committee should be kept confidential. Anybody seeking to breach the confidentiality of the proceedings is liable for breach of privilege. Ulterior motives cannot be attributed to the Members or the Chairman or the Committee.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): You have just now attributed motives saying it is a white-wash.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The proceedings in this case have been reported right from the day -- go.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: From the word 'go'.

PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE: He is only doing the job of spelling correction. That is all.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is English Professor.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): He is almost a professional heckler.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Malignant and malevolent motives were attributed to the JPC. Abuses have been heaped on it. JPC has been pilloried, lampooned and exposed to ridicule and condemned. Yet, the JPC has not invoked that last weapon in

the Parliamentary arsenal, the Vajrayudha -- the privilege against the people who did all this.

I would like to know whether this remarkable restraint on the part of the JPC and its compassionate Chairman, Shri Shankaranandji...

AN HON. MEMBER: It is a white-wash.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Is it the result of Christian charity or guilt complex? Is it also a part and parcel of a premeditated attempt at massive and comprehensive cover up?

Indian Parliament has travelled a long way from the days when Mr. Mudgal, a Member of Parliament was expelled from this House at the initiative of late Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru on the charge that he had taken a bribe of Rs. 5000/-. What a fathomless fall, my countrymen, for the Indian Parliament, from the expulsion of Mr. Mudgal to the exoneration of Bofors. *(Interruptions)*

What is important and instructive to note is that Bofors is not a mere case of corruption. It is a case of sedition because it is a case of bribe taken in a Defence deal, not from some local capitalist but from a foreign firm, not in India but abroad, not in Indian rupees but in foreign exchange, not deposited in India, but stashed away abroad. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Is he discussing the report or submitting his own report? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): He is discussing the very report. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The person involved, whoever he may be, is Jaichand and Mir Jafar rolled into one. Why do we say this? *(Interruptions)*

At the time of Jaichand or Mir Jafar, it is significant to note that the concept of nationalism had not been developed, much less comprehended or assimilated. If that

guilty person is in a top position, then he is highly vulnerable to the dangerous blackmail of Bofors, Hindujas, Chadhas and every other international agency.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Why have you left out Chandraswami? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I am including Chandraswami because he is supposed to be in possession of secrets affecting the security of the topmost person in the country. That person if he continues to be in power, is a serious and tremendous security hazard to the nation. I state this with all sense of responsibility.

After going through the report, I am convinced that the uncanny wisdom of the entire opposition to keep off the Bofors Committee has been vindicated with retrospective effect, resounding effect.

SHRI K. C. PANT: How ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I will come to that, Pantji (*Interruptions*)

That Opposition, outnumbered by the purblind Congress (I) Members with their brute majority on the Committee, would have met more or less the same fate as Mr. Aladi Aruna did. What did the JPC do? It exonerated everybody ranging from Prime Minister, Bofors, Hindujas to Chadhas. The tragic irony is that it exonerated everybody but it stood self-condemned. How the inquisitorial Committee that is what it was called - functioned in a conspiratorial fashion has been described in all lurid details and a vivid fashion by Mr. Aladi Aruna. The Parliament of India and the people of India, will be grateful to him

Apart from the various and specific failures referred to in the Note of Dissent of Mr. Aladi Aruna - I am presuming that all the Members have read the report. If presumption is unwarranted, I may be forgiven I would like to draw your attention to its failure to take the evidence of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister negotiated the deal personally, directly as the Defence Minister. The Committee failed to take the evidence of the then Minister of State Mr.

Arun Singh. I do not know whether Mr. Arun Singh values friendship with the Prime Minister more than the security of the country. He was also not called for evidence. This Committee did not call many persons, as has been referred to in the Note of Dissent. What has been referred to in the Note of Dissent, I am avoiding to that to save my time.

I may refer to another major lapse. We have a Constitutional Institution called the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. They only got a note from the CAG to say that the details which were available to them did not enable the CAG to make any professional audit comment. Ultimately this matter has to go to the CAG. The point I am trying to make is that the financial implications of the deal, the irregularities of the deal, could have been best examined by the Comptroller & Auditor General. But all the necessary papers were not made available as a consequence of which the CAG had to say that they were not competent to make any professional audit comment on this.

The report complains that nobody came to give evidence. Did the Committee put the people on notice? Did they invite experts? Somebody like Gen. O. P. Malhotra, former Army Chief, with his background of army runner could have been invited. One person who deposed before this Committee was Maj. Gen. T. P. Singh. It may be recalled that it was he alone on the Mayadas Committee, who preferred the Bofors gun to all other guns. Mr. T. P. Singh is still only a Maj. Gen., but he has been allowed to occupy the office of the Director General of Weapons and Equipment at the Army Headquarters. The rank of this office is that of Lt. Gen. How is it that Mr. T. P. Singh, with the rank of Maj. Gen., was allowed to occupy this office? Was it because he was the only genius on the Mayadas Committee with the powers of prescience and clairvoyance to see that this gun would be ultimately preferred by the Government -- as far back as in 1982? What is remarkable is that the versions of the Government of India, Bofores, Chadhas and Joint Parliamentary Committee are totally identical. It is a classic illustration of

[Shri S. Jaipal Reddy]

political orchestration. This great orchestration did not lead to any melodious thematic harmony but only to a deafening immoral cacophony (*Interruptions*)

The unholy, nay, guilty hurry with which the JPC abruptly concluded its proceedings in the face of annihilating expose of six documents by the *Hindu* and the Swedish Radio linking Hinduja to payments via Moineao, Moresco, Pitco and Sangam Limited firms the real anti-climax (*Interruptions*)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We know the connections of Bachchans with Hinduja through its Hinduja Foundation based in Bombay. We know connection of one Italian friend Mr. Walter Winci with Hinduja. We also know the contacts that Walter Winci has with that Company Fiat Iveco. If the JPC had the will to find out the truth, it could get to the bottom of the truth through these connections. But then... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. C. PANT: Had you joined the Committee you would have had that advantage. But you didn't. You missed the bus.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Bofors gave certificate not only to Bachchan family but also to the Prime Minister's family. What is more, they gave certificates to Hinduja's family also. Now, we know the value of certificate of Bofors. Hinduja have been exposed. It will not take long for the other two to be exposed to the marrow of their bones. Now, I am afraid Bofors can give a clean certificate to the Joint Parliamentary Committee also. The documents published by 'the Hindu' -- the six documents in all -- the authenticity of these documents was not challenged by the Bofors company, by the Swedish banks. On the contrary, one of the Swedish prosecutors confirmed the authenticity of the document.

Coming to the question of guns, I am not among those who consider Bofors guns to be a bad gun. But I can state without fear of consideration, without any qualm of conscience that Bofors gun was not the best gun. Sir, French gun was considered the best for full four years. On 24th August 1984, in February, 1985, in March 1985, the Army Headquarters recommended the French gun as the best and accorded only the second status to the Bofors gun. General Sundarji was very consistent for four years from 1982-85 December 31. He considered French gun to be the best gun. Our former late Army Chief General Vaidya as late as September 1985 considered French gun to be the best gun. But in the meantime, one wonderful change took place. That is this. Our Prime Minister took over the Defence Portfolio from Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao for whom I have great respect. I hope, I am not damaging the prospect of his continuance in the Ministry.

Sir, the French gun was considered far superior to the Bofors gun certain concrete specific reasons. I am referring to certain unquestionable facts admitted in the JPC report. The range of French gun was higher. It was twenty nine and odd km while the range of Bofors gun was only twenty one and odd km. It was superior to the Bofors gun in traverse, in size and in ground clearance.

Above all, Sir, different kinds of ammunition, the two vehicles, the computers and gun equipment all these things were available from one single firm in France, Sofma. This was not the case with Bofors gun. Many things are to be purchased from Norway, United States, Belgium and many other countries. Apart from this we must take another vital security consideration into account. We all know that the Swedish laws do not permit export of weaponry or their spare parts at the time of hostilities. This point was made by the Army Headquarters repeatedly. I have read a news item recently that the Norway company is standing by that and has reiterated it.

Sir, the Bofors gun began to shine better and brighter for the Army Headquarters after Mr. Rajiv Gandhi took over as Defence Minister. Their entire perspective and vista had undergone a sea-change. Now the rationale offered for this somersault is that they came to know that Pakistan had acquired a new radar from U.S. When did they come to know? The JPC report deliberately does not mention the date on which the Government of India came to know of this acquisition of radar by Pakistan. Because of this the burst fire element of Bofors gun became very important. What is the difference in the burst fire between Bofors gun and the French gun? It is only one and a half seconds. On 17th of February the Army Headquarters for the first time gave first preference to the Bofors gun. Why and how? Because sometimes in November-December the negotiating finance committee headed by Mr. Bhatnagar, Defence Secretary appointed three working groups one of which was to go into the technical aspects. Where was the need to appoint working group to go into the technical aspect? Mr. Bhatnagar, Sir, I should say is a very experienced man. He is the man who negotiated the deal with HDW company. He is the man who negotiated the deal with Bofors. And he is the man who has had something to do with the investigation of both the deals. How can I, therefore, question his vast, varied and rich experience?

It was on 17th February, as I said, the Army Headquarters preferred the Bofors gun. Look at the alacrity of the Price Negotiating Committee. On 18th February within 24 hours - the Price Negotiating Committee took a decision to entrust ammunition to the selected gun manufacturers. Ammunition, let us note, Sir, accounts for 52 per cent of the total value of the contract. That means, the gun manufacturer had already been selected. So, the contract of ammunition was to be awarded. But the Prime Minister, I must say, is really armed with extraordinary prescience. He knew which gun would be selected even earlier. In January, when he met Olof Palme in New York, he discussed the question of avoiding middlemen be-

cause he knew that Bofors gun would be selected. (*Interruptions*). I would like to know whether the Prime Minister discussed the question of gun deal with President Mitterand. I do not know if he discussed the question of Mirage deal. He might, well, have done that. I would like to know whether he discussed the question of gun deal with President Mitterand, which until January was the most preferred gun.

Coming to the financial aspects, this was never evaluated, as I said earlier, by the Comptroller and Auditor General. As has been pointed out, the Swedish offer of credit was only 50 per cent in Swedish Kronors. The remaining 50 per cent is to be in Deutsche Marks. And the Committee noted that this is a negative factor against the Bofors gun. Yet it made no difference to the JPC to say that the Bofors was cheaper. It was not. I challenge. It was not cheaper at all though marginal difference in cost can never be the consideration for selection of any weapon. I can say that in principle.

Sir, whether this payment of Rs. 64 crores is commission, winding up cost or bribe or remuneration -- to put in the words of my telephonic friend, Mr. Win Chaddha -- needs to be determined. (*Interruptions*).

He spoke to me twice on telephone. He called me names. The JPC did not have courtesy to call me before it to find out what he told them was correct or not. (*Interruptions*)

It was the National Audit Bureau which established by June 4th that it was not winding up cost and that it was commission. When the Bofors officials -- Morberg and Gothlin, who were treated as heads of nation in this country -- were asked about this, they said, you know, in the Swedish Bank, there is a number for the word 'commission'. But there is no number for the words 'winding up cost'. I think, Bofors company has many new Johnsons who can create new phrases.

13.00 hrs.

I would like to bring to your notice that it was as early as 24th April, 1987....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now it is 1 O'clock.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I beg for some more time.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): We may skip the lunch hour and continue with the debate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hope the House will accept this suggestion. We will skip the lunch hour and continue with the debate but try to be brief.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: After lunch, I can continue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. You continue now but be brief.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Instead of having lunch, he can eat his words.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: That is what you will ultimately do, Mr. Pant.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He eats his words but you swallow them.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Prime Minister knew the fact that payment had been made by as early as 25th April, 1987. That was within 9 days of the Swedish Radio broadcast. How is it that the National Audit Bureau Report says that Bofors company was good enough to tell the Government of India through its Ambassador that payment had been made to three companies in the area of consultancy and counter purchases. For the Prime Minister -- I am referring to the point of my leader, Prof. Dandavate -- The Prime Minister knew it on 25th April 1987 but he misled the Parliament, both the Houses of Parliament,

the people of India saying that "produce the evidence. You don't give me the proof, produce the evidence of a pay-off, commission, I will give the proof and as the Prime Minister it is his responsibility to see that proof is provided." The evidence was provided to him by the Bofors company itself by 25th April, 1987.

I may bring to your notice another valid point. On 25th April, 1987, the Bofors did not call it winding up costs. Bofors called it winding up costs when it was examined by the National Audit Bureau which means this wonderful long winded, high sounding expression. Winding up costs is nothing but a criminal after thought on the part of the Bofors. Now that we know from the National Audit Bureau Report that that was not winding up costs but commission which is only an euphemism for bribe. What did the JPC report say? JPC Report does not agree that it is commission, and is thus more loyal than the King. Therefore, I say that Bofors would give certificate to JPC. The fact has been established that such a huge amount of Rs. 64 crores has been paid to three companies, M/s. Svenska Inc. Panama, M/s. AE Services and M/s. Moincoy SA Lussanne. The CBI has done some job, though I do not think it did an exhaustive job. What did it say? The CBI Report conclusively established that all these three companies are sham companies, bogus companies, front companies registered in tax havens obviously for the purpose of tax avoidance and secrecy. They referred to one Mr. La Fonte, an employee of one bank. It was found by the CBI that he was not an employee of that bank. One company's directors were all innocent poor ladies. What do these things show? Bofors Company says that they will not disclose the identity of these companies because of clause of commercial confidentiality. Wonderful clause. It suits our Prime Minister and the Government very well.

The National Audit Bureau report was released on 4th June, 1987. In the second week of June, 1987 -- Pantji should not get mixed up about the year -- before he met the opposition leaders in June 1987, he

told the press that the contract of Bofors would not be cancelled under any circumstances. Now why should Bofors feel obliged to disclose the secrecy? That means our Prime Minister himself was trying to assure them that the refusal to disclose secrecy would not in any way hurt them. Is it the way to exert pressure on the Bofors to disclose the identity of these companies? And Svenska is a letter box company; that is the finding of the CBI.

The Chairman of Nobel Industries, which is the parent company of the Bofors Company, stated in an interview to Swedish Radio that bribe might have been paid and it might have been paid to India. When the worthies of Bofors Company who deposed before the JPC were confronted with this, what did they say? They said: "May be our Chairman did not go prepared when he talked to the press. We cannot comment on the statement of our Chairman who is our boss. But so far as we know, it is not correct."

JPC Members chose, of course, to put, what I may say, lollipop questions. Whenever they said, they could not reveal, JPC was not prepared to pressurise them.

Now, we have the statement of Attorney-General. No doubt, Shri Parasaran is the most distinguished Attorney-General that free India has ever had. Judging from the quality of the statement he made before the JPC, judging from the role he played as *amicus curiae* in Andhra Pradesh High Court, I have no doubt in repeating that he is the best Attorney-General we have ever had. It is clear that the hands of the topmost person have been trapped in the tilt. The last word, I may assure Shankaranand Ji, through you, Sir, has not been said by him. Many fingerprints, many tracks have been clumsily left behind.

The leaders of Government may have been exonerated by the JPC, but they stand convicted squarely in the peoples' court of India. The ghost of Bofors scandal will keep haunting you to your political graveyard. The plot is just now thickening; noose is tightening, the zero hour is draw-

ing to a close. The enquiry by the Constitutional Committee of the Swedish Parliament is still on.

Pantji, I am sure, is squirming in his seat; Shankaranand ji must be doing that even more.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He is developing cold feet.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Win Chadha admittedly was an agent of the Bofors from 1978 to 85. He called himself a representative. I do not know the semantic distinction between the two expressions. Mr. K. K. Tewary with his Bihari knowledge of English should be able to tell.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: You have already demonstrated your Andhra ignorance in plenty.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Win Chadha when he arrived in India was treated as VVIP. Even today, next to the Prime Minister of India one man who has the largest number of policemen safeguarding security is not Buta Singh but Mr. Win Chadha.

Even as cover ups go, the JPC report is a poor cover-up. Now, I only hope and trust that this report is not an end of the matter but beginning of a new process and a prelude to new disclosure and new exposures. Sir, I can only pray that the guilty who have been able to hide their faces behind the series of shell companies will eventually be traced. Even if they are not traced, the country knows who the guilty are.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. K. K. Tewary.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please order.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my esteemed colleague Mr. Jaipal Reddy, as usual... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When I informed the House, the whole House accepted it and now you are raising the question of Lunch.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Sir he can speak after lunch... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. We have already announced in the House and all of you agreed to it also. Therefore, we will now continue with this.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as usual, my esteemed colleague, Mr. Jaipal Reddy took immense delight in wallowing into his self created muck. About his impatience rigmarole that he subjected the House to, I have nothing much to say but if you can look at the speech and the refrain in the speech, namely his attempt to drag in everybody, right from the Prime Minister down to all senior Officers in the Government, not even excluding the Chief of the Army staff on whom he has cast aspersions. He has also not spared the Attorney General. So, the speech I am sure is the part of their earlier attempt not only to denigrate this sovereign House of Parliament which also represents the people of this country, but also to denigrate every single institution which we have built up through our sacrifices and not through the support of Hershman and Swedish radio. The beginning of Mr. Reddy's and his friend's attempt to sow the seeds of disruption in the country denigrating Parliament and other institutions and creating an atmosphere of subversion was started with such declarations as Swedish Radio's announcement and a little later Michael Hershman's statement from America. Let us not forget that this was an orchestrated attempt. Hershman was a person with such dubious backgrounds as his connections with CIA and other agencies. He was holding Indian Parliament to ransom and almost dictating political line to the Opposition Members in this House and outside this House.

An attempt is on to continue the same assault and it was an assault on our freedom, on our unity and on all the institu-

tions of which we are rightly proud in this land.

It was not only the Swedish Radio about which I will talk a little later, but also Hershman and all these attempts by these sources. If you look at it, the pattern is very neat. It is very clear. The involvement of the people and the total attempt is directed against one person -- the person who is here as the Prime Minister -- not through the tender mercies of the Opposition Members but through the support of the Indian people. The attempt was to denigrate him and throw him out.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Are you prepared to go to the people on the basis of the JPC's Report? We are prepared for the General Elections on the basis of the JPC's Report.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): I really wanted to congratulate Mr. Jaipal Reddy for proving to be a damp squib without any interruption by us. So please don't interrupt now. You have already said what you wanted to say. I am also speaking. You have proved to be a total damp squib. Don't interrupt us now.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I thank you for the certificate.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Wait and listen. You will get what you deserve.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The credibility of your Certificate is lost already.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: No. We have already heard your *mantras* and *bhajans* and so on for a long time. We are going to give you back today... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You better give the commission back

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I was talking about the definite connections of the Opposition Leaders and an attempt to denigrate all institutions of the country and the

leadership of the Congress Party. In this, the presence of one person is very instructive and it is very revealing. The person who coordinate the entire assault was an international fixer, that is, Chandraswami. Chandraswami was the man who introduced Hershman to India and brought Hershman to India. It is Chandraswami again who was shadowing or following every detail of what was happening in the supply of Howitzer guns to India. It is Chandraswami again who became the Prophet. You should be ashamed of yourself Mr. Jaipal Reddy that Chandraswami became the Chief Spokesman along with your friends and a section of the Press to launch this assault. And this was taken to its logical conclusion, because the attempt was to subvert the unity of India. This assault which was unleashed by the Opposition friends in collusion with forces outside and their counterparts inside the country -- they took this assault, this slander campaign, this vilification campaign into the very system for which we have made such heroic sacrifices in the past decades. It was taken, as I said, to its logical conclusions. Even the Head of the State was brought into the controversy. Threats were held out for the dismissal of the Government and the Prime Minister.

So, I am not surprised at all by Mr. Reddy's continued reference to the Prime Minister, because it is part of a campaign which he started, and the campaign was supported throughout by an organized attempt to denigrate the Prime Minister. In this connection, it is important to remember that we do not need certificates from the Reddys of the world. The Government led by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in its reverent openness before this august House and this great country, took immediate steps. Mr. Reddy will recall that when the Swedish Radio came out with the announcement about this deal regarding the supply of Howitzer gun to India, and with some information about the so called kick-backs or commission, it was the Prime Minister of India, the Government of India who took up this matter with the Swedish Government. First, this matter was taken up by the Government of India, and the Swedish Government was asked about the

details of it. You will recall that this enquiry by the Bureau was set up on the specific request of the Government of India, and the letters exchanged between Government of India and the Swedish Government were placed on the Table of this honourable House. If Government had to hide anything, on a mere report of a Radio, of a non descript channel of a foreign Radio, Government of India would not have taken notice of it. After that, when the Audit Bureau's report came, of course some portion was expurgated, expunged under their own laws, laws of Sweden; and we do not have the authority to amend the laws of the Swedish Government, and of the Swedish people. It was again in pursuance of this that the Prime Minister took an unprecedented step, unparalleled in the annals of India's independent history. The Prime Minister called all the Opposition leaders. If you are not suffering from amnesia or gratefulness, you will recall that the Prime Minister had a meeting with the Opposition leaders on this Audit Bureau's report. You were asking for a parliamentary probe, a parliamentary committee to go into all the implications of this deal. Government, without any fear -- if Government again had to hide anything, this Government led by Rajiv Gandhi, I emphasize would not have agreed to it -- agreed to have a Joint Parliamentary Committee, in the House. But what did you do when this proposal came? I allege, and this is my charge, that you are not interested in finding out the truth, and your masters have left instructions with you that the pot has to be kept on the boil.

You are not interested in the truth. When you did not succeed in denigrating Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in pulling down the elected government, when you did not succeed in dividing the Congress Party, when you did not succeed in subverting the Republic as such, then you refused to join the Joint Parliamentary Committee -- Mr. Dandavate and Mr. Reddy together, both of you. We saw and we watched your plight when you walked out of this House with your tail tucked in between your legs. You did not have the courage to face this House and face the truth because truth would have come out. Again I say, as a re-

[Prof. K.K. Tewary]

sponsible Opposition, tell me what prevented you from joining it? It was your demand.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He is attaching somebody's tail to us.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: It was your demand. You wanted a parliamentary probe. Since 1952 do you have an instance of a government, either ruling party government or opposition government, where it happened..? Unfortunately, during the interregnum of 2 1/2 years, did you have a parallel to this where the Prime Minister called you, consulted you and agreed to have a Joint Parliamentary Committee to find out the culprit who allegedly had taken either winding up charges or kickbacks or whatever might have been the form of the payment? It was the greatest irresponsibility, as usual, as you have always let down the people of India. When the chips are down, since you do not have the courage, since you lack the basic honesty and basic commitment to the political system as such, since your commitment to the freedom of the country is rather peripheral, you avoided joining the Parliamentary Committee because you wanted sufficient elbow room, manoeuvreability, to keep this thing going. Therefore, I charge you that you stand completely naked. Even the famous fig leaf cannot hide your blinding nakedness that you showed before the people of India. The people of India will judge you on this. I want this to go on record, as to how and what compelled you not to do this. When you talk of brute majority, Mr. Reddy, don't forget, tell me one instance anywhere in any Parliamentary democracy where the majority of Parliament is not reflected in the representation on any Committee constituted by the House, anywhere in any country. We are in a majority here with the support of the people. If you are in a minority, you may be in minority even in your party, may be next week or weeks hereafter. Why don't you think of your own position in your own party? So, this charge is absolutely baseless to say that the Joint Parliamentary Committee was over represented by the

Congress Party. Is this the justification? Does it stand to any reason, to logic to say that you are in a majority in the House, but in the Committee that is constituted, will have only 3-4 members from the ruling party? and the people who in collusion with your masters abroad, are coming forward with charges, baseless, motivated, irresponsible, they will become the judges on that Committee. Does this lie in the mouth of these people to talk of this?

SHRI K.C. PANT: When the discussion was going on about the proportion of the Opposition and the government members in the Committee, we stretched a point in favour of giving higher representation to the Opposition than was warranted by their strength in the House.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If you remember aright, we had made explicitly clear that the rock bottom minimum demand of the Opposition was not the composition and the numbers but the four important powers which were umpteen times repeated. I do not want to repeat them here again. If those powers were given to the Committee, we would have been on the Committee.

(Interruptions)

I thought your memory was sound. Therefore, I did not repeat them.

SHRI K.C. PANT: On the number you agreed at least.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: On the number we did not mind. If I remember correctly, many of the terms of reference of the JPC were amended on the suggestions made by the Opposition Members, including Prof. Dandavate. But the decision of the Opposition to run away from their legitimate exercise of their duties in the House -- how do you explain this?

Therefore, my point is, that the Opposition, in collusion with such characters as Chandraswamy and others and their masters abroad, they started a campaign and that campaign is still on. We are interested

in the truth and the JPC has done a wonderful job. The JPC after all, had certain terms of reference. I am not going to the terms of reference. While the JPC was sitting here -- my friend Mr. Jaipal Reddy may feel embarrassed -- while the JPC was cross-examining the witnesses, collecting facts and figures, you also on own were frequenting the Swedish Government and Swedish authorities, and the Swedish capital. How many of you were going almost every month to Sweden, to discover the truth and I am shocked -- sorry -- that this should have happened. Two honourable leader of Shri Jaipal Reddy's party, one of them was not in his party, but he is part of that Janata outfit, Shri Ram Jethmalani and Shri George Fernandez, I would like to know from the Minister how many times, with whose money and with whose support and collection, they frequented...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): He cannot refer to them.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: He cannot mention them. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If where is any allegation I cannot allow. That is all.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I think the names are not unparliamentary. Their deeds may be unparliamentary, but their names are not. While the JPC was struggling ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What is this?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I told you. If there is any allegation it will not go on record. Any allegation will not go on record.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: While the JPC was trying to go to the bottom...*(Interruptions)*.

As Jaipal Reddy has said, while the JPC was trying to reach the bottom and find out the real truth and all the linkages and the culprits involved in it, -- I am sorry, and I say this with great anguish -- two honourable leaders of a political party went to Sweden and what truth did they discover?

Do you know? The truth they discovered was red light area ! They landed up in a red light area !

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What is this? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you allow it, just because it is Tewary? *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It only shows to what depths he is capable of sinking!

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I can never reach Prof. Dandavate's depth.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is this? Why are you allowing all these things?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will go through the record.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Nauseating nuisance!

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, he can make a criticism. But he is talking about a red light area in this House. Is that the level of the hon. Member? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Why are you allowing this? This is with reference to two persons...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will go through the record and see.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Shri Jaipal Reddy made a reference to the quality of the gun. That is an area where we have really to delve deep into the motives of our friends on the Opposition. You remember that this was the time when our security environment was under tremendous pressure. Brasstacks Operation had been opposed by a neighbouring country. Arunachal border was becoming very sensitive. And that was the time when the guns had been acquired. And what was the retrain of the opposition here that the guns were bad. I

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want to know from the Defence Minister the information if he has. Which were the international lobbies which were interested in stopping this gun coming to India and what was the purpose? What role this versatile gun will play in our defence forces? I say it with full responsibility in the House that the import of the gun, acquisition of the gun, was definitely depended on our threat perception, the quality of the weapons that we have to face. Which was the country which had acquired those weapons? I am sure, it was Pakistan. Pakistan in collusion with gun runners like Khsoggi and international touts like Chandraswamy, their services were requisitioned and all round attack was made on the quality of the gun. This happened for the first time in the history of the country that Armed Forces were sought to be demoralised. Disinformation was sought to be dished out and hawked around throughout the length and breadth of the country. People were sought to be convinced that the guns supplied to the Indian Army are sub-standard. Therefore, my charge is that they sought to destroy not only the republic, not only the Constitution but weaken and demoralise the Armed Forces which were in need of a weapon system which could have met the threat from across the borders. Would Mr. Reddi care to go through certain observations? We have a distinguished soldier, fortunately, still among us, Field Marshal Sam Manakshaw, a distinguished soldier by any reckoning. In his definitive view he said that this was the best buy and this was the best gun. To other points I will come later.

I am again quoting a person who neither belongs to our party nor has alleged sympathies with us. He is Lt. General Aurora, a Member of Rajya Sabha, a hero of Bangla Desh war. He is on record as having said that this was the best gun: He said: "I am not concerned with other aspects. As a soldier I am concerned with the quality of the gun and the quality of the gun in immediate relation to the security environment that we are confronted today." The Third authority does not belong to us. He belongs to the opposition. He is

Mr. Jaswant Singh, an hon. Member of Parliament, a soldier and an expert of these systems in his own right. Here is a book. I would not like to quote extensively. Here in this book Mr. Jaswant Singh has been quoted and outside also he has been quoted as having said -- and perhaps, he also fired the gun and on the basis of his experience of firing the gun, handling the gun he made an announcement without any fear from the opposition, fear of being censured even by his own party or his opposition colleagues -- that this was the best purchase that we could have made.

In the face of these evidences, in the face of testimony from soldiers, Generals, experts, what was the motive? Therefore, I am linking the motive of the opposition in running down the quality of the gun and then trying to create an impact on the minds of the people at large that Government of India had entered into a deal for purchasing sub standard weapon system. Sir, this sheer diabolic, cynical attitude, approach of the Opposition in making even the security of the nation a ground, a plank for settling political scores, is shameful, disgraceful, and it has to be condemned, denounced everywhere.

Then, Mr. Reddy was on other grounds also. He talks so many things. I would only like to remind him as to who is the user of the gun. He has been trying to say that the Army has been handed over a sub-standard gun...(Interruptions).

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: On a personal explanation, Sir ...

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I am not yielding, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him finish, then you can say.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No, Sir...(Interruptions).

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I am not yielding, Sir...(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Afterwards you

can say. Let him finish. Why are you interrupting in the middle? Let him finish...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When he is not yielding, how can I allow? I cannot ask him to sit. How can I say?...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When he is not yielding, what can I do?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, he cannot say what Mr. Reddy has not said...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him finish. Afterwards you can say...

(Interruptions)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I am not yielding, Sir. It is not for him to allow...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call you afterwards.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Please hear me, Sir...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call you afterwards. Please take your seat. Let him finish.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, imagine the dangerous dimensions of the suggestion, and that too from the privileged floor of the Parliament. A serving distinguished General, who has put in forty-two years of service in Indian Army, a General like Sundarji, who has done the country proud, a career-distinguished, a career dedicated, has been sought to be smudged on the floor of the House by ** who does not have any knowledge of army. Therefore, I say it is a sad day...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: What is this, Sir?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: On a point of order, Sir. What is the level of a debate we are having in this House, sir?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I may be allowed to speak, Sir...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is all this? How can he make personal insinuations...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: The insinuation that he has made against the head of the Army needs to be condemned in this House. Therefore, Sir, I say...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any insinuation I will not allow....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I told you, I will not allow the insinuations. I cannot allow them and I won't allow...

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I will say ***(Interruptions)*.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): Sir, he has made an insinuation against the Chairman of the Committee...*(Interruption)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not allow those words...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He is impugning the patriotism of a Member of the House...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: You just heard him, Sir, what did he say when he was mentioning about Sundarji. You have heard him what he said when he was speaking just now.

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Is the word ** a parliamentary expression? You may kindly go through the record and expunge this expression. This is not a proper expression. It is totally unparliamentary...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: Sir, I did not respond to Mr. Reddy knowing, as I do that he is a ** *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. I will expunge those things. Don't worry...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will expunge. That is all.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: What you are expunging also we should know...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: My esteemed friend -- I will not use any abuses...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats. If at all there is anything objectionable, I will expunge it...

(Interruptions)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Sir, my esteemed friend -- I will not use any abuses, I will not use any abusive terms about him -- Mr. Jaipal Reddy is ** That is the whole trouble...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Jaipal Reddy, please take your seat. Let him finish. Why are you interrupting him?...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot ask him to sit down.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is this, Sir?...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: Why not? What

did he say? He called me ** *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please order...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He should be immediately asked to go out. He is **

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: You are much worse...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: He was saying something personal about him. ** *(Interruptions)*.

No, no, nothing, only the merits and the arguments and nothing else, no personal things. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you support that? *(Interruptions)*.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Sir, who accused whom, tell me? He used the word ** and whom did he abuse, Sir? *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would request the hon. Members not to express personal things, not to make personal attack. That is what all I would request the Members here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, what he said about me should go on record *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Any personal accusation will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, what sort of accusation he is making **

AN HON. MEMBER: But why did you call him **

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You forced us to say.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: You don't understand English. I am sorry to tell you. (*Interruptions*). Mr. Bhagat, I am not at your mercy. I am prepared to fight...(*Interruptions*).

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I am withdrawing.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is withdrawing. You please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No, no. It shall go on record. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur): He is withdrawing.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: I am withdrawing that. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: **. He should have been asked to go out. Sir, I have been here for the last 18 years. I have never seen anything like this **

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has withdrawn these words.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are not hearing me at all. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: Sir, calling a Member ** is this the practice of this House? Sir, what did I tell against him, please tell me? Did I speak against him? I did not use any word against him.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You made a personal attack.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Whatever Mr. Tewary said about me, my request is that all should be kept on record. I consider it a tribute, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When he is withdrawing, I cannot do anything.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What is it that he is withdrawing? (*Interruptions*).

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: To call a person ** is not a tribute. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I am not only known for my ** but I am known for my intellectual and political non conformity. I am proud of my ** also. Let me tell you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, let that go on record and let Mr. Tewary be exposed. (*Interruptions*).

He talks of red light area. What kind of these things? Have you ever read the report? (*Interruptions*).

No doubt that he comes from Bihar, no wonder. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, he talked about the quality of the gun. I have spoken about the quality of the gun and the tributes paid by experts and Generals and soldiers, to our selectors of the gun and that should also form part of the record and the observations made by my hon. friend about our former Chief of the Army Staff. Sir, why was this gun selected? The whole question is that the philosophy of the gun as such, the gun system, originated in 1970s. It was required and when offers were called there was no hanky-panky in that. Four parties responded to the offer, to the tenders and the French gun system and the Swedish gun system, that is, Bofors system, were finally short listed and the user of the gun that is, the Army taking other facts and also views -- there were other consideration also -- considered the price and the terms of the credit available, considering also the availability of different equipments about the gun, ammunitions of the gun. Sir, I would like to say that this is my personal information.

Sir, when this gun was being negotiated and the contract was being signed, the letter of intent was issued, the price of the gun was at the floor price. The price had been reduced through hard negotiations

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and competition since four systems were in the field and this price came down by Rs. 200 crores and ultimately when the French made the last ditch battle for the contract and brought down the prices, then since the letter of intent had been issued, the Bofors Company offer was also taken into account and they brought down the prices further. So, taking into account the credit facility and the quality of the gun, any attempt to run down this gun system or to hold the Government responsible for something hanky panky is utterly baseless, it is a concoction.

Sir, there is another point that I wanted to make is that this gun has been integrated in our Defence system. He was talking about disruption of supplies. I learnt that the supplies or the availability of technology for indigenous production in the country has been guaranteed and it has also been guaranteed that supply of all equipments and ammunition also will continue uninterrupted. Even in the case of hostilities, the supplies will not stop and there is a convention in many such supplies and this is not the only deal that has been entered into by this country or other countries. All countries take weapons or technology from abroad unless a country is branded as an aggressor by the Security Council. We have had experience in the past where India was not even branded as an aggressor in 1971 aggression of Pakistan against India the American Government had stopped its aid and supply of weapons, but in this arrangement supplies as I learnt -- I do not know for certain, but I learnt that supplies will not be stopped in any case, even in case of hostilities. Therefore, to harbour this misinformation or to project his as an inhibiting factor is again baseless.

There are other aspects that have been referred to. The JPC has gone into all details and unless there is some evidence on record -- the hon. Member wanted everybody to be invited. Why? There must be some ground. Unless there is evidence on record, how can you invite a person to depose before the committee? It is a very

simple thing which my hon. learned friend could have taken into account before putting forth this argument that many people were not examined. Since JPC has certain parameters, parameters of the probe, this purpose has been served. All your grievances would have melted away if you had taken the decision to be in the Committee and take the inquiry to its logical conclusion. That is the *summum bonum* of the whole argument that since you wanted this kind of a slanderous campaign to continue, your political campaign to continue and recently, Sir, I am very sorry again to say this, again it will prick him and he will start shouting at me, but what can I do? Those who are fugitives from Congress, the Congress fugitives, those who are expelled or thrown out, they become their leaders. Sir, the recent political conman, Mr. V.P. Singh (*Interruptions*).

He himself was the Finance Minister then and the Finance Minister duly accorded his approval to all financial implications, who is now promising you the new Jerusalem, El Dorado, a Brave New World has been promised to the Opposition. I tell you, all your hopes, all your illusions will be shattered because these sand castles cannot be built on the hopes of a run away of fugitive from a Party who is now going around the country spreading total, utter disinformation and showing scant regard for political norms and to Constitutional requirements under which he had taken oath. Therefore, Sir, firmly I say that the ghost he was referring to -- we are not in the habit of looking for a ghost or hot goblin under every shadow of a tree. We are not haunted by any ghosts. Congress has remained firmly committed to the people of the country and Congress will remain committed to the people of the country under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and your attempts to denigrate the Congress leadership, to bring the reputation of the leadership under the cloud, will be firmly frustrated by Congress, by the people of this country (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please, Order.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: Much has been made out of the publications in *the Hindu*.

The Hindu has come out with certain revelations. I would like to put a very simple, straight forward question to the Opposition. They have referred to certain privileged sources. The privilege sources were not available when the Chief Prosecutor of the Swedish Government was inquiring into this supply of Howitzer guns to India. Where were these privileged sources? These papers, if at all are there, I say they are forgeries; they are not authentic at all.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Nobody has denied it except Hindujas.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: But why these documents, so called documents published in *The Hindu* were not presented to the Chief Prosecutor of Sweden. Even now the Constitutional Committee of Swedish Parliament is holding its enquiry. Where are the sources? Why have these papers not been referred to the Constitutional Committee?

You may recall, people know, the masters' sitting outside, those who are pulling the strings want this situation in India to continue and unfortunately wittingly or unwittingly you are becoming a party to it. Those who want to keep India in this state, they choose the timings--when JPC was about to conclude. JPC was known the world over, it was holding the enquiry and the whole world knew it. *The Hindu* published these papers only when they knew that the JPC had interviewed, interrogated and cross examined witnesses and they were closing their enquiry. When the Committee had to close their enquiry, *The Hindu* came out with documents and Sir, a South Indian paper was chosen for publication of these articles because Congress Party was holding its AICC Session in Madras.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, on a point of order.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): Don't bring in the question of South India. It is a national newspaper.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: I take strong objection to Mr. Tewary's calling *the Hindu*

as the South Indian paper. It has been accepted national paper and he has no business to call it a South Indian paper.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no point of order. That is his view.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: I have not cast any aspersion on the reputation of the paper. It is an excellent paper and one of the best papers we have in the country. I did not cast any aspersion. It is one of the papers with largest circulation in the South, the paper with largest circulation in Madras...

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Let me make it clear. Certain things written in the paper may be correct or may not be correct, that is a different question. As far as the paper *the Hindu* is concerned, it has all along been respected in the country. It is respected today also. We have nothing personal against them. I have just clarified the point. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I said it I do not know why on a simple statement -- I only said that this paper *the Hindu* is one of the most respected papers. I said *The Hindu* has the largest circulation in a part of the country.

14.00 hrs.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Not in a part of the country. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: This paper should have been submitted there. So, the timing is important. The JPC is closing its inquiry. Its report is being finalised. It is in the process of finalisation. It is being presented to Parliament. Then, these reports come in.

So far as the other aspects are concerned, reference has been made to the Note of Dissent. How the Note of Dissent was given?... (*Interruptions*). Sir, you also know that the hon. Speaker has given his ruling and we gracefully accept the ruling. The Note of Dissent has been appended to the report. Now, the person, the dissenter

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who is the dissenter? He sat through these meetings. Most classified papers which normally would not be made available to any member of Parliament, most classified papers were made available to all hon. Members constituting the JPC and the person who has dissented had also free access, unfettered access to these privileged documents. Not only that. He took copious notes from there. But something happened. Some political changes took place. Politics again got the better of the judgment of his morality, political morality and he came out with a Note of Dissent. After all, the Note of Dissent has to be based on some substance, some evidence and some facts. What does he come out with? If you go through the entire Note of Dissent, if you scan, if you read the report, you will find that it all based on surmises, conjectures and speculations. I am sure, Shri Reddy's speech has made it abundantly clear that all the points mentioned in the report are not the product of one person, one mind but a large number of people, a battery of experts and a battery of political advisors must have sat and prepared that Note and that Note has been submitted and it has been appended. Therefore, whatever has been said in the Note of Dissent by a person who shares all the secrets of the proceedings, shares all the decisions taken from time to time by the JPC, a person who goes through all the relevant papers, puts questions to witnesses, now ultimately when the Committee is to submit its report, do you think ever anybody with even an iota of sense will accept this stand? Throughout, that person has not disagreed and has now dissented.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: How do you know? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: That should have been in the report. That Dissenting Note should have been there. The Dissenting Note should have contained this also.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: How can he question the motives of the Member and cast reflections on him? (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: The Dissenting Note should have contained, besides the conjectures, the specific cases where the member disagreed with the procedure of inquiry earlier to this. But he did not do that. But he merely, towards the end, decided as is an obvious thing because of political compulsions and for obvious political reasons, preferred to submit his Note of Dissent and that Note of Dissent, as Mr. Reddy has said, all through contains the same logic, the same thrust, the same arguments which are most untenable. So, this Howitzer deal to India was done in the best interest of the nation, security of the nation.

As far as the Prime Minister is concerned, nowhere this kind of a decision has been taken. No country has been able to do away with middlemen in international commercial deals. It was the Prime Minister who took this stand, which has been affirmed, which has been supported by all subsequent developments. Do you mean to say that he will not believe a representative Government in Sweden, and the Swedish Government themselves have confirmed on umpteen occasions that the Prime Minister of India Shri Rajiv Gandhi has taken this stand and he saw to it that all middlemen were removed and this deal has been concluded without any middlemen anywhere.

About the other aspects, they have been clarified by the JPC. The JPC has gone into the entire gamut of the issues and it has been conclusively proved through the CBI inquiry, through the JPC report and inquiry, that no company of Indian origin is involved. Our laws have not been violated. Why did the Chief Prosecutor in Sweden say that the Swedish laws have not been violated? The Swedish Government have done this deal, not for the first time in the history. The Swedish Government must have been supplying weapons and other things to a host of countries all over the world under the same dispensation, under the same Swedish constitution, under the same Swedish laws. From no quarter, from no side, has any attempt been made to force the Swedish Government to change their laws to suit the convenience of a par-

ticular country. All that we could have done as a buyer nation, as a nation in need of the weapon system acquiring those weapons, we did our best; the Prime Minister will go down in history as a shining example of a person who put his foot down and said *No middle-men*, and as far as the Swedish Government is concerned, let them operate within their own laws; we have no authority to force them.

About those who plead for the cancellation of the deal, as I said, I am very sceptical about their motives -- number one --, I pity their ignorance -- number two -- and also I feel that partisan politics are the most nihilistic politics has got the better of their judgement and they are continuing this campaign of vilification, of slander. I again repeat, we have not allowed grasses to grow under our feet. You have continued this slander campaign, you have continued this vilification campaign. You do not look at your own faces, what you have done in the past and what you are doing now. If I mention all these people, the people who have been indicated in courts, Mr. NTR, Mr. Hegde and the rest of them, I know you will start jumping, you will have nails on your seats. I would only say this. If a Congressman acquires two and a half acres of land somewhere around Delhi, that is described as a farmhouse, but leaders of Opposition acquire 40 or 50 acres of farmland with constructions on those farms worth crores of rupees and are called *ashrams*. This is the face of the Opposition and I say that the whole thing has been started with a specific purpose. The originated as an attempt to pull down the Government of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and the entire Opposition joined hands in that with the instrumentalities of foreign sources. Otherwise, tell me how all of you signed a statement on behalf of the entire Opposition in defence of Mr. Chandraswamy -- the only cause they had to defend and that was done in defence of Mr. Chandraswamy, the kingpin ... (*Interruptions*)

I say, non-Communist Opposition; let me correct myself -- the non-Communist Opposition ...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chandraswamy was the great consultant of late Mrs. Indira Gandhi (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Sir, I think we are all abundantly clear in our mind that we will not be haunted by the ghosts which are creations of their sick minds, the creations of the people who are part of the conspiratorial goings on in the country. The country today is faced with a grim situation. It has crossed over so many hurdles. During the last year formidable challenges came and we have crossed over them. That was the time when Bofors, Fair Fox and all other things are raised. The people of India know that it was all their creation, concerted attempts made and orchestrated drive by the opposition parties and others to give a bad name to the Government and pull down the elected Government. This JPC report has done wonderful work and I think, we must take this into stride. I say, "do not indulge in name calling, mud slinging, and washing your dirty linen in the public because you have plenty of them." Your dirty linen will be out. Therefore, I conclude by saying that attempts made to demoralise the armed forces, attempts made to coax the Government to cancel the deal, attempts made to give bad name to the Prime Minister, this is all part of a conspiratorial going on and we must face them because it is a threat to our stability, it is a threat to the unity of the country. On this note, I take my seat.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I clapped because he stopped.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is your explanation. What is Reddy's explanation.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Firstly, let me make it clear... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please order. He wants to make some observation.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: We value Mr. Somnath Chatterjee. But Tewary doesn't

[Shri H.K.L. Bhagat]

need any certificate from you or any applause from you. He is all right without that... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not allow any explanation. If you want to contribute on any particular point, you can make.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I never referred to Bofors gun as a sub standard gun. I said that was not the best available. But as guns go, it is a good gun. I said that. Secondly, I did not cast aspersion ... *(Interruptions)*

I did not cast any aspersions on the expertise or standing of our respected former Army Chief General Sundarji. I only question his judgment and not him... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: We would not prevent Jaipal Reddy. Probably he is more sensible now by his explanation... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot. Already we had decided in the House. Why are you worried? Those who are interested let them listen... I cannot...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is too much.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: You promised us lunch.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I never said that.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Lunch hour is over. Why are you asking for lunch now? Already, we had decided in the House and we do not want to go back.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: It is a very important issue. I would like to hear Mr. Reddy. I would like to listen to them also. Am I to forego my lunch? *(Interruptions)*,

Are the pressmen to forego their lunch?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You could have raised the point when we...

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: He is not prepared to forego his lunch for discussing Bofors...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: ... I would forego my lunch and dinner.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I am also fore-going my lunch. I am more aged than you.

SHRI. D. N. REDDY (Cuddapah): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand before this august body neither to denigrate the hon. Prime Minister nor the Parliamentary Committee to both of which I have go very great regard, but I must first begin to give my impression to the House that it is a very sad commentary that the Bofors scandal was allowed to drag on. It is a sad commentary on the House. After hearing Prof. Tewary, I now know the reason. Half of his speech was political and the other twenty-five percent of it was out of context and only ten per cent was concerning the subject under discussion. It is this attitude and such speeches that have dragged on this scandal for the last one year. As a matter of fact in a great country like ours a scandal like this ought to have been resolved in a very short time if only the House had a mind of its own. Unfortunately, there have been many speeches and many acts like that of Prof. Tewary which have come in the way of resolving the deadlock in which the whole country is interested.

The House perfectly remembers that last year when the scandal burst out in the country like an atom bomb it was the Opposition who wanted a combined Parliamentary committee. The suggestion came from the Opposition. Then the Prime Minister said 'no' for reasons best known to him. Later on after some of the information leaked in they agreed to form a joint parliamentary committee. Even then the

Opposition parties asked to widen the terms of reference one of which was to inspect the Swiss accounts of Indians. Their request for expanding the terms of reference to include an inquiry into the Swiss accounts of Indians was struck down by the Government. It was on that main point that the Opposition parties refused to cooperate with the Committee. Prof. Tewary has made much about that point. Unfortunately, it has absolutely no substance in it except to discredit the parties.

14.17 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the chair*]

Sir, the professed helplessness of the JPC now despite its having assistance of investigating agencies in getting into the identities of the recipients of the huge Bofors payments contrasts sharply with the reality that there is now indeed a breakthrough to identify the real recipients as a result of the publication of the six documents in *the Hindu*. Just now Prof. Tewary did not spare a national newspaper like *the Hindu*. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat had to intervene and tell us that it is a national newspaper. Six documents have been published. It is a direct proof through which the Committee can easily get the truth out. They have not done so. So, unfortunately, this scandal drags on and the parliamentary committee have brought about a very good report. They have brought about a nice report, but unfortunately, there is no substance in it. There is lot of smoke without detecting the fire. Unless the fire is detected the Committee's report has absolutely no value. I am sorry to say that even after so much effort they could not get at the truth. The real reason, it seems to me, is as if they do not want the truth to come out because here there is a direct proof. If the documents are examined we will know who are the recipients of this illegal amounts in the Swiss banks. That they have refused to do.

The Prosecutor's office in Stockholm also has confirmed the documents published by *the Hindu* on April 22, 1988. The documents also provided a first substantive step towards decoding the charges which

add up to nearly so many crores of rupees. Documents published showed a secret account that was linked to Hinduja company in the form of Pitco Sangam Limited, etc., etc. Bofors then informed the Government of India that 'Pitco' was an earlier reference name for one of the recipients of the Bofors Howitzer deal payment. The relevant documents are available with three difference sources: the Riks Bank, the Skandivaniska Enskilda Bank and Bofors. The Government had not shown any interest in following the several trails indicated. So, when there is a definite trail, which will lead to the actual truth, I am very sorry to say that the hon. Members of the Committee have failed to get at the truth.

Mr. Tewary just now said, don't throw mud; don't throw dirt at the leaders. We are as much concerned as he is that everything should be clean. That can be achieved only if you get at the truth. Time and again, we are asking: Please get at the truth. That is our only aim. That should be the aim also of the Treasury Benches. Instead of this, a prolonged and political speech will not help either the Opposition or the Treasury Benches. But we have to convince the people. For the last one year, so many allegations have been laid on so many leaders and so much has been said that the people themselves are confused. They are convinced that there is something underneath which should be brought out to the knowledge of the whole world. It does not serve any purpose in denigrating either the Prime Minister or some other leader or those who are expelled from the party. Absolutely it does not help us. As a matter of fact, our whole concern should be to get at the truth. If only the real recipients are found, naturally everything will be cleaned automatically.

The Swedish legal expert, Dr. Thorsten Cars said:

"It would be natural and appropriate for the Government of India to request the Government of Sweden for access to secret documents in the course of investigations it may make into payments made by Bofors in

[Shri D.N. Reddy]

connection with its contracts for the supply of FH-77-B howitzers to India

So, we are within our rights to find out what is given in the documents and find out the real culprits. The decision of Lars Ringberg, Prosecutor, to close the investigations is not final but a temporary decision. It can be revived when fresh proofs come in. He has also remarked that he is not getting any sort of help either from the Indian Government or from the individuals concerned. So, he closed the prosecution. But if new facts come in, he is prepared to open the case and find out the truth. There must be a convention on such matters between Sweden and India. There are some conventions between Sweden and other Western countries where such criminal cases are involved that they should get at the truth and secret documents also. Similarly, India also can enter into such an agreement with Sweden and get at the secret documents. I am only suggesting that this is the sure way to get at the documents and it is not as though they are secret nor do the banks refuse to give the documents.

14.23 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the
Chair*]

Mr. Anders Bjork, Vice President of the Swedish Parliamentary Committee stated that confidential documents made available to him establish that there were direct or indirect contracts between Bofors officials and high ups in India. The Opposition parties refused to participate in it because their request for extending its terms of reference to include an inquiry into the Swiss accounts of Indians was turned down by our Government. If only this request was acceded to by the Government, most probably, we would have got only in the House but also in the whole country would have been avoided. Bofors officials - culprits as they are in the context of our country - are also supposed to have supplied arms behind the curtain to the Arab coun-

tries without anybody's knowledge. So, they are really the culprits before the world. They were given a red carpet welcome as if they were official guests. As a matter of fact, they came here as culprits. They ought to have been treated as such.

Former Bofors Managing Director, Mr. Martin Ardbo, was not summoned. I don't know why the hon. Committee did not summon Mr. Ardbo, who was a very important witness. He could have given us some information.

Mr. Ardbo seems to have said that if Bofors had ended the relationship with the agent in India, the company would not have got the contract. He was not summoned and his evidence was not recorded. Why he ought not to have been summoned when the Swedish Parliamentary Committee can summon even the Prime Minister? So, why should he not summon a mere Managing Director of an arms factory? Madam, I am quoting our Union Finance Ministers reply on the 6th August 1987 to a debate in Parliament. " We have decided to enter into a treaty for mutual assistance in criminal matters with Swiss authorities and pending conclusion of such a treaty or agreement to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Swiss authorities for assistance in specific cases of Indians having accounts in Swiss banks. Expedient further action within Swiss and Indian laws will be taken so that we are able to obtain requisite information regarding the offenders and proceed against them effectively." What has been done since then, I want to know. I want the Finance Minister to tell the House that after he gave the statement before this august House, what are the steps he has taken.

Why did he not pursue the matter and enter into an agreement with the Swiss Government? And not only that, on 11th December, Shri B. K. Gadhvi, the Union Minister of State for Finance said in the Lok Sabha that "The Government of India is engaged in a dialogue with the Swiss authorities regarding modalities for co-operation with regard to inquiries into criminal charges." What happened to this? There is absolutely no information given to this House and it naturally throws some suspi-

cion that the Government is not sincere and not proceeding with a will to find out the real culprits. That is bringing damage to the leaders and the impression that the Government do not want the truth to come out. That is damaging the leaders, especially the Prime Minister and not the Opposition at all. Mr. Tewary, unfortunately, is not here. I think they must appreciate that point and not speeches like this slinging mud at the Opposition parties, which will not help at all. I have got the greatest regard for the Prime Minister or the Congress Party and the other hon. Members. Prime Minister of my country should be the cleanest of clean Prime Minister, I am suggesting that the truth should come out, though according to the law of the land, everybody is innocent unless it is proved that he is guilty. So, we cannot hold anybody guilty whether the Prime Minister or somebody outside. It is also bad manners to refer to a leader who was once the Defence Minister and Finance Minister. There may be differences between the parties but a man who is honoured by the whole country once, cannot become a very small man or a criminal in a matter of few days. That is not the way we should discuss this matter in this august House. I would like to know, first and foremost, about the statements made by the Minister of State for Finance, as to what steps they have taken and what are the results of them? The whole House has got the right to know.

The Swiss authorities agreed to a draft agreement on 17th September under which India could get information about 'unlawful profits from business dealings in India'. The draft was not converted into an agreement. The Swiss authorities have said that no further request has come from India in this regard. Why? The Swiss authorities themselves came forward to record, to unearth the unlawful profits from the business dealings in India. That means they were eager to tell us but we were hesitant to ask them.

If the Government was serious about going to the bottom of the affair, it could have cooperated with the Swedish Public Prosecutor, Rinberg, who said that he

could not find out the names of the recipients because none of the interested parties, the Bofors, the Government of India nor the Swedish Government has co-operated with him. These are the harsh words from the Public Prosecutor of Sweden who has said that he is not getting any co-operation from India. So, naturally, the conclusion is, the Government has not done enough that could have been done to get at the truth. He even revealed that India did not respond to his queries. Swedish Premier told the Parliamentary Committee on 6th April that "As far as I know, the Government of India is pleased with the information they have got. There are no requests for more information." These are all self explanatory facts, not spoken by the opposition parties, but by distinguished functionaries in the Government of Sweden, who were prepared to give all the information we wanted. The only thing is that we were hesitating in asking for it and taking it.

Another factor is that if only they had threatened Bofors of cancellation of contract, they would have given the names: just an arm twisting method. They did not do that. As a matter of fact, the Prime Minister was too eager to say that the contract would not be cancelled and that itself created some sort of suspicion. Again I say, I am not accusing anybody. In my eyes, the Prime Minister is innocent till he is proved guilty. But I am only requesting the authorities to get at the truth so that he is completely clean. Moreover, our country will know that we have got a Prime Minister as great as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

The only thing is that the Treasury Benches are not able to appreciate our point and they are not able to appreciate the value of the truth in this issue; they are not able to appreciate that only the truth can clear the clouds under which so many leaders have come in. This is creating all the difficulties and differences between the Treasury benches and the Opposition.

From Shri Tiwari's speech, it looks as though the opposition were out to denigrate the Government, the Prime Minister and everybody. This is not fair; that is not

[Shri. D.N. Reddy]

proper also. To call any body who criticises the Prime Minister or the Government a destabilizer is, I think, a proof of immaturity. We have got a right to criticise the Government and the Prime Minister and we have also got a right to be corrected, but at the same time, we want a Prime Minister about whom not only this august House, but the country, is proud of, and for that end we are here to cooperate with the Government, so that they may get at the truth and find out the real culprit.

The hon. JPC has placed its report before the House and it is noticed that for everything many people have said that they had no information to give and strangely the Committee did not pursue further when they took cover and commercial confidentiality, the Committee also did not compel them to give the information.

Unfortunately, in Sweden, the winding up charges and paying a commission have no difference between them; it is almost the same thing. When Bofors said that they had paid such and such amount for winding up charges, it was commission, and not winding up charges. And winding up charges have nexus with the contract value also.

So many companies registered in Switzerland are only front organizations which are being conducted by people not residing in Switzerland and some of them belong to this country. As a matter of fact, ample proof has been given of this. Shri Amitabh Bachan's brother has violated the FERA regulations; definite proof has been given, but absolutely no action was taken. On the top of it, there are definite attempts to cover it. I do not know how the Government can defend all these actions. I would be very happy if we know the truth about all these things and the whole issue is cleared, the cloud is cleared so that we have got a clean Government and a clean Prime Minister.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT (Arrah): Madam, Chairman, before I speak, I want to seek the indulgence of the House to bring to its

notice the great tradition, the parliamentary tradition of this House. I am particularly a witness to this glorious tradition since 1950, more or less, continuously for over a period of 39-40 years. The point that I want to emphasise is that everyone of us, bit by bit, Members of all States have contributed to the glorious traditions of the world known and world respected institution, called the Indian Parliament. On an occasion like this, let us not destroy the traditions that we have built through the sacrifices of our great leaders, of Indian parliamentary system. It is very easy to destroy them. I am saying this not with any partisan spirit. Let us dispassionately examine how the situation came up. It developed neither on your seeking nor on our seeking. On the 16th April, 1987 the Swedish Radio announced that there have been payments made to the Indian leaders. Now, you analyse as to what was our response to this. So far the Indian Government is concerned, on the 17th April the Government denied the allegations based on the documents then available to it. It was re confirmed by the Swedish Government that the Prime Minister of India had particularly emphasised on the late Swedish Prime Minister, Mr. Olof Palme, that there must be no middleman. This understanding between our Prime Minister and Mr. Olof Palme was also confirmed by the statement of Mr. Aberg, the Swedish Under Secretary of foreign trade. He confirmed that this was the understanding between the two Prime Ministers. Then between 17th April and 19th April, personal enquiries were made by the Indian Ambassador from the Swedish Foreign office and the Swedish Radio in order to get more details. But the Swedish Radio declined to provide any detail except what they had said earlier.

In this connection I would like to say that the Indian Papers had published that this original statement by the Swedish Radio has been motivated by certain persons in the United States who have connections with CIA in which Mr. Hershman's name was also included. This is the report that appeared in the papers. So, you can see the genesis of it. They did not want to give any more details. Then the Government of

India pursued with this; the Ministry of Defence pursued with this.

On 20th April, i.e. just 4 days after this statement was made, we had a statement by the Defence Minister in Lok Sabha. This statement referred to the steps taken to eliminate the middleman. These steps and the understanding between the two Prime Ministers was confirmed by Mr. Aberg, the Swedish Under Secretary of Foreign trade, and on the basis of the information available then he denied the charges. You see the response of the Opposition to it. Let us examine it... (*Interruptions*)

Use your brain and not lung. In the House the lung power is not used except in the Zero Hour. So, use your brain power. But use your arguments and facts. I am dealing only on the arguments and facts. The Opposition saw to it that here is an opportunity to destroy the Government. In our political system which are following, unfortunately, in it there is a weakness. The Weakness is that we have a parliamentary democracy. In it there is only one national party and that is the Congress. The other parties are playing their old games. They have not been able to provide a credible national alternative based on programmes and policies. Even today the Opposition is cloak and dagger even among themselves. You can see this in various places, like Karnataka and so on. It is because of this weakness when the name of the Prime Minister had been mentioned by the Swedish Radio, they thought that here was an opportunity to mount a full attack on him and destroy him so as to destroy the Congress. This is the partisan approach unfortunately I am sorry to say that of our Opposition Members. What are you doing? In a political system, if you destroy the Congress today, if you destroy the Indian Government or the Prime Minister, you are subjecting it to...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will you yield for a moment? When you started your speech, you said you do not want to be partisan in your approach. But what are you doing now? I was very closely waiting to hear from you about this Report.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: You come out with arguments and facts.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have started your speech by accusing the opposition.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am not accusing the Opposition. The Opposition is to criticise the Government in our system and not to subvert it. There is no harm if you develop an alternative organisation or an alternative arrangement or political system based on policies and programmes so that there is a clear choice before the people at the time of elections in choosing that particular alternative. But in the present situation you are going to seize this opportunity of mounting an unjustified attack, a partisan attack, on the Prime Minister, on the Congress Party and on the Government and trading worst charges on not only shred of evidence but just on suspicion. You can call it a scandalous charge. This was your response. We pursued this matter. The Indian Government requested the Swedish Government on 29th April, saying "Please inquire into the charges made by the Swedish Radio." They in response to the Indian Government's request, appointed the Swedish National Audit Bureau to look into this matter. It is a statutory body. It was appointed under their law. They submitted the Report. What did the Indian Government do after the Report was submitted? It did not sit over for a minute. Immediately, the Report was released to the Press. Then, when the report came, Government took the initiative of consulting the leaders of the Opposition. They said: "what do we do? This is the report." Unfortunately, there was one lacuna. The report said: "Payments have been made." But large portions or excerpts were omitted. We asked, "Why omit it?" Government was even keen that names, the identity of persons, everything should come. But it is the Swedish Government which did not give out the names of persons to whom payments were made, because they said when we pursued the matter -- I think the hon. Members of the Opposition had also gone there, to the Swedish Embassy -- that under the Swedish law, the Swedish National Bank

[Shri B.R. Bhagat]

had given them the information about the nature of payments, the amounts of payment and the identity of persons who were paid, under secrecy; and, therefore, they could not divulge the secret. This is what their Government said. Nobody else. And we consulted the Opposition. We told the Opposition: "Let us find out; you can find out. If the Bofors give it or if the other parties give it, if the Swiss banks give it or if others give it, let us pursue the matter." Here was the position. The ball was fully in our court. We wanted help from the Swedish Government, and they pleaded helplessness. This is not a cover up situation. This is not a situation created by us. This is not a cover up situation. This is not a situation in which we wanted to hush up or conceal anything. We immediately got in touch with the Opposition. We said: "What do we do in this?" You demanded a Parliamentary inquiry Committee. We said yes. Then the matter came up. You know what Prof. Dandavate said then. Although the number of Opposition Members on this Committee was already agreed upon, they had raised certain four points. What were those points? I want to come to this question. Who is to be blamed? You did not participate in this Committee. This was your fatal mistake. You have not served democracy, you have not served Indian Parliament by not participating in this Joint Parliamentary Committee. On what grounds? You see the amendments which you have suggested to the Joint Committee: some of your motions, substitute Motions by some of the hon. Members of the Oppositions said that we should go into the policies, the entire policies behind all these transactions. Is it legitimate? Can you think of any inquiry here for the last 39 or 38 years in which such things were there? It was a specific issue of payment made, and the allegation was that payments were of this nature, viz. they were not in law, they are illegal, they may be bribes, they may be commissions unauthorised, or various other things. (Interruption)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Forget all those substitute Motions. Four rock

bottom minimum demands regarding the powers of the Committee were made. Even if you concentrate on that, you will realize that our decision to boycott was correct... (Interruptions)

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): You will not recognise your own mistakes, nor will you confess that you have failed our democracy. You go on giving all sorts of reasons...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ranga, Mr. Bhagat is not yielding to Mr. Dandavate.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Prof. Dandavate is a very keen student ..

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Mr. Dandavate, you should be reasonable at least now. Why did you not get into the Committee? You cannot blame us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ranga, Mr. Bhagat is not yielding to Prof. Dandavate. Why do you interrupt him?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Prof. Dandavate is a very keen student of parliamentary procedure and other things. I request him to point out a single instance here in this Parliament, or any Parliament which observes these procedures in which the Opposition demands a Parliamentary Committee, and then says it will not participate in it.

Right from the very beginning, you have pre judged it. I am very sorry to say this; I am saying this because the hon. Member, who initiated the discussion, is not here. He started this discussion by saying that this Joint Parliamentary Committee is a white wash; it is a hog wash. What language he used against the Parliamentary Committee? Right from the beginning, for public consumption, you were saying, you wanted a Committee to enquire into this deal, but your action was just to jeopardise this Committee... (Interruptions)

On the other, we went ahead with it. Many of the concessions -- as the Defence Minister pointed out to the Opposition benches -- were given to the opposition benches in formulating the terms of reference.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Not all.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I say, how it is inadequate? You see your response. Now, you said you wanted so and so to be called as a witness. Anybody under the rules can be called as a witness. But you have to go to the Speaker and convince him. He says, whomsoever the Speaker directs, the Committee will call him. But you do not trust the Government; you do not trust the Joint Parliamentary Committee; you do not trust the Speaker. You have lost confidence in them.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): They do not even respect the rules.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This was the ground on which you boycotted the Committee... (*Interruptions*)

Right from the beginning you thought that you would have your own way.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is partisan.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: What is partisan about it? Which Committee has been empowered as you wanted it to be empowered so that it can call any witness they like? It is always done under the direction of the Speaker. You have to approach the Speaker for that. For example, Shri Aladi Aruna could not submit his minute of dissent. He went to the Speaker and the Speaker allowed him. Similarly, if you wanted to call anybody as a witness, you could have gone to the Speaker and convinced him; and if the Speaker is convinced, then anybody can be called, if he is able to contribute to the findings and helping in finding out the truth. But you cannot take the Committee to bring or call anybody as accused he is coming as a witness to help the Committee. You wanted to bring people before the Committee as an accused and make accusation against him. This is not the function of the Committee or the Parliamentary Committees. The Joint Parliamentary Committee is not a court; it is a fact finding Committee of the Parliament. Right from the beginning -- I am sorry to say this -- you have not been

true to the oath that you had taken here. You are committed to find out the truth which you are not doing it. We wanted your cooperation in finding out the truth. The Government went to the extent possible to accommodate you subject to the rules and the directions by the Speaker. Right from the beginning, you started an attitude of non-cooperation because you thought that by participating in the Committee you would be bound by it and if there any finding of the Committee you cannot go away from it. If you append a minute of dissent, you cannot get out of it. Therefore, you wanted to keep your option open to subvert this Government, because, it is subversion, as it has been said that because you know there is no alternative today to the Congress party here. Repeatedly I am saying this, because you cannot offer an alternative package of policies and programmes and leadership, therefore, you think this is the only way, by discrediting the Government, destroying the leadership and bringing all sorts of unsubstantial charges, this was your purpose, this was your motivation. This is important. I began with that. Now, this has been the approach and this was followed.

Based on this, it has been said, I do not know - when Mr. Jaipal Reddy initiated the discussion, whether he read the report correctly. He said perhaps he did not read it. On all the points he has said, for example, the one that the Committee was asked to go into the procedure of the purchase, acquisition of the gun, then the commercial and financial considerations, the payments made, to be specific. These were some of the specific terms of reference. And on all these, without going into it, without going into the evidence here, he comes out and pronounces a judgment.

For example, let me deal with the first point, the acquisition of the weapon. He says it is an inferior weapon and he, -- I am sorry again he has not read -- not only discredits the judgment given by, the opinion given by the experts and what better expert than the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Sundarji you can have? It is recorded. You read it at least. You read it.

[Shri B.R. Bhagat]

Earlier also, there is a reference to the earlier Chief of Staff, General Vaidya and then there is also a reference to General Krishna Rao, to all the three. Read their opinions and then come to a conclusion.

We are all honourable Members of Parliament. We are not trading charges in the market place. Please do not do that. We do not add to our glory. We bring ourselves down. You do not read those things and come to a conclusion that this Bofors gun was inferior to the French gun, Sofoma.

It is said now, at one point of time, it is said, General Sundarji's statement is there, that they had preferred the French gun on various considerations. But when in our neighbourhood, in our vicinity the technological balance changed, certain technology, the radar system, the fire fighting radar system was introduced, earlier they had thought that this particular system will take ten years, to evolve. But they were evolved much earlier in three years or so and was made available in a neighbouring country. This completely changed the technological balance and they had to go in for this. And therefore, they came to the conclusion that this is a more suitable and superior gun. That is now here. How do we dispute this? The JPC is there, a body -- there again it was emphasised over and over again -- that a Parliamentary Committee does not function on the basis of votes or party lines. They function on the basis of consensus or individual judgment; if there is a matter of consensus. That is the reason, again I am sorry I have to remind you of this, why there is no provision, except with the permission of the Chairman, that no member can append a note, because there has been a controversy, a member making a dissension, he is charging, imagine, you charge your colleague, you charge the Chairman of the Committee with partisanship, because he did not allow him to append the minute! The rules do not provide for it. They are very clear. It is "shall", it is not even "may". "Shall not be given". Why? Because the whole function of the Committee is on the basis of

consensus. There are no party considerations. It was never done on that basis. This is the Committee of the House. Therefore, the Committee of the House has to deliberate on the basis of, what I call, objectivity and impartiality.

15.00 hrs.

Right from the beginning, I have quoted the dates step by step, the Government saw to it that the truth must be found out and payments made must be determined and found out, but your interest was different. You have already conceived that the Government is guilty party, and particularly the Prime Minister is guilty. You have charged the Prime Minister personally. The Prime Minister came and refuted categorically that neither he nor his family was involved in it. Not only that, he said that he has taken a step to see that anybody involved in it, he will do everything possible so that a guilty person is found out. But you have given up all norms. He is not only the Prime Minister, but he is the leader of the House. You do not obey the Speaker because you have said that the power of whom should be called must come to you and not to the Speaker. You do not respect the Prime Minister, who is not only the Prime Minister but he is the leader of the country and the leader of the House. He came and made a statement. You do not believe him,

15.02 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

You believe somebody who is going on making slanderous charges and spreading it in the media. You have believed them. You do not believe your Chairman. You have said that he is a partisan and he did not allow the members. This is a very serious matter.

Mr. Aladi Aruna says in his minute of dissent that he was not allowed to see the documents. In the report, it has been mentioned that they have spent three days in seeing the documents and for eight or ten hours they have spent in analysing the documents. Then, Mr. Aruna said that

Chairman did not allow him to append the minute of dissent. The Chairman must have said that he does not have the power. Mr. Aruna went to the Speaker, and the Speaker allowed him. You do not fail to accuse the highest functionary. By your behaviour, you have shown that you have been acting in a partisan motive. This has not helped the Parliamentary democracy. This has not brought glory to us or to anyone.

In the report it has been mentioned that the best weapon system was opted. The expert opinion given by the Field Marshal Sam Manakshaw is here. There is no doubt about it. This is a whole system of negotiation. The whole system of negotiation is such, in all the defence contracts -- there are big contracts and it is one of the largest contracts -- that no individual can have a say in this. It is all institutionalised. You take the case of the Negotiating Committee. The Negotiating Committee is headed by the Defence Secretary. It consists of the Finance Secretary, the Economic Affairs Ministry and other Secretaries. Then, the expert groups, the technical groups, the Chief of the Army Staff and his group, -- all these groups analyse it and evaluate it. In a system like this, the whole arrangement is institutionalised. Therefore, to say or to allege without any evidence, it only betrays your ignorance.

Right from top to bottom, you have said that everybody has fallen in the lines as has been dictated from the top. You have said that everyone in the Defence Ministry, Finance Ministry and others have gone all along the lines dictated from the top. The allegation made at a particular point of time when the Prime Minister became the Defence Minister also. They have alleged that at a time when the Prime Minister became the Defence Minister also, the decision was taken for purchase of Bofors guns. This allegation has been made and repeatedly, but this is not a fact. The Prime Minister had no say in this. I will come to that at what point of time the matter went upto him and who were involved in that. When the Prime Minister was not involved, unfortunately, absolutely wrong statements are being made. The Prime Minister comes

into the picture only when everything is finalised -- the technical aspect is finalised, the weapon system is finalised, the commercial consideration gone into. There again it has been said by no less a person than the then Finance Secretary (Expenditure) that competition was involved. When it was said that there would be no middle-men, it led to intense competition which resulted in coming down of the prices repeatedly by as much as Rs. 200 crores. When finally the price was settled, it was even lower than the floor price of the French gun by as much as Rs. 9 crores. Because of this crucial decision that no middlemen would be involved and it would be direct negotiations, it resulted in a large saving to the country and it resulted in the acquisition of the best weapon system and at the cheapest price. When the final decision was taken, the Finance Secretary sent it to the Finance Minister. And it went to the then Finance Minister. You know who he is. When he has signed it, you should not have any reservations. Then the two Ministers of State also signed it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The file remained with the Finance Minister for less than 24 hours.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: You hear something and say something. I am saying which is on the record. The Finance Secretary, who was on the Committee, Mr. Ganapathi, was specifically asked whether the Finance Minister was consulted. He said that only the Finance Minister was consulted but he consulted his Secretaries and then appended his signatures and approved it. After that, it went to the Defence Minister who also happened to be the Prime Minister. Now you tell me from your conscience if you have got any conscience, if you still believe in the motto *satyamam jayate* i.e. truth will triumph, in this arrangement, how can anybody influence the decision that a particular weapon will be there or a particular price will be there?

About the payments, much has been said. It is true that as a result of the intensive questioning by us, on the pursuit of

[Shri B.R. Bhagat]

the Government of India, the Bofors Chairman came and said that payments to the extent of 319 million kroner had been made to the three parties. Now investigative agencies were there. Everybody said what was the kind of payments made, who were the persons. It has been said that they are front companies. They may be front companies, I do not deny. The Government of India has not formed those companies. If they are front companies, if they have violated any law of their land, the laws of the land can take care of it. That is not the point. The point is that the Public Prosecutor there in Sweden has said that no laws have been violated in paying remuneration, meaning thereby that if there is a bribe, then only can the law be violated. They have said 'no bribe'. The Swedish Government have said so. Here also when this question was gone into how we can force them, then we have the opinion of the Attorney General. The Attorney General has been consulted in great detail about this matter and his opinion is that on the basis of the available information.... (*Interruptions*).

You are not interested in listening to me..(*Interruptions*).

On the basis of available information, the JPC has not been able to establish any violation of Indian laws. We have the whole minutes there. If they go through the Report, they will find that the Attorney General said that the Bofors can claim confidentiality. Under the law, the Bofors can claim confidentiality and we have no way of enforcing it. In view of that, the JPC concluded that Bofors are entitled to the confidentiality which they have claimed. The Attorney General has confirmed to the JPC that no legal processes are available against foreign nationals, nor has any violation of Indian law been established qua any foreign national. The Public Prosecutor in Sweden has failed to establish any violation of Swedish laws in the matter of the alleged payments. So, on the basis of this, no violation has taken place. The winding up charges, it has been said, are enormous.

But as has come on record, winding up charges have been established as a result of the negotiations. The only alternative was that the parties would have gone to the court or they would have gone to the arbitration and it would have resulted in enormous payments. Therefore, the winding up charges have been small. This nexus is very important. Because of the small payment of the winding up charges, even after the Letter of Intent, the prices were reduced by about Rs. 100 crores because they had not to pay any bribe, they had not to pay any commission. The winding up charges have been determined otherwise they had to pay more. So, this has been the position. Therefore, Sir, we have the evidence, we have no contrary evidence. I am not a lawyer but this much of law I know that if you do not have the evidence, you cannot say the negative is true. The Members, who are speaking, have no evidence to connect anybody, any Indian here. They have no evidence of any Indian official. They have no evidence against the Prime Minister. They have no evidence against anybody. Our Attorney General says -- we don't have a better person on legal matters than him -- that they can claim confidentiality. We have no measure of finding out from them or forcing them or any foreign national, and then this Swedish Public Prosecutor has told that no laws have been violated. Then I want to ask the hon. Members sitting opposite how it is a white wash. On what evidence you are saying that this is a cover up operation except to malign, except to character assassinate to subvert the system? Because I still maintain that by charging the Prime Minister falsely without evidence, his involvement in this or the bribe or anything, you are destroying the system, destroying the party in power, the ruling party. This amount to subverting and you will only be helping the enemies of India who are trying to weaken our country, destabilise our country and you have no evidence. I think the JPC has done an excellent job. If you read it again, I will tell you, from any legal evidence, on the basis of objectivity, impartiality, no Committee can come to another conclusion on all these matters that have been referred to than what the JPC has done.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, both the hon. Members of the ruling party who have spoken have very carefully avoided dealing with the merits of the report, except that we have today had the benefit of more than usual quota of invectives and accusations against the Opposition as a whole. Sir, according to both the hon. Members who have spoken, the Opposition in this country are totally irresponsible, they are a party to the subversion of the Constitution. They have leagues with the international agencies and so on and so forth; even Mr. K. K. Tewary had shown the great standard of a parliamentary performance, when he referred to physical deformity or infirmity of an hon. Member of the Opposition.

(Interruptions)

The ruling party is so anxious that this very irresponsible Opposition should have taken part in this Committee's deliberations. Why? Why are you so anxious in shedding tears, and one hon. Member said that the Opposition has missed the bus or the opportunity. Sir, I would like to know that even Prof. Ranga is so much surcharged when Bofors issue.

(Interruptions)

Therefore, Sir, when the complaints of the ruling party are self contradictory, inconsistent with each other, now why they are anxious. I know how the hon. Minister of Defence with his persuasiveness and personality and soft spoken speeches tried to win over others by such an eloquence, may not be by the merits of the case that Opposition should be persuaded to take part in this because they knew that ultimately the JPC will be utilised for the purpose of exonerating one person in this country, trying to save the Government of the day. Therefore, if it could be projected, even the Opposition could not find out the names of the persons. Therefore, what could the Government do in this matter? That is why the necessity has always been there. But Mr. Chairman, to persuade the Opposition to take part in the Committee's deliberations and Sir, we had said... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. C. PANT: You can't so easily get round. Why did you ask for it?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I am not yielding. Therefore, we on the Opposition, on principled ground had not been taking part in its deliberations because we did not want to be a party to give birth to a still born child like this

SHRI K. C. PANT: Then why did you ask for it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I feel that the entire discussion on the Bofors issue has lost all significance and credibility because of the studied refusal of the Committee to take note of the latest disclosures which came out in *The Hindu* of the 22nd of April, where documents have been mentioned, copies have been published directly implicating, mentioning Indian names, may be non-resident here, with regard to these companies Moresco and Pitco which are the concerned names, are mentioned in the Committee's Report itself. Sir, I have no doubt that if the hon. Chairman of the Committee had come before this House and asked for extension of the time for filing the Committee's report on the ground of studying or considering the new evidence or disclosures, the House would have given them the time. But no such attempt was made, and on the other hand they have been totally ignored. I would like to know from the Government: Are the documents or the materials mentioned in *The Hindu* of the 22nd of April and of the 27th of April relevant or not relevant to the question that was before the JPC? If they were relevant, why they were not considered when they came out 4 or 5 days before the submission of the Report?... *(Interruptions)*.

Sir, if they are relevant, why they were not considered and if they are not relevant, why they are not relevant, I would like to know from the Minister... *(Interruptions)*

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: You authenticate it and put it on the Table saying that they are authenticated. You put on the Table and authenticate. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: We will do that. Are you prepared to reopen the issue?...
(Interruptions).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, in the circumstances the report purports to give findings which are, in our legal terminology, *per incuriam*, and I am sure that it will never be, and it has not been able to prove to be a viable and a significant report so far as people of this country are concerned.

Sir, we know that this Committee from the very beginning lacked credibility because of its composition, because of the terms of reference and because of the so-called powers conferred on it and it is precisely why the Opposition had not agreed to take part in it, while it was going to be a powerless, toothless Committee which will be utilised for the purpose of carrying out operations, which will at least not be able to find out the truth and, Sir, I am very sorry to say, and I yield to none in my personal respect for the hon. Members of the Committee, some very eminent and respected Members they are, but, Sir, I am very sorry, I cannot help saying that the Committee seems to have done what it was required to do, but the result is that all meaningful inquiry has been jettisoned and the result is that Parliament's dignity, Parliament's position as being accountable to the people has been compromised today...
(Interruptions)

Sir, this Committee which was required to chain a tiger has not even attempted to catch a mouse. This is the position so far as the Report is concerned. Sir, as Parliament we reached the nadir when on the 26th of April this Report was presented to the House, and I feel that the only honourable course left to us now is to reject this Report look stock and barrel and give it a decent burial with the sounding of the last post.

Sir, I appeal to the hon. Members, I know what is the fate of this appeal, but even now I appeal to the hon. Members on the other side not to let this opportunity go without redeeming ourselves as part of this great institution.

Let the portals of this august Institution be not used as archives for the deformed progeny born out of colossal remissness, as a part of a massive cover up operation that is going on. I cannot help feeling that the whole approach of the Committee has been to produce something which may not satisfy the Parliament's conscience as a whole but it will satisfy or keep up the wishes of one individual in this country whose political survival was and still is at stake. That is why, for that purpose, very important materials which should have been obtained -- I have no doubt; when we find the names of some Members in that Committee, about their ability and capacity. Nobody can doubt that, But they have not raised this question -- do not appear from the reports of the Joint Committee. But although the attempt has been made to find out, to provide an escape route for the supreme leader of the party in power but very clumsily that work has been done. In its over anxiety not to see the truth, the Committee has left gaping holes in their analyses of events and in their assessment of events, which I am sure this brute majority in this House will not be able to fill up. I feel that the toddlers will scorn at it.

I will immediately come to some of these aspects. This operation Cover up has not been done with any finesse but with crudity and farical excuses. We should today mourn for the truth because truth is the biggest victim of the attempt of this cover up and white washing report.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let us stand in silence for a few minutes.
(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Along with the truth, the credibility of the entire Parliamentary System of Government in this country has received a rude shock. In a situation of this all pervading nature, if I may say so, of perversities the only redeeming feature has been the illuminating Minute of Dissent which has been described as a post script. It has thoroughly exposed the great hoax that has been perpetrated on the people of this country. We must congratulate Mr. Aruna for the

painstaking and efficient job that he has done for the sake of truth. It has been said that Mr. Aruna has not prepared the draft of his report...*(Interruptions)*

Have the Members of the Committee prepared? Has Mr. Shankaranand prepared it?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Shankaranand has not read it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was Mr. Shankaranand allowed to go through it before he was asked to sign it?

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: He was to lay it only. That is all. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: He was asked to comment on that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: At the same time, we were told by Mr. B.R. Bhagat as to how can a Minute of Dissent be annexed. But why didn't the Chairman come to the Speaker and get his permission to annex it.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Please don't misquote me. I didn't say that it could not be appended. I said that the rules are such that, it can only be done with the permission of the hon. Speaker. That is my point.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That is what I said. Therefore, the Chairman of the Committee could have come to the Speaker and taken his permission. But he did not do so. The Committee, unceremoniously rejects it; the Member has to come to the hon. Speaker and get his permission. The Speaker permits it. Then an extraordinary procedure has happened...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Direction 68 is very clear. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: An extraordinary procedure has happened, namely, the Committee sat again on the postscript and gave a judgement on the

postscript. What is the authority of the majority Members of a Committee to pass judgement on a minority report? This is something unthinkable that was done. How can the majority of a Committee call an hon. Member's report as unfortunate, baseless and biased? The partisan majority had no authority to pass judgement on the minority and thereby the majority has only demeaned itself further. *(Interruptions)*

The events have only justified why the real Opposition refused to cooperate with this Committee. They refused to be parties to a sordid drama that was going to be enacted, and our anticipation was not wrong. Our apprehension has been justified unfortunately...

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You may go on patting yourselves on your back. But whatever reaction has come out in the media - you may go on abusing the media; the media is no particular friend of ours - whatever has appeared in the media, whatever is being discussed, it is clear that the people are not in a mood to accept this Report. *(Interruptions)*

I am sure the people of this country will not give the slightest credence to this aberration of parliamentary indiscretion.

Sir, what has been the procedure which has been followed by this Committee? I have never, in my very humble experience, even heard anything like this -- I have had the great privilege and honour of being a Member of various Committees -- that Members of the Committee. **

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: I take a strong objection to this. What is he saying? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: These remarks are derogatory to the Members of the Committee and to the House and, therefore, I expunge them.

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I bow down to your wisdom and I withdraw those remarks. But I reiterate that it has been complained that the Members could not even bring out the papers, they were not supplied with papers which they wanted to study; they were asked to do it inside a closed room when four or five copies were distributed among 30 Members to make a study within two hours...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Because it was leaked to the press.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It has been complained that no proper opportunity was given for preparation to cross-examine witnesses. When the last visit of the special VVIPs came from Bofors, they were told on the day of their examination, "Yes, come along; there will be an examination of these witness; they have arrived". They were not given proper opportunity.

Shri B. R. Bhagat and Prof. Tewary have said that nobody came forward to give evidence. When one member of the Committee submitted a list of persons, wanted certain persons to be called as witnesses, the Chairman unceremoniously, as it appears, on the basis of the majority vote rejected that request. Even no opportunity was given...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: It is frivolous; it is not warranted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him continue. He is not yielding.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: No opportunity even was given to peruse the final report properly. These are the charges which have been made -- I was not there, I don't know. These have been openly made by an Hon. Member of Parliament. Therefore, people of this country have to be shown, have to be taken into confidence as to why these things were done and how it has helped in the proper discharge of functions of the Parliamentary Committee. I would like to know if you kindly look at the terms of reference - another very significant thing - the terms of reference speaks of procedure. I would

like to know whether the procedure for the acquisition of weapons and systems were adhered to in the purchase of the Bofors gun. There was no terms of reference which related to the quality of the gun. This Committee was not assigned the task, the task of finding out the quality of the gun. Why did it go into those questions? I would like to know that... *(Interruptions)*

15.36 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Sir, I am asking...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: That way, he will also bring in Presidential elections in the report.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The real object has been to tell the people that a Committee of Parliament has looked into these matters and has found that this gun was the best gun so that apart from allegations of kickbacks, commission and so on and so forth, there will be also a certificate given by a Parliamentary Committee as to the quality of the gun which was never put as terms of reference to this Committee... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. PANT: If it is true, why not.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, in the absence of opposition, I am not questioning the quality - I am only asking the jurisdiction and the reason of this Committee going into that question. Therefore, they want now realising that the opposition is not there and until unfortunate thing had happened in Madras, they could not even dream of another post-script or minute of dissent, to take this opportunity, in the absence of the opposition, to give a certificate to the quality of the guns so that no doubt remains... *(Interruptions)*

Everybody has got one hour. Today, I thought, you are in a very expansive mood. Therefore, I would like to know, of course, I do not know what is the explanation that the Hon. Minister of Defence gave. I am

sure, he was not involved in the deliberations of this Committee.

The major point which has been agitating the public mind is, namely, the question of payment. When the first allegation came over the Swedish Radio, there was an immediate response. Probably Prof. K. K. Tewary was asked to prepare the draft. Immediately, what came out was "false, mischievous, baseless and so on." "Destabilisation" and so on and so forth came out. I do not know, if he was probably, till then a Minister. I do not know. They are coming and going so often and so fast and having so many directions, it is very difficult to keep a track.

Immediately, then our Prime Minister said, "we have asked the Swedish Government to go into it." Even the National Audit Bureau... (*Interruptions*)

He has become almost a professional heckler. I have to use the word 'almost', otherwise, breach of privilege will be there.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: You are contradicting all the facts. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Aren't you exhausted after so many... (*Interruptions*)

The point is, subsequently, it came out and accepted that money has been paid. The term of reference says:

"to ascertain the identity of the persons who received, and the purpose for which they received, payments of the following amounts:

(a) SEK 170-250 million" etc.

I have no time to go into it.

Therefore the term of reference was not to ascertain whether money has been paid; but to whom paid. Therefore there is no question of payment; payment has been made by Bofors. To whom? How do they go about finding out 'to whom'? They called Bofors. Bofors said, they have not paid. There is a long narration here, if you

have time you may go through it. It is neither a literature nor it is an interesting reading either - without meaning any disrespect to whoever is the actual author.

The point is that you will find only narratives, only quotations, extracts from evidence given by Bofors people. You ask the bribe giver to give the names of the bribe taker and you say that if you give it, well, it will be good; if you don't give it; it will be all right. Because we will not take any action against you. If you cooperate, very well; if you don't cooperate, very well and still better because no name comes out! It is amazing Sir!

Kindly note that thereafter it appeared from Swedish sources that three concerns have been paid the money. There was no doubt as to who received the money. These companies received the money. Then the exercise was to find out who these companies really were; who were the people.

This is very very interesting. I will beseech you to kindly spend a little time over this. I cannot think of a greater travesty of truth. What has happened? What was the job supposed to have been done by these concerns? If you see Page 148, Para 7.015, there is a quotation from the President of Bofors as to the services rendered by these companies. It says:

"There are different types of services and I can mention some of them. For example, one company's services were advice on marketing activities on Bofors products, advice on products of interest for customers and advice on technology transfer and cooperation."

Nothing to do with the commission: Nothing to do with their trying to sell products in India or to any other foreign Government. These are all technical advices.

"For another company, the services were consultancy on international banking relations and counter trade, advice on the general development in different markets; and for third com-

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

pany, the services were advisory, consultancy and support services, for instance to perform comparative analysis and to advise and suggest solution of important problems that may arise during our performance."

That means nothing to do with any agency work. Really giving consultancy services, not connected with any particular prospective buyer or customer. It has also been said by them that they had nothing to do with India, in the territory of India. Kindly come to Page 174, Para 7.189. They said:

"The Bofors' representatives have admitted that three companies, not domiciled in India, were assisting them in connection with the contract for the FH-77-B Howitzer gun under consideration of the Ministry of Defence. They have, however, denied that these companies were anything more than Consultants to Bofors, and stated that they were not used in any manner within the territory of India."

The companies had nothing to do with the negotiations that were going on. They never operated within the territory of India. They were giving technical services not connected with persuading the Ministry of Defence or any authority to purchase these guns. Nothing like that. These concerns' arrangements were supposedly terminated by way of paying winding up charges.

Now, Sir, when the question of ascertaining the whereabouts of these concerns came up, the identity of the people behind these companies came up it has been bound by the Committee that the information which was given by Bofors to the Committee and to the Government of India were almost bogus information. I draw your kind attention to page 132. One company is Svenska registered in Panama. Three ladies names are there. Then it appeared that the address given by the Bofors was all wrong. It was the address of a bank. The bank disputed that they had

anything to do. Our investigating agency says it only consisted of three ladies. It has almost no activity. Inquiries conducted in Panama revealed that the company was managed by an advocate who was also acting as the local representative of the company. The investigating agency also gathered that the President, Vice-President-cum-Treasurer and the Secretary of the company were all ladies and were not persons of any means and that is why her office address had been given as their address. This company hardly ever had any transaction. Inquiries conducted at the address in Geneva, namely; Rue Du la Confederation disclosed that it is the office of the Swiss Bank Corporation and obviously this is the address of the bankers of Svenska Inc., Panama. This is the company with which solemn agreements had been entered into by Bofors when they have nobody to give them any consultancy, there have been no transactions, etc. Svenska has received 188.4 million Swedish Kroners. Its address is unknown. Its activity is unknown. It has not done any transaction ever. That is why they have deliberately refused to produce any document -- either original agreement or cancellation agreement. They cannot afford because these are all bogus concerns. The Committee itself has found that these are front organisations,

Then, Sir, Moresco. According to Bofors one Mr. La Fonte, an employee of Credit Suisse (Bankers) was aware of the payments made to the company. The inquiries made by the investigating agencies revealed that no person by that name was working in the bank. According to the investigating agencies the functioning of Moresco (PITCO) seems to be mysterious as no trace of this company has been found at the address in Geneva given by M/s. A B Bofors. It seems the company registered in Switzerland is only a front organisation being run by persons not residing in Switzerland.

As regards M/s. A.E. Services Ltd. it is in England. It is a company with a huge paid up capital of only 20 Pounds. With these three concerns Bofors had entered into allegedly contracts on such important

nature. These names have been invented and no document has been produced because through these fictitious names the amount that is admittedly paid can be shown to have been paid through these companies. The money has gone ultimately to some other person and any real person cannot be disclosed. This is amazing and you have accepted the Bofors statement who have openly given you false addresses, who have given you names of companies which are bogus organisations as having entered into transactions with them. Now, when they have found out to be all bogus, this Committee has accepted whatever Bofors has said as Gospel truth. This Committee should have said in all honesty that unless the Bofors is compelled to give the figures, we cannot do any justice to this. How will they come? They have come to the finding that no Indian has received any money or no NRI has received any money. How do you come to this positive conclusion? You have not been able to find out the addresses of these three payees of this money. One is 188.4 million SEK, other is 81 million SEK, another is 50 million SEK and these amounts have been paid to concerns with no address, with no activity, with not even a letter-head, with no banking account! It is unfortunate thing that our Committee has accepted Bofors' testimony with regard to everything. Therefore, it is a company which can enter into such shady transactions - a fictitious concern - which is deliberately avoiding to give particulars and information to a Parliamentary Committee, all this information when the highest persons in both the Governments are under attack. If the allegation is proved to be false, their whole position will not be compromised further. They will be restored. Even in spite of that, the Committee has accepted whatever Bofors has said, whatever his officers have said without any investigation. I would have been very happy if this Committee had made a recommendation to the Government threatening Bofors with the cancellation of this contract.

You will find from the report in newspapers also. There was a celebration in Bofors, in the town where Bofors company

is situate, after this contract was given. Otherwise, Bofors company was closing down. People were going to be retrenched. They celebrated. They hoisted the Indian flag because this Indian contract saved that company and its employees and the defence industry there. They cannot possibly afford to annoy the Government of India to disclose even with all confidence, with all secrecy, the real persons, the real addresses. These are front companies. These are fictitious concerns which have been thought of for the purpose of siphoning of funds through the names of these companies.

Mr. N. D. Tiwari said solemnly in this House on the 6th of August 1987 in the Rajya Sabha -- I stand corrected:

"We have decided to enter into a treaty for mutual assistance in criminal matters with Swiss authorities".

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati):
Here also.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am thankful to Mr. Goswami. Then, no approach has been made. One year has gone by. Swiss Government spokesman said: There have been no talks on a treaty or exchange of notes or memorandum of undertaking. Swiss accounts could have been looked into if our Government had entered into a treaty as Mr. N. D. Tiwari -- your own Finance Minister now -- has promised to the House. What has happened to this treaty? What has happened to the approach made to the Swiss Government to disclose the particulars of the Swiss accounts?

Sir, I am very sorry that I cannot accept this report. I must say that I am unhappy that very many respected friends and Members of this House have unwittingly become parties to this. For that reason and for personal reasons, we cannot accept something. We cannot but reject fully and wholeheartedly.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must say that I am extremely sorry that learned Members of the

[Shri Bipin Pal Das]

Opposition have only indulged in hurling abuses against the Government and the ruling Party, and also against the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Mr. Chatterjee went to the extent of describing the Members of the JPC as something which earlier has been expunged. (*Interruptions*)

I never interrupt anybody. I am sorry that this has been done by the learned Members of the Opposition instead of discussing the issues on merit, and that is exactly why, perhaps, they opted out of the Committee at that time. It will be noted, as stated by my friends, that as soon as this news came out in the Swedish Radio, it was the Prime Minister who took the initiative, called the Leaders of the Opposition, asked them what to do. At that time, they were demanding -- Parliamentary Committee for everything, and when the Prime Minister agreed to have a Parliamentary Committee, they found some excuse and opted out. The reason was definitely political, and today's debate indicates very clearly that they have not examined the Report on merit but they are trying to make a political game out of it. I am extremely sorry for this.

This is not a usual Committee. This was a special Committee entrusted with an extraordinary task to perform. I must say that the Committee have acquitted themselves very creditably, with dignity and honour, thereby raising the dignity and prestige of the Parliament as a whole. This will go down on record that such a Committee for such a purpose, appointed for the first time, has done an excellent job with dignity and honour. And they will raise the prestige and honour of this Parliament for all times to come. They have now placed all the information that came to this hands before the Parliament, before the nation. It is for us to judge now. It would have been better if these Members were also Members of this Committee. I would have been happy personally, if those who opted out were also Members of this Committee. In that case, they would have been able to make

an effort to find out the truth, instead of shouting and hurling abuses against our party, against the Government and the Prime Minister. They would have been able to find out the truth and help the Committee in finding out the truth. What they are saying here, they could have said inside the Committee. They did not do so deliberately, in order to make a political capital out of it.

I hope that this JPC Report will be treated with due respect that any Parliamentary Report deserves. I must also compliment the government, and particularly the Defence Ministry, for the excellent co-operation given to the JPC not only by appearing before them as witnesses, but also by supplying the classified documents for the Committee's perusal. Sir, I have been a Member of so many Parliamentary Committees. Classified documents are never made available to Parliamentary Committees. This is the first time that the Government has gone out of its way to place the classified documents before the Committee for its perusal. It is an extraordinary step which the Government have taken in the interest of the truth, in the interest of the nation, of the country. There is no doubt about it. Otherwise, they could have refused on some plea or some excuse. It is a matter of credit for the Committee that two leading representatives of the Bofors Company appeared before the Committee in India. On Indian soil and the Committee was successful in dragging Win Chadha into the witness box. These are no mean achievements of a Committee of this type.

16.00 hrs.

There are three basic issues before us today. Firstly, whether the gun purchased is of a high quality and suitable for our purpose; secondly, whether the price paid or contracted is reasonable and thirdly, whether there were any middleman involved in the purchase of these guns. These are, in my opinion, the three basic issues which we are confronted with. There are, of course, certain other side issues also.

I am not a technical man, certainly not an expert on guns. It is for man like General Sparrow or Col. Mushran to give an opinion about the quality of guns. However I am convinced after going through the report and other papers that the Bofors gun was the best available for us in the competitive market. Although there were four systems before us at the beginning, ultimately Bofors and Sofma systems were adjudged by the army since August 1984 to be the only two acceptable systems. Both were well-known with well established reputation and technical competence. It is true that at first General Sunderji rated Sofma first and Bofors second in 1982. But because of change in threat perceptions primarily the reported acquisition of target radars by our neighbouring country. General Sunderji gave higher rank to Bofors in February 1986 because of its true burst fire and shooting capability. The Army Headquarters opinion in 1986 was that Bofors gun should be acquired even if it was more costly.

The JPC report has clearly established that the procedures prescribed for the acquisition of weapon systems were faithfully followed by the Army Headquarters and the Ministry of Defence in the purchase of Bofors guns. After examining all aspects of both the Sofma and Bofors systems, JPC has come to the conclusion that the best gun has been selected for the Indian Army. It is in this connection that I would like to refer to Field Marshal Maneck Shaw's opinion. You may accuse General Sunderji of something because he was in service at that time, but Field Marshal Maneck Shaw is not in service. He said publicly that Bofors was the best gun available for this country.

Shri K. K. Tewary also referred to General Jagjit Singh Aurora and others. They also certified this gun. Why did they certify this gun? If they all certified this gun to be the best gun available for this country; certainly we did not make any mistake in purchasing the gun. We have done the right thing. Therefore, there is hardly any room for questioning this conclusion of the Government and the Committee.

If there is anybody who wants to question the judgement of Generals in such matters, he must also think of the consequences of questioning the judgement of our Generals in such matters. Nobody can question the integrity and patriotism of our armed forces and our Generals. We are proud of them. And we have full faith in them. I do not think any armed force will let down this country. They have not done in the past and they will not do in the future. In some sense they are more patriot i.e. than we are and we must have full faith in them. When they certify this gun, we have to accept it, because I am not a technical man, not an expert of the guns.

It is not correct for Mr. Aladi Aruna to say that after 1981-82 the systems were not re-examined or revalued. It is not correct. The committee has examined it and given their comments on it. The improvements made to the system were observed by competent and senior personnel on more than one occasion after the initial trials and evaluation and the result thereof have been tabulated and assessed. This was done more than once and discussed in detail in the negotiating committee meetings. Initially the French system appeared to have an advantage because of commonality which it might have had with self propelling gun, but later on it appeared that in all respects, I am not going into the details, in the matter of range, in the matter of fire power, in the matter of faster rate of firing, in all matters, later on the Bofors gun was found to be superior to the French gun.

Finally, Sir, because of the acquisition of fire finding radars by potential adversary, more weightage naturally had to be given to burst fire capability which Bofors possesses. It was also assessed that in future development it would be relatively easier for the Bofors gun to attain still higher ranges, whereas it would be more difficult for the French gun to attain the degree of automation and burst fire capability of the Bofors system. These are in short, Sir, the reasons why the Army General, General Sunderji finally opted for Bofors in 1986 as more suitable in the prevailing circumstances.

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Other points raised by Mr. Aruna are wholly irrelevant in this respect and politically motivated. In brief Mr. Aruna's note is a by-product of the political developments in Tamil Nadu. JPC has gone through the entire records. Now, he talked about the procedure. JPC has gone through the entire records of the selection process and examined senior officers from both the Army and the Defence Ministry. The Committee was convinced that the procedure adopted and the final selection made by the Army Head-quarters were not of any single individual but the result of the institutionalised process.

Now, about the price. So far as the quality is concerned, there is no doubt that we have selected the best gun but what about the price. Again, Sir, I do not want to go into the details. During the negotiation period the prices went up and down. Sometimes the Bofors was cheaper and sometimes the French was cheaper. It went on till the end, but towards the end -- I must give the compliment, it was creditable on the part of the Price Negotiating Committee to adopt such an approach in negotiating—that the Bofors price came down and the price for the French system went up relatively speaking. This happened at the last moment and, therefore, from the point of view of price also, it was quite justified for us to buy the Bofors gun in place of the French gun. I may also point out, Sir, when the Price Negotiating Committee was examining the price question in all aspects, not simply the market value but in all aspects, from the future possibility point of view or from the expenditure point of view, during that time in that P.N.C, the Price Negotiating Committee, there were three representatives from the Finance Ministry. Who was the Finance Minister at that time? Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh was the Finance Minister at that time. He was kept informed of the day-to-day developments about this Price Negotiation Committee proceedings. When we finally accepted the Bofors gun for Rs. 1427 crores - if I am not wrong - instead of Rs. 1436 crores of the French Gun, Shri Vishwanath Pratap

Singh accorded his approval. It was very clearly understood that it was not dictated by somebody in the Defence Ministry or in the Prime Minister's office. PNC had gone into the whole process according to the rules and procedures. The Finance Ministry was kept informed. They were kept in the picture when it was approved. So this must be understood very clearly. The substance is that a superior system was purchased at less than the floor price of a relatively inferior system. That itself justifies the entire deal in financial terms. The Price Negotiation Committee succeeded in its strategy of generating intense competition among the suppliers. As a result, there was a reduction of more than 15 per cent during the final stages of negotiation with Bofors which yielded a saving of Rs. 192.5 crores for India.

Shri Aruna has raised some other points. I will not go into them. I will simply say that this computation by the Price Negotiation Committee experts took into account all elements of cash flow including advance payments to be made, guarantee, premium, rate of interest and other debt service charges, etc. The Price Negotiation Committee took all these factors into account and came to a conclusion. The Department of Defence Production and Supplies stated that it was not possible to come to a final opinion as to which was the cheaper offer of the two. The reason was that till the system had been selected and a project prepared for its licensed production and investment costs concretised, the financial implications of licensed production could not be accurately estimated. Therefore, fluctuations went on till the last moment. That was the reason of fluctuation. So, in the final stages of negotiation, Bofors were compelled to reduce their price by almost Rs. 200 crores, before it succeeded in securing the order. It is therefore clearly established that the system preferred by the Army was acquired at comparable prices to the floor price of the French system. Moreover, the financial advantage inherent in the induction of Bofors system because of its smaller crew would in long run yield a saving of tens of crores to this country.

Shri Aruna also raised the question of deliveries. Deliveries were to be completed by Bofors within 51 months as against 52 months of the French system. But the commencement of supplies from the Bofors was much earlier. The initial consignment of 12 guns were to be made available to us by Bofors within three months of the effectiveness of the contract which we utilised for training purposes. Initial deliveries from the French system were to commence after eight months. The contract was operative with effect from 3.5.1986 and the first delivery was made by the Bofors on 29th July, 1986.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): After six months, instead of three months. Please see your brief, whether it is correct or not.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: 3rd May 1986 to 29th July 1986 is not six months. With my little knowledge of arithmetic, it is less than three months. The first consignment came within that period. That was not available for the French system.

Some people have questioned the time spent in finalising the contract. The time spent in finalizing the contract was to our advantage, as very favourable commercial terms could thus be obtained. Thus it is clear that both from the point of view of quality and terms of purchase, Bofors were the best available system for us. There is, therefore, no question of any extraneous influence in this deal. It stands justified on its own merits.

It has been irrefutably established, as acknowledged by the Swedish Government, the Bofors and the Swedish National Audit Bureau, that our Prime Minister personally expressed to Olof Palme that there must be no agent whatsoever; and that was accepted by Bofors at that time. The Prime Minister was very careful right from the beginning. When there was almost a decision to purchase this gun, the Prime Minister insisted that there should not be any middlemen, and they all agreed. (*Interruptions*). The Bofors representatives refused to disclose the identity of the re-

ipients of their amounts, on grounds of breach of contract and commercial secrecy. My learned friend Mr. Somnath Chatterjee has tried to cut jokes about it, and has made much fun of it. If the Bofors representatives persistently refused to disclose the identity of the names, what can we do? what can you do? what can God do? They came here twice. They refused. Is that our fault? Is it the fault of the Committee? Did not the Committee try for it? Is it the fault of the Government?

The Swedish Public Prosecutor-- please note this-- was also unable to find evidence to support a conclusion that an offence had been committed under Swedish law. The Swedish themselves failed to come to any conclusion that their own law had been violated. Our Attorney General also tendered similar advice. The JPC had taken, on record, a certificate by the Public Accountant in Sweden confirming Bofors' statement that agreements between Messrs Bofors and other parties, some of which originated as long ago as the '70s, had been terminated, and were no longer operative. This was the certificate given by the Public Accountant of Sweden, and this has been put on records.

The termination costs were paid during December 1986, and these termination costs were substantially lower than the amounts which would have been paid if the agreements in force during 1985 had been applied.

Finally, the prices in the Indian contract were lower than comparable prices offered to any other customer by Bofors elsewhere. So, in the absence of any other reliable evidence to the contrary, the presumption goes in favour of Bofors' claim that payment of winding-up costs was in their best interest. It was in their interest-- that is what they said, and it cannot be contradicted.

I do not want to touch Win Chadha because he passed through several metamorphosis. At one time, he was an agent at some other time, he was somebody else. Ultimately, at the time of our signing of this agreement, he was certainly not an agent

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for the Bofors. That is very clear; and in any case, he could not give any information when he appeared before the Committee. So, there is no purpose to be served. He was only a supporting hand and not an agent in the true sense in 1986. Direct business negotiations were handled by the Bofors and none did them on their authority.

I do not want to go into the opinion of the Attorney-General. He gave an exhaustive opinion. It is already in the Report. He said very clearly that in the absence of an agreement between the Bofors and the recipients, it will be difficult to say whether the amount paid constituted a commission and was against the terms of contract. He also said that it was proper for Bofors to seek expert advice on various aspects and such persons or agencies would not be a "middle man" in the true sense. Thirdly, he also said that merely from the circumstances of the Bofors having paid a certain amounts to certain companies one could not draw an inference that they were middle man. Fourthly, he has also said that in law no person could be expected to prove negative. A very important statement he made. Only the positive could be proved by evidence and the burden of proof would lie on others and not on Bofors. He also said that Bofors were entitled to claim confidentiality. His final opinion was that on the basis of available evidence, an inference that the payment made by Bofors would help in winning of the contract would not be drawn.

I have quoted the views and opinions of the Army experts. Then I said what happened regarding fixation of the prices, what role the Finance Ministry played and the Finance Minister played. Regarding legal aspects and other aspects, about middle men, the opinion of the Attorney-General has been very clearly given. Are we to go by the Attorney-General's opinion or not? After all, who is there in this country in the legal field whose opinion will count more than the Attorney-General's. If you do not want to accept Sundarji's opinion, if you do not want to accept the Attorney

General's opinion, if you do not want to accept anybody's opinion, whose opinion are you accepting? You are accepting the opinion of some people who read something in the newspapers occasionally; you are going by the opinion of those people. I do not want to name them because that will again hurt you. That is the crux of the matter. The whole problem is that you are guided by some people who are interested in destabilising our Government, our system, our Prime Minister and who are interested in weakening this country. You are not guided by Army experts; you are not guided by our own officers; you are not guided by the Finance Minister; you are not guided by the Attorney-General; you are guided by some people who are out to destroy this country. This is the conclusion that I have to draw; unfortunately, logically speaking that is the only conclusion that I have to draw after listening to you. Therefore, there is no evidence to show that any middle man or any question of bribe was involved. (*Interruptions*) You ask Bofors. It is they who have paid. We do not know why they have paid. It is their business. I do not know why he is spending so much of time in discussing this matter. It is their business to pay and for what purpose they paid; whether it was for washing the bath room, I do not know; whether it was for cleaning the floor, I do not know; it is for them to tell you.

MR. SPEAKER: No arguments on the floor of the House.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: We do not know. Therefore, the question of payment to any Indian or Indian company, whether resident in India or not, does not arise. There is no evidence to establish that Bofors payment of SEK 319.4 millions involved violation of the Indian law. They also said that there was no violation of any Swedish law.

Sir, JPC, our Committee -- I conclude by saying -- reiterated that in contrast to what Mr. Aruna has stated, it was amply emphasised that it was at the instance and insistence of the Prime Minister that a total prohibition was placed on employment of middlemen so far as the Bofors contract

was concerned. Even the Prime Minister's final approval -- that is my last sentence -- even the Prime Ministers final approval to the recommendation of the Price Negotiating Committee, in his capacity as the then Defence Minister was accorded after the then Finance Minister and the Minister of State for Defence had cleared the proposal without any reservation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, towards the beginning of this debate the Honourable Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and for Information and Broadcasting also, had a jibe at my colleague, and said that he has been proved to be a damp squib, the Mover of this Motion. Well, all I can say is, that this Committee and the Committee's report, have proved to be more of a damp squib. Not that I am surprised in the least, because you will pardon me, but I will just refer briefly today to my two speeches which I had made in this House, which I am sure the Defence Minister may be able to recall, during that period when the question of constitution of this Committee was going on. One discussion we had on the 3rd of August last year and another one on the 26th of August and on both those occasions I had made it quite clear that there was not possibility whatsoever, of finding out the recipient, or the recipients of this money, unless Bofors, the Company itself was willing do disclose the necessary facts, which they obviously were not in a mood to do.

It does not take so many months to enquiry by the Committee to establish this fact that Bofors is not going to tell you who they had given this money to. I was sure of it from the beginning, because we have no sources of our own.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: Your friends were not sure.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Because, the original evidence which could not be denied by anybody came from the National Audit Bureau of Sweden, not from the Swedish Radio, from the National Audit Bureau Report, up to which time, up to the time of the report of the National Audit Bu-

reau of Sweden what was being said was that the whole thing is a concoction, a fabrication or allegation, which has no purpose behind it except to discredit the Prime Minister and destabilise the Government. Nobody paid any attention from that side to the Swedish Radio or the Swedish Press. Many allegations were made by them. It was only after the irrefutable evidence contained in the National Audit Bureau Report, of the Swedish Government' was revealed, in which it was admitted that the large sum of money, some 60 to 64 crores in our money, has been paid -- but to whom it has been paid is being kept confidential and will not be revealed -- it was only after that the Government and the Prime Minister, I think, left with no other option then, had to agree to our demand for a Parliamentary Commission. Before that you never agreed. Before that you said, the whole thing is a fabrication and a concoction. So, it seems that we put more credence on external sources, ultimately. Ultimately you could not deny this National Audit Bureau report of Sweden. But even then, after that when our discussions began, I had said and some other friends also said, I do not think that they had much confidence that this Committee would be able to find out, who the money has been paid to. The only way you perhaps can do it, I am not quite hundred per cent sure, but there was a chance of doing some arm-twisting with Bofors. They are interested in selling us these guns. You have heard about how happy they were when the contract went through. How they celebrated it in Sweden and all that. They are very much interested in selling us that gun. It was a very big order. Therefore, we as the purchasers as the buyers would certainly have to some extent a whip hand, we could do a bit of arm twisting that if you do not tell us to whom this money has been paid to, we will have to reconsider whether we buy these guns from you or not. But, that is not the way of our Government.

I am only sorry now to find that all the Members who have spoken from that side, nobody seems to regret at all the fact that we could not find out. There was no ex-

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pression of regret. They are all so happy. My friend Shri Bipin Pal Das was saying, everything is there, established in law, in finance, in commerce, artillery expert, what not do you want. Don't you feel a little bit of regret that we have paid this money for these guns and a huge amount of Rs. 60 or Rs. 65 crores... (*Interruptions*)

Now you want me to yield. Why should I yield? You had a very good brief with you and you did justice to it. I am not doubting that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: You are misquoting me. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You stuck very meticulously to your brief. That is good.

Bofors Company, I think there is no harm in saying now because a lot of evidence has come out subsequently, is not a company which is always having very straight hones and above board deal not only concerned with India but with so many other countries, where they have been accused of violating certain norms and certain laws of the Swedish Government itself in the matter of supplying defence equipments to areas and regions, where they are not supposed to do it. Anyway, we picked on this company. Now, Sir, they are refusing to tell us. All that business of drawing those fraudulent names of three companies across the trail in order to confuse people and all that, has been adequately dealt with by my friend Mr. Chatterjee and I do not wish to relate and repeat all those things. Fraudulent companies, they do not exist at all, those names had been given by the two representatives of Bofors who came all the way to India. Those names were given to the Defence Secretary. They were given subsequently to the Committee. In the Report, the Committee has accepted on the face of it that the payment has been made to those three companies. But any such slightest investigation shows that there are no such companies. If there are such companies, they were nothing to do with the work of the commission agents or ne-

gotiations or anything like that. It is impossible to believe that all the money has been paid to them.

Then, Sir, there is a question of Win Chadha, whom we could not get back from America all these times because we have been told that he is a holder of a green card. He had a son, who had gone to our Embassy or Consulate, I do not know, at Washington or somewhere else in order to get their papers and travel documents and all that put in proper order. All this was known to our people there. Our missions abroad knew all these things. They knew that he was wanted here. Anyhow, we have said that we cannot do anything because he is a holder of a green card. We found out later on that he has no green card. Of course he says that he had surrendered it back voluntarily to the United States Government. I do not know whether this is a fact or not. Apparently, our Government was not informed by our missions abroad. I do not know what kind of responsibility or what kind of efficiency some of our missions abroad have if they do not keep track of things at a moment like this. Anyway, Mr. Win Chadha ultimately came here or he was persuaded to come or he thought it necessary and decided to come. Because just a few days earlier there was a talk of a sub-committee of the Committee going to America to interrogate him. It was protested rightly on the floor of the House that we should not demean ourselves to that extent. It was not done, I am glad. And he came.

I am referring to Mr. Aladi Aruna's note, only those parts where he had quoted from other people's evidence or some documents and not his own comments or observations. That you will say, it is motivated, prejudiced and all that. Apart from this, I have never seen this kind of prejudice being shown before that in the contents of this report, his note is given a post script. I was looking for his note. I could not find it. I was looking in the contents where the note is. There is no mention of that there. Then I found that it is under the heading post script. Post script has a specific meaning as far as I understand. Even in the contents they are not willing to write

at the bottom a note which is appended or minutes of dissent by Mr. Aladi Aruna. It was written post script hoping that it will be somehow hidden or concealed below all these.

Now, referring to Mr. Win Chadha, who has, I believe, as reported, told the Committee that he was never an agent or never a middleman of the Bofors. Mr. Lars Gothlin, one of the spokesman of the Bofors, has said this in quotation marks. So, I take it that it is not something cooked up by Mr. Aladi Aruna. Lars Gothlin has reiterated:

"The old contract (*i.e.* Win Chadha's contract) was a commission contract and in order to follow up the requirements made by your Prime Minister the Company terminated the commission contract with Anatronics General Corporation."

Anatronics General Corporation, as you know, is Mr. Win Chadha's company. Here Mr. Lars Gothlin is admitting that the contract with him was not a contract simply for supplying DLY cars and booking rooms in hotels and that kind of thing, as he was trying to make out at one time. It was a commission contract which Mr. Lars Gothlin felt had to be cancelled or terminated because the Prime Minister of India had insisted that there should not be any commission agent. So, what was Mr. Win Chadha doing here all these years? What services was he performing? What services was he rendering? It was not known to this Committee. They never tried to find out anything. But the contradiction comes here that our CBI agency, which was also carrying out parallel investigations, had confirmed that Win Chadha received payments "for the services rendered during the trials of the gun and negotiations of the contract". This is what the CBI says. Either the CBI is wrong or Mr. Win Chadha is wrong or the Committee has been taken for a ride. The Defence Minister should tell about this. But no ordinary person in this country believes that a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs per month is being paid to Mr. Win Chadha only for performing technical jobs like hiring taxis and hotel rooms and all that, months after months and for years to-

gether. I heard something, but I do not want to say it here, about some matrimonial connections of some of the members of his family. I do not want to say it here because it is not confirmed by me yet. But it is very interesting if it can be confirmed. But he has some contacts. And naturally so because all these companies operate through people who are useful to them because they have contacts and links with a number of important people in Delhi sitting in important positions in the Government. That is the only way that can help these companies. Everybody knows it and every child knows it. There was a time when they used to operate from the Central Hall of Parliament until a rule was made that they would not be allowed to come here and enter here. Nobody was allowed to bring such people here. Everybody knows it. There are many such instances I can give. It seems some points came up in the mind of the common man who is really worried about this whole affair. It seems, the Committee should have been more persistent, more interested to pursue it further and find out what are the facts. But this kind of a thing is totally lacking in the committee, I find. Contradictory statements are made before it, absolutely contradictory statements, and still they believed them at that. They do not bother to try to find out who is telling the truth and who is telling the lies. In my speech on the debate on the third of August, I had complimented Mr. K. C. Pant on the letter which he had written on the 16th of June, 1987 to Bofors and I had quoted from the information that was furnished to us, in which he had asked for information from Bofors on five specific points. I had raised it in this context that I would be very happy if he would agree to incorporate these five points in the terms of reference of the then proposed committee, because we were not concerned only with the question of who received the money. That was one point -- important point, no doubt. But I always held, from the beginning, that you will never find out who received the money. But is that the only thing we are concerned with? This is a security matter. It affects the entire security and defence of our country for the future. All we are concerned with, or not

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concerned with, is to find out who took the money. I had said at that time that it is not true, and Mr. Pant, in his letter to Bofors, had asked for information on five points, two of which are about this amount of money -- who received and how much money. The other three points were:

- (iii) The services rendered by such persons or companies with reference to which such amounts have been paid -- Bofors is not going to tell us;
- (iv) The copies of contracts, agreements and correspondence between Bofors and such recipients;

Have they been obtained by the Commission? They are not available here in this book.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJÉE: They have refused to give.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Or did they refuse to give?

- (v) All other facts, circumstances and details relating to these transactions in their possession.

Well, obviously they re not in any mood to give us all this information.

These are what Mr. Pant at that time had considered crucial and I had requested him that kindly make these also part of the terms of reference of the Committee. That also was not done.

Another question on which I had been very insistent -- I raised it a number of times; Mr. Pant knows it, Mr. Patil knows it -- was whether and to what extent this agreement with Bofors provides for the right to manufacture this gun indigenously here in our country, and what is the technical knowhow arrangement for that because without their designs and their documents and all those things, we cannot make that gun here. Do you really think

that the gun is such a wonderful gun, as you are trying to make out? -- I am not going into that now. Leave it at that the artillery people know more than we know about it. So, there are some uncomfortable questions which have remained and which I suppose will never be answered. I do not want to rake them up now because once we have contracted for the gun, it is no use all the time trying to point out that there were certain features of the gun which were not the best. There were other guns which were better in some respects, the Bofors gun was better in other respects. That is true. But who is to decide? People who were given the authority to decide, decided. But what about the future indigenous manufacture of this gun?

Now Sir, I find in this Report a very interesting thing. I got this Report only this afternoon. That is why it is rather difficult for me to ... (*Interruptions*).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Chairman also got it today.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The fact, which is still unknown to us, to Parliament and to the public is that it is correct -- it will finally be corroborated by the Minister -- that Messrs. Bofors agreed to grant exclusive licence and right to manufacture this medium 155 mm gun in India, provided the Government of India undertakes to purchase fifty per cent of the total contract orders of the gun system, namely, the direct sight, night sight, aiming, coordinator, H.E. shell etc., from Bofors because these items are not manufactured by Bofors. These items are not manufactured by Bofors. But Bofors' condition was that 50 % of these items will have to be bought directly from Bofors by us and the Government of India agreed to buy more than half of certain items like vehicles from Bofors. Without this, they were not willing to give us any licence right to manufacture in this country.

Now Sir, in my speech on the 26th August, 1987, I had referred precisely to this fact that what is being sold to us in the package deal includes sub-system, which are manufactured or provided by other

firms, and not by Bofors and their representatives in this country. Their agents, their commission men are here. Did the Commission try to find them out what they were up to? I am just quoting this. Government never told us also whether any investigation had been carried out. There is, for example, one Mr. Vinod Khanna who is an agent in India for the *Saab-Scania* trucks which are used for towing the gun. I said he may be just an employee of Mr. Thapar, I do not know. He lives in Golf Link. At the time when the news broke out of the money being taken, he was perhaps away on a visit to London. His house was raided here. I do not know if anything was found or not. Then, Sir, about any action was taken, no mention of him anywhere. There are also *Volvo B-20* auxiliary power units which are used on the gun. They are not manufactured by Bofors, they are manufactured by *Volvo* and their agent is Mr. Jagannath Rao who runs the firm called Jagat Agency. He is very much here and available. There is a *Marconi* defence system which mainly consists of the computer which is incorporated with the gun. Here we got Mr. Rajiv Chowdhary and Mr. Sudhir Chowdhary who are agents of this *Marconi* defence system. They are here in India. Have you tried to do anything? Have you tried to find out anything, how much operations and dealings of these people go on? The Commission has done nothing about it. And yet I find now, if this is correct, that the agreement in order to get the licence right for manufacture here, we are pressurised, we do not pressurise Bofors, Bofors pressurises us, to see that 50 % of money of these items of assembly of components and all that which are not manufactured directly by Bofors but by other people will have to be bought by us from Bofors. It is an interesting point which I am raising. Then do you think I leave on uncomfortable questions in the minds which are not necessary, I want to know? I do not know if this Commission is the last Commission that this Parliament is ever going to have so that this matter is ever going to be pursued or not. Then Sir, my friend here has spoken a lot about the Government that commercially speaking and in terms of credit and all that, this was

the best deal that we could do with Bofors. In his note, Mr. Aladi Aruna - I want to know whether it is a fact or not or whether it is just the propaganda - says what is not being stated here that we have to pay Bofors only 49% in Swedish kroner, the remaining 51% has to be paid in German Deutsche Mark and therefore when you calculate what you have to pay for the total contract value, a part of it you have to convert from Swedish into rupees, the remaining 51% from German Mark into rupees and, therefore, what the total amount is, how much we are actually having to spend and compare that with the French gun it is to be paid for only in single currency, that is, the French Franc and according to this report, M/s. Sofma of France, though its price was a little higher than Bofors about 9.73 crores more expensive, but they have agreed to supply spare parts and maintenance of equipments free of charge for five years, I do not know. But then in commercial, in terms of credit, it does not necessarily follow that Bofors gun was the best deal apart from questions of range and all that. I am not going into that. There is no use in going into that. The fire-burst may be very good, their maneuverability of speed and we also received the briefing from the Chief of the Army Staff. So, we also know something about that though I am not a Member of that Committee. Sir, about the range of the gun there is no doubt about it, it was inferior.

Final point Sir -- I have so many things to say, but any way, I would say that if the Chairman of this Committee had come before this House and taken the stand that 'I had asked for time up to the 29th to table my report which the House had very kindly given me, quite true, and in the mean time three or four days earlier some further information has appeared in the press which is very vital for this whole affair involving the name of a well-known family of non-resident Indians who function from abroad with documents and facsimiles and everything..' The whole thing may be bogus, but you have to prove that it is bogus and if the Chairman had come and said that 'this has come now, it will take us a few days to investigate, but

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

we think it should be investigated, and therefore, I want time' -- he did not have a train or plane to catch, there is no great hurry, Sir, he could have asked for a few days' more time, we would have been more satisfied to go into this business about the Hindujas and Pitco and all that business. Now, no reply is here, we do not know what the truth of the matter is. Who is to do it? Are you going to set up another Committee? I don't mind, let us set up another Committee. But the Committee should have done this, it would have lent credibility to its image instead of just hurrying up and saying, 'On the 29th we are going to bring our Report' although this whole business has been hanging over their heads. I am sorry he did not do that because that would have lent prestige and dignity to the Parliamentary Committee and its credibility would have improved. But now of course we cannot be expected to close this report after we discuss it and I do not think it will cut much ice with the public of this country either. Therefore, I am very sorry, Sir, that a sort of a half baked job has been done and he has been taken for a ride by this Company, the Bofors. That is the worst think of all.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while appreciating the anxiety of my friend who just spoke that the whole truth has not come out in regard to the payments that have been effected, I would like to congratulate the Joint Parliamentary Committee for their Report on the basis of the facts and the material that was available to them. Sir, actually what are we exactly looking for in this matter?

AN HON. MEMBER: That should be decided.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Precisely. So, I am starting from there.

We had more than half a dozen debates in this House. What has been brought out in these debates? Is it a game? Where did the trouble arise? The fact of the matter is

that as the Committee also finds, and I will quote that, there seems to be -- I would call it a convention of whatever it could be called -- there seems to be an established practice in the Defence about the agents being employed. This, the Committee itself brings it out on page 106 of its report, and I would only like to quote that part and proceed further:

"Lt. Gen. H. Kaul in his evidence informed the Committee that the practice of utilising the services of agents in procurement of Defence equipments had been in vogue earlier."

The former Secretary, Expenditure, also testifies to that. Finally, the Defence Secretary himself on p. 107 says, and I quote:

"The Defence Secretary informed the Committee that in November 1984 when the new Government under the present Prime Minister took over, it was decided that henceforth Defence contracts would be transacted and concluded totally without agents."

And he quoted:

"The deal would be totally and exclusively between the Government of India on the one side and the manufacturers on the other."

Therefore, the position seems to be that there used to be agents. Now, where did this Government come into difficulty and gave a reason for my friends sitting on the other side to have a tirade. In 1984, and thereafter, the Government decided that they should not deal with the gents and that the Defence Ministry should directly conclude the contract. (*Interruptions*) I leave it to you, to your judgement. I cannot correct you because you are so incorrigible.

Now the position is that because this attitude was taken, which attitude is quite evident, even by the report itself -- I would again go back to the report at page 166 where this report categorically brings out as to what exactly has happened after the Prime Minister took over.

"The Committee find that the question of appointment of Indian agents in relation to purchase of 155 mm. gun was raised in the meeting of the Negotiating Committee held on 31st July, 1984. The Committee were given details of the Indian agents appointed by the four firms. A view was expressed by the then Secretary (Expenditure) that while conducting negotiations, an exercise may be undertaken for reducing costs by reducing the percentage of commission being offered to Indian agents.

While the negotiations were on, the new Government decided that henceforth defence contracts would be finalised totally without agents and that negotiations will be held directly with the foreign suppliers. The Defence Secretary accordingly called the representatives of the four contenders on 3rd May, 1985 and told them in clear terms that the Government of India did not permit the involvement of Indian agents acting for foreign suppliers. They were, therefore, asked to make suitable reduction in their offers in case they had kept any commission for payment to the Indian agent."

Thereafter, there is involvement of the various officers and then, finally the Prime Minister himself talked to Mr. Olof Palme.

"The Committee note that the matter was discussed by the Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, with Mr. Olof Palme, the Prime Minister of Sweden when they met in New York in November, 1985. Later in January, 1986, the Swedish Prime Minister informed Prime Minister of India that Bofors had declared their wish to conclude business directly with the Indian Defence Ministry without any middleman.. and so on and so forth."

Now the point what I am trying to make out is this. Because this Government took this attitude that there shall be no middleman and it transpires more than clear that SEK 319 million had been paid to three companies, my friends would like to question -- not that they are really interested as to whom this money has gone.

That is not very relevant for them. They had been harping practically for one year that some-how, to involve the Prime Minister directly or indirectly. It is because, their game will not be complete till then.

In Defence contracts, agents were being paid commission, the concepts of agents being recognised under the contract law is well known to all of us. The concept of agency is absolutely legal. The law itself recognises it. You cannot abolish it. And the agents are paid commission. There being paid commissions all these years is not in dispute. But since the Prime Minister took the stand that there shall no more be agents and we shall not deal with the agents, since directly the Defence Ministry has dealt with Bofors -- the consequence of it, how it developed, I will come at a later stage. There it has been found that certain amounts had been paid to certain companies which would have been usual in the ordinary course, they would like to covertly or remotely connect it indirectly to the Prime Minister.

17.00 hrs.

This has been their endeavour for the last one year where they failed. Otherwise, who is interested to whom the money has gone? I agree with Mr. Indrajit Gupta that it was not possible for anyone to delve deep and find out as to who is the exact person to whom the moneys have been paid. While three companies have come to light -- nothing to laugh, my friends. It is a matter of shame. Why should you laugh?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: It is a shame to receive the commission.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: It is a shame for all of us.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: It is a shame to receive the commission.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: You have received it here.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: That is why, the Prime Minister negotiated.

[Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao]

with Mr. Olof Palme even before the issue was clinched in November, 1985.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I am going to give the details about it also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep quiet. He has not interrupted anybody. You had your say.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I appreciate the provocation on the part of my friend. Because his leader had been indicted in the court and he is shameless not even to ...

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: What is this he speaks? Why unnecessarily he is talking of Shri N.T. Rama Rao? The Prime Minister negotiated even before the issue was clinched.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: You provoked me. You must be prepared to receive it. Otherwise keep quiet. Listen to me. I am not provoking you personally. Truth or untruth, the court has decided. If you do not have faith in the court, forget about it. If you provoke me, you must be prepared to receive it. Otherwise, listen to me. I am not provoking you.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: I am not provoking you.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us do it in a dignified way.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I am not the one who leaves it like that. The point that I was trying to say is, what happened after the intervention of the Prime Minister and how far the country has been benefited, I am going into that question. I will not leave it like that. So, I will explain it to the best of my capacity. The point that I was trying to say is that every time we are discussing Bofors, more than half-a-dozen times, do you want to survive on suspicion? Where there is no suspicion, do you try to create a disinformation which you have been doing for the last one year? Where there is no case, you have been trying to create a case. You have been spreading canards. You have been

spreading all types of rumours. Somehow or the other, people who have faith in the leader, that faith should be shaken. That is your endeavour. Otherwise, you are not interested in anything. I am confident about it.

As I said, in the defence deals, as it appears, commissions have been paid. The view that was taken by the Prime Minister was and this is the misfortune that he has taken the view, that there should be no commission agents through whom it should be talked about and since he has taken that view, so he must pay the price. This is the case of the other side. This is the whole approach that they had been taking.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: That is right.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I recall the very first debate in this House. A day before, one of the newspapers which had been raking up the issues, which had been espousing that the Opposition will demand for the Joint Parliamentary Committee and the very next day here when the debate started, there was the chorus. The chorus on the other side was that there should be a Joint Parliamentary Committee. They went the whole hog. They did not say at that time "Look. You are in a majority and you cannot be in the majority in the Joint Parliamentary Committee" which issue has now been raised.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: No-body raised.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: It was said and that was answered also by Defence Minister. At that time, the Government knew that this is all a bogus charge. They asserted it. But then, when some evidence came, they said: "Yes, we should go into it and a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be established". But, what is the attitude of my friends on the other side? They retracted. They thought that unless there was nothing, how could the Government go to the extent of saying that you can go ahead with the Joint Parliamentary Committee. They were not to find any-

thing. They knew it. Those very parties which insisted on the Joint Parliamentary Committee, they retracted because they knew that they would not find anything. That is exactly what I was trying to say. I Are we not politicising the whole issue? Are you really interested? That is why I started with that. You are not interested in the culprit. You are interested that the culprit should be directly or indirectly the Prime Minister.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): That is right.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: That is the shamelessness. That is their game. That is precisely what they wanted and they found that there was nothing. When they knew there was nothing, they thought that the best thing is to boycott and put all types of conditions only to have as a just face-saving device for the purpose of getting out of the situation. What ethical or moral right they have? If they have not joined the inquiry, the investigation, what moral or ethical right they have to challenge this report of the Committee?... (*Interruptions*) They do not join. They do not want to participate. But they are only there to find some flaws here and there to find some pegs to hang on. They wanted this Bofors issue must continue right upto 1989. Otherwise they have no foundation; they have no satisfaction either. Therefore, half-a-dozen times, they have discussed. I would have appreciated if the hon. Members would have gone into it and said: "The conclusions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee are wrong because it is without any evidence." I can appreciate if they do so. They have some very eminent lawyers. They are sitting on the other side of the House who will go on interjecting every time. But then the point is: "Have they done so?" They do not participate in the Joint Parliamentary Committee and they do not want to inquire, do not want to investigate. On the contrary, they appointed one Committee of their own.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Shri Indrajit Gupta made the point very clearly.

MR. SPEAKER: No interruptions.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: They appointed their own Committee. The self-styled paragons of virtue on their side, visited Sweden. I do not know at the money of which agent they have gone there because at least I know some of them who will never spend the money on their own. But they have gone there. What is it that they found? What prevented them to give the evidence. I would like to bring to your kind notice as to what the Committee says. I would like to quote a para from page 189 of this report. The Committee says:

"No person in public life or from the media approached the Committee for furnishing information or tendering any evidence in respect of any of the matters under inquiry by the Committee. It is to be recalled that the Prime Minister stated in both the Houses of Parliament on more than one occasion that if any evidence was made available to establish allegations of payments or bribes, the severest action will be taken against the offenders. The Defence Minister had made similar statements. However, no one came forward to offer any information or tender evidence to the Committee."

They do not participate in the inquiry. They do not proceed to give the information to the Committee. They run about all over the world. Four or five leaders are there, including lawyers. One of their leaders, in the style of a losing small-town lawyer, who is often known to pose questions, ran about but could not get anything and did not produce any evidence before the Committee. I would like to ask them, with what moral and ethical authority they are questioning here about the Report. Have they brought out anything beyond that? If they have not been able to find out anything, if they do not participate in the inquiry, then who should be blamed for that? And in spite of that, when I say that in the circumstances and on the material that was available the Joint Parliamentary Committee has done the job, the best job, they grin at me. This is the state of affairs.

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

All this exercise on their part is nothing but to create a confusion; a total confusion and chaos, they would like to create in the society. That is why, of and on, they would like to rake up the issue of Bofors. I must point out at this stage and I would also end by that. I am reminded of a very good cartoon that came recently in the newspapers and some periodicals also. A procession has been shown in the cartoon. Some of them are shown in that cartoon. One gentleman says, "After Bofors, what?". The people behind say, "Bofors". He asks, "After Bofors what?" and they say, "Bofors". That seems to be the game throughout, and they would like to continue this game upto even 1989.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He is a leading advocate. But what else can they do?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I have not seen you there. I am sorry for that. You should have been there.

The question that I would like to pose and then proceed is this. Where do you find fault with the Report itself? When I say this, I would like to take it up with the gentleman who has appended the dissenting note...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The hon. Member.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Is he not a gentleman? I thought he was.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You refer to him as an hon. Member. That is the proper way of addressing a Member.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Say 'hon. gentleman'.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I would not like to withdraw that word in spite of your objection. I will still call him a gentleman because my breeding is something different from yours.

The point is this. One of the hon. Members had been saying, 'It is a

postscript'. But what else could it be when the whole thing was over and then they had to add certain things? The whole thing seems to have been over and then this matter comes up. What else would they do? The point is this. This friend - I would not like to make a personal attack on him, but I would like to make a reference - did not join the bandwagon of the other Opposition parties at the time when he came into the Joint Parliamentary Committee because he was supposed to be our camp follower. After the death of his mentor, they found that their leader was not supported by us. Therefore, there is a change of flight. So, all of them there in a chorus would support it. Because, for them, the approach is, any body who goes from this side to that side is a paragon of virtue; and if any one comes from there and sits on this side, he is the worst man. That is why, they would like to support this dissenting note. I would like to say that this is not only totally prejudicial but even the findings are not based on facts. And even the findings are half-hearted. You kindly look at it. He starts by the quotation of Mahatma Gandhi where Mahatma Gandhi referred about the Ministers and what should be their conduct. Now, Sir, unless this man was approaching the whole problem right from the start in a highly prejudicial manner to attack somebody, he would never have started with this. I would like to ask, can anybody including the great lawyer sitting on the other side, can he show a shred of evidence which cast an aspersion on any of the Ministers and the Prime Minister himself. Even if it was, why should be start with Mahatma Gandhi's quotation? (*Interruptions*) I am making out a point. You are not prepared to say any point in what I say. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have understood your point..(*Interruptions*)

You said: "why are you referring to a quotation where Ministers etc. are referred to?" You should not object to Mahatma Gandhi's name.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: If you have understood then.. (*Interruptions*) I am

saying that the man started with a prejudice.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: It is like devil quoting Bible. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: You have quite a lot of Ministers to whom this applies in your own State. Bother about it. The point that is relevant in this case is that there are two aspects of it. One is - I will come that, why are you worried about it? - about the gun system evaluation. One aspect of it is that - where the money part of it has gone, it could be taken care of at a later stage as to how it has gone on that - whether we have purchased sub-standard guns and secondly, what is the conduct with reference to the negotiations of the price? These are the two aspects where we must concentrate more. And on this gun system evaluation what is it that this hon. Member has to say... Nothing to laugh. But at least if you can hear, you can gain something. You would not like to know anything. On the gun system, this hon. Member puts it at page 219:

"No doubt this Committee took a good deal of time to investigate the capability of the Bofors gun system, we had the opportunity to see the operation of the gun in plains as well as hills. The Army personnel asserted the capability of the gun system with great satisfaction. But the pertinent point for consideration of the Committee was as to what the capability, mobility, fire range, fire burst of the Bofors gun was before the contract was concluded on March 24, 1986 and not what it was so many months after signing of the contract."

That means on the day when the army personnel had shown to these people and tested these guns, he did not have the doubt about the gun's capability. Now he would like to say, of course, on this General Aurora has said, Mr. Jaswant Singh has said and some of the hon. Members already referred to it, Field Marshal Manekshaw has already said. Now the point is, so far as the capability of the gun is concerned, there is no doubt about it. It is not a sub-standard gun. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.A. DORA (Srikakulam): General Shiv Shankar.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I have not been. I am sorry, I never expected that of all the persons, you will also mislead yourself. I have never been General. I have been an ordinary lawyer. Perhaps, you were a better lawyer than me. The point that I was trying to say is that this man did not have the doubt about the capability of the gun. One can understand if the gun is substandard; one could go to the extent of saying that 'look the deal is wrong somebody has made the money at the expense of the nation'. But there is no such thing which is available here.

Further it is said:

"Any evaluation on the basis of the trial of the Bofors gun 1987 was not appropriate to the task before the Committee. The Bofors could have later developed, or altered or modified the gun system. Such improvements could have been made in the case of other gun systems as well."

But then did you find that in 1986 when the contract was entered into it was not upto the mark? You don't say that. You have not given any facts about it. On the contrary on the day when there was a trial you are satisfied about it.

Then, on the question of middlemen and commission this Hon. Member makes a reference and I would like to bring to the notice of this House what he says at Page 230.

"There is no denial about the payment of huge amounts to the tune of Rs. 64 crores towards commission. Why was such a huge amount paid by M/s. Bofors as winding up Charges?"

Of course, the word 'commission' is his

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own. So far as Bofors are concerned, they are harping on the winding up charges.

"Are the reasons stated by Bofors acceptable? who were the recipients? What services did they render? No answer were forthcoming. The failure to answer these question has cast grave suspicions not only against M/s. Bofors but also against the Ministry of Defence."

That means in the Ministry of Defence everybody is suspicious. Would you like to condemn the whole system? Have you laid the foundation for condemning the system? Did you refer to the facts as to how you are coming to the conclusions? Should this be the way that we should give treatment to a matter? Are you serious about it? This only shows how lightly this person has taken the whole report. Is this the way that we should make aspersions? Is suspicion a substitute for proof? What is it that we are looking at?

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: Somebody else had written that note.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I would not like to go into it whether somebody else had written or not.

Further he discusses about the CBI. After discussing what exactly the role of the CBI, he says:

"Though I agree with some of the portions of the CBI report, yet I disagree with the under-mentioned portion:

.....the information available at this stage does not show the involvement of any Indian associates residing in India or outside India or any Indian of Associates".'

Have you found anybody? You must then say it. If, on the basis of the evidence you add something, then you should say it. But he is saying that while agreeing with

the CBI report, he would like to disagree with one part.

If you don't agree with one part, you must go further.

Then he says:

"While it has been established that the recipients are registered in tax havens obviously for the purpose of tax avoidance and secrecy and that they have not done any service for this contract, and it has been admitted by the Secretary, Ministry of Defence, himself that he had not used any foreign service for reaching the contract, the claim of non-involvement of any Indian or Indian associates is not acceptable."

Does it follow? Finally he said:

"The Commission amounting the SEK 319 million must have been received by none other than those who are responsible for successful negotiation of this contract".

If this be so, who were negotiating the contract? The entire price negotiating committee.

Is it the way that you should give treatment to subject so light-heartedly without laying any foundation for the point. This is the way this gentleman has written and the turn-about he has taken in a short period has made him to write in this manner. Further, when we go into the finality what it is that this man says:

"The direct involvement of our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has not been established - but the relevant records reveal his extra-ordinary interest in Bofors deal..."

Now the point I would like to mention here is what is the extra-ordinary interest that the Prime Minister has taken in this matter.

Sir, it is a known fact that when Heads of Governments meet they talk about the bilateral matters, some of the matters

where they would like that the Opposite side should accept they plead for it. In this case it so happened that what has come to light is what the Prime Minister talked of Olof Palme. It has not come to light as to what he talked to the French authorities as well and, I am sure, having regard to the fact that the matters are such the Defence Minister would be pleased to give the details. I know that the Prime Minister has also talked to the French officials.

The details as to the Kind of talks are: You should see that no middlemen are involved and that the price should be the lowest.

Now these were the two firms which were competing with each other. Prime Minister talks to both - the authorities concerned who are at the top politically connected with these firms. Now he speaks to both of them. I would like to bring to your kind notice that at the time when the Prime Minister talked the price position was that Rs. 1595 crores was the quotation of the Bofors on 10th January, 1986 and because of the intervention of the Prime Minister it has finally come down to Rs. 1427 crores. It comes to roughly about Rs. 150 crores. Apart from this I would like to further bring to the notice of this House that if you kindly look up this Report itself at page 88 where the Defence Secretary was giving the evidence and I quote:

"After the revised offer was received I had the benefit of a discussion with the Prime Minister who kindly advised me that we should try to get further reduction from Bofors. This I did. I, however, found that having made several concessions and having received even Letter of Intent from us they were most averse to make any further concessions. Nonetheless with very great difficulty it has been possible to obtain from Bofors a further concession in as much as they would now give 10 guns free over and above guns paid for..."

This amounts to a concession of ap-

proximately 36 crores. You can work it out. Rs. 1427 crores are meant for 400 guns.

If it is ten guns, it is sufficiently a good advantage to this country. Therefore, the Prime Minister's intervention has two effects: One is from Rs.1,595 crores, the price has come down to Rs.1,427 crores, and the other is we get ten guns over and above the guns that were transacted for. You say that the Prime Minister's intervention is wrong. Is it not in the interest of the country? Is it not beneficial to the country? What is the basis on which you are talking about?

Now, on the question of evaluation, if you kindly look up - I would not like to go into the details - this has been dealt with by the JPC at great length. The opinions have been brought out in the report from pages 56 to 67. The details are there.

In the Mayadas Committee, there were 15 persons. Only 6 persons have signed and even amongst the 6 persons, there have been differences of opinion. I would not like to go into those things. But that Committee put the Austrian gun at the top, which gun is neither here nor there. Now, therefore, to rely on the report of Mayadas seems without any basis.

Then, later on, what has happened? I am prepared to go further into it and to show what exactly has happened. Later on, the present DGWE in his evidence before the Committee pointed out that the gun that was tried in India, was the GC-45 and not CHN-45 to which a powerful APU had been added and several other improvements claimed. There are details of reasons why the gun was found unsuitable. I would not like to go into them.

It is also mentioned on page 59:

"The Committee also examined the then Deputy Chief of the Army Staff (Gen. H. Kaul) on the subject. Asked whether he was aware of the Report of the Mayadas Committee, the then DCOAS explained that normally, according to the set procedure, a technical negotiating committee was set up by the Ministry of De-

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

fence to decide about the technical aspects of the negotiations, which were carried out by the Negotiating Committee. Asked about his reactions with regard to the recommendations contained in the said report, the then DCOAS replied that when he first saw the report of Lt. Gen. Mayadas Committee, it was quite obvious to him that they had appointed. Their job was technical negotiation and not evaluation, because by sitting in an office and listening to various firms, no evaluation can be carried out. Evaluation is based on field trials carried out by Trials Units in the different climates and regions of India. Then those things were discussed very freely. In his opinion, this was not the task for which the Committee under the then DWE was formed. After having gone through Lt. Gen. Mayadas Report and having examined it in detail, he put up a note to the then Chief of the Army Staff which is reproduced hereunder..."

I would not go into it. But he put up a note. This note was signed by him on 14th July, 1984 and put up to the Chief, Gen. A.S. Vaidya. He wrote:

"I agree with the note. No credence be given to manufacturers' claims. My recommendations be based on actual performance of the guns and ammunitions."

Therefore, the then Deputy Chief of the Army Staff, Gen. Vaidya, the present Chief on the Army Staff and - I find in the report itself - even Gen. Krishna Rao have found that that is not the correct gun. Now, would you like to discredit all of them merely because Mayadas has put a certain gun, which is the Austrian gun, over and above the Swedish gun?

I would not like to go into the details further. But it is at a later stage when the recently retired Army Chief has given the reasons as to why he thought fit to put Bofors gun above the French gun. This is precisely what was objected to

by one of the friends. Therefore, I would like to read that portion.

I quote from page - 67 in which he has said:

"My anticipation at that time was that by the time this kind of technology becomes more prevalent in the USA and they are prepared to transfer this kind of radar to their allies, it would be almost a decade and a half later..... Therefore, the weightage of this advantage which the Bofors gun had over the French gun was not high enough at that point of time. These were the two reasons why I had placed the French gun slightly ahead of the Bofors gun at that point of time even though I had stated that all three guns-the French, the Swedish and the British gun-were acceptable to us. Then subsequently in February, 1986, when I took over as Chief of Army Staff, two major events had occurred. First of all, the USA had successfully developed the fire-finder radar, the ANTPS-37 and had also included this radar in the package which they were giving to..... as part of the aid."

"Now this made a considerable sea-change in our vulnerabilities which we would face in the decades to come. Now, what I had hoped was a threat which would materialise in 1997 or so unfortunately materialised much more rapidly than we anticipated or suspected. This ability of the fire-finder radar, the only such radar which exists even today, is that when the very first round is fired it is capable of tracking the shell in flight early enough and after taking a few successive reading in space, computerised calculations go on and give a very highly accurate location of the gun which fired in a matter of

about 45 to 40 seconds from the time it was actually fired."

"Hence shoot and scoot assumed greater importance in 1986 and it could not be wished away that it may not take place even in 2000 AD."

He added:

"...in the light of some of these changed circumstances, I re-evaluated the inter-se placement and decided that the Bofors gun in these conditions had an edge over the French gun though fundamentally both guns were acceptable for the Army. This was the sequence and I would like to repeat under oath, what I told the hon. Members when I briefed them in the Army Headquarters some months back."

Therefore, it is the Army's preference and it has been borne out, as I said by many of the Members of the Opposition also that it is the best gun. Therefore, on the question of evaluation, I would like to submit that there is no basis to say that the gun is in any form sub-standard or inferior so as to accuse that the gun being sub-standard, there is something fishy about it.

Then, about the question Price Negotiating Committee. I would like to bring to your notices page 42-43. In the constitution of the Committee, I find that there are seven officers who negotiated the whole deal. Is it your case and you will have to go that far to say, that if some person has received the money, then these people must be privy to that? Are you prepared to say that? Would you like to condemn the whole system itself? These are the responsible persons, highly placed, who have conducted the negotiations throughout and they have brought it down from Rs. 1700 to Rs. 1427 crores. I will read out the names the Defence Secretary is the Chairman, the Members are the Secretary, Defence Production, Secretary (R&D), Secretary (Expenditure), Additional Secretary (Economic Affairs), Financial Advisor, Defence Services, Deputy Chief of the Army Staff. Therefore, the position is if the eval-

uation is correct, if the gun is not the sub-standard, one if the gun is the best, if the Price Negotiation Committee has carried out its duties properly and economically, then how do you expect the Commission to come in? Nonetheless, the fact remains that 319 million kroner has been paid - I am not saying that - Very rightly they have said and I agree with them that these companies seem to be hollow companies. Is it not a case? Are we not aware that in many a companies in this country also, the Directors themselves keep back the money? This is a fact. There are all hollow companies; the money is transferred through them, if they want to divert some of the money for themselves or for whomsoever it may be. Would you merely on the basis of some rumours to have a political advantage having regard to the system which we are running like to go to the extent of accusing the Prime Minister? One of the hon. Member had a cheek; I would like to say that it was very unfair on his part that he went to the extent of naming the Prime Minister's brother-in-law and saying that he had his connections with Hinduja's. What is it that you are talking about? Are you not irresponsible? Is there any responsibility on your part? You can just say like that merely because you have the privilege to talk anything? Does this mean that public representatives can misbehave? I would pose that question. If there are facts, of course, you are entitled to, but then whenever there are no facts, what is it that you are talking about? I agree that these three companies seem to be totally hollow companies. If they had paid money, I am sure, it must have been ploughed back to the directors, which happens in this country day in and day out. This is what the directors have been doing. You have been a director and you know much better. I have never been a director myself...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Let him make me a director of some company, so that I can make something out of it under his training and guidance.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Now, I would like to bring to your kind notice what the then Expenditure Secretary had to

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

say. It is on page 82-83 of the Report. This is something which I would like to read. It is on page 82-83 and then I would go to page 84. It is mentioned in the report:

"During evidence, Shri Ganapati, the then Secretary, Expenditure was asked by the Committee about his views on the procedure followed by the Negotiating Committee in the matter of selection of the Bofors gun. The witness stated:-

"There has been no flaw in the procedures or in the detailed negotiations. In fact, every possible precaution was taken to ensure objectivity, impartiality in deciding the case and in securing the best possible terms not only financially but even more important securing the best possible weapon system that the user wanted...As a matter of fact, the procedures followed were quite rigorous."

Then, further:

"The Committee enquired whether the various decisions taken in the Negotiating Committee with regard to the commercial and financial aspects were reported to the concerned Minister. The then Secretary, Expenditure stated:"

The concerned Minister at that time has, of course, joined their ranks. Now he sits by your side outside, not here. (Interruptions)

As I was saying:

"The then Secretary, Expenditure stated:

...We have held several meetings and crucial recommendations were made by the Committee. One was short-listing of firms and another was recommendations made during October-November, 1985 and March, 1986. These were put up to the Minister. In fact, in the Finance Ministry apart from myself, the decisions were seen by the Finance Sec-

retary, because he is concerned with the credit aspect also, apart from the fact that he is the senior Secretary in the Ministry and also by the Finance Minister and the Defence Minister...so far as these contracts are concerned where the powers of the Secretary were very restricted, approval of the Minister in the administrative Ministry and the Finance Minister were taken."

Then he says:

"asked whether the final recommendation of the Negotiation Committee selecting the Bofors gun, keeping in view the technical contractual and financial aspects was specifically brought to the notice of the then Finance Minister", the witness stated: "What happened was after the Negotiation Committee had finished its deliberation a note was put by the Defence Ministry, as the administrative Ministry..."

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: It should be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Will you kindly allow me to speak? I never interrupted you and I do not expect you to have a running commentary.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, he was looking at you and abusing us and now he is looking at me and abusing others.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: That only shows how close mind he has.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Today he is in the mood of abusing everybody.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: If I will abuse you, which you richly deserves, I will abuse you outside not here. (Interruptions)

Sir, if they give me 5 or 6 minutes, I will complete my speech. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, will you allow Mr. Bhagat to intervene because

he threatened in the morning that he would also speak. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: One thing is sure that I will interrupt for a minute.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me also. You have decided, the Business Advisory Committee has decided and I stand by that decision, that whatever may happen, you will provide dinner for all of us. You have to sit and finish this subject today.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: Sir, in Room No. 70 for the Members and in Room, No. 73 for the staff, dinner will be arranged.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Shiv Shankerji out of his personal fund will spend today because he has taken hour and a half.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I can understand because he is not practicing these days.

Asked whether the final recommendation of the Negotiating Committee selecting the Bofors gun, keeping in view the technical, contractual and financial aspects was specifically brought to the notice of the then Finance Minister, the witness stated - I quote what he said:

"What happened was after the Negotiating Committee had finished its deliberations, a note was put up by the Defence Ministry as the administrative Ministry on which the approval of the Finance Secretary, and the Finance Minister and the State Ministers in the Ministry of Defence and the Prime Minister, as Defence Minister was taken."

17.48 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The Committee pointed out that the final recommendation of the Negotiating Committee was approved by the then Finance Minister on 13th March, 1986. Asked whether the witness could recollect

if any reservation had been expressed by the then Finance Minister (Shri V.P. Singh) the then Secretary, Expenditure replied:

"Absolutely No. I can say this categorically because... the moment I saw the file, I immediately sent it to the Finance Secretary saying that the matter was very urgent. It went to the Finance Minister. If he had the slightest doubt, he would have asked the Finance Secretary or me. I was the senior officer in the Finance Department. I was the proper person to have been asked this question. Till the moment of my retirement, no question was raised."

Now, the gentleman goes on talking about anything and everything. It is he who had gone into these details and has affixed the signatures in approval thereof.

Another aspect here I would like to mention is that a reference was also made to the statement of the Attorney General. The Attorney General clearly comes to the conclusion, that it is not a case of breach of contract. I would not like to go into it because again I have to read a portion but the fact of the matter is that he comes to the conclusion that there is no case of a breach of the contract. In the circumstances, what exactly you are going to suffer? You will be surprised to know this position which will come out of it. It would be Rs. 468 crores. The sub-optimal utilisation of equipment of the value of Rs. 468 crores already paid. So, that Rs. 468 crores goes.

Then, we have already paid to the Swedish Bank an amount of Rs. 50 crores on account of banking charges.

Further, the cancellation of the Contract would involve immediate payment of credit amount of approximately Rs. 374 crores in foreign currency. Besides, one does not know and it is not possible - I am sure about it - that if you go for the new Gun, firstly whether the parties would come out with offer is a big question mark. Secondly, what will be the price? Would you be able to get at Rs. 1427 crores? Then comes delay. When are you going to get

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

it? What is going to happen to the system itself? What will be the morale of the Defence forces? These are all the aspects which we have to take into consideration. You cannot just say that "all right, why did you not cancel?" It is very easy to talk about these things. But it is very difficult, when you go into these questions, roughly about Rs. 800 crores to Rs. 900 crores, you will be losing. Then you are not going to get anything out of it. This does not mean that I am supporting, Rs. 64 crores which had been paid. Of course, if there is any ray of evidence, we would certainly take action, whosoever the person may be. But is there any evidence?

I would like to bring to your kind notice one other aspect of it, namely some of the friends have raised the question about the documents that have been published in *The Hindu*. If you look up for a moment all these documents, they start from 1979 to 1984, the 1984 document which is the latest, only refers to the Telex Message which was contained in another document, that is of 22nd June, 1981. Therefore, these are documents which refer to 1979 to 1981-82. How are you connecting them?

I would not like to go into the niceties of it and neither the technicalities of it. Let us take it that these documents establish that Hindujas had something to do with Bofors. I would not like to go into it for the sake of argument. How are you connecting Hindujas and these documents - with the dealing question? That is more important. Would you accept that the moneys would have been paid in 1980-81 as they have been paid in this case? The document shows that. I am not questioning the authenticity of the documents for the moment, either I am going into the technicalities, etc. of it. The document says that some money had been paid in 1980-81. The Telex Messages had been given. Instructions had been given. This is all right. But the point is, how are you connecting Hindujas of these documents, with this deal, which had come over in 1986?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will you yield for a second?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: Yes. All right. Then I will take a little time to explain.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You exhaust yourself and your Government! The only point is: It shows the connection between Hindujas and PITCO because the Committee has not been able to find out the relationship between PITCO or any of those three companies with Indians or NRIs. It shows clearly the connection between PITCO one of those front companies and Hindujas. There was a transaction to the bank. Therefore approach to the bank would have confirmed all those and Hindujas' connection with PITCO would have been established. Therefore they cannot say that no Indian is there.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I never disputed that part of it. I said, I am not going to question the authenticity etc., etc. That man has denied it. I am not going into all those things and neither into the technicalities of it. But at best what is it that these documents establish?

These documents establish the connection of Bofors with PITCO. That is fair enough. Are you prepared to go further? We are now concerned with a particular deal. How are you charging JPC that they should have gone into it? Why should they go into it unless there is something to show that these documents have a direct connection with the dealing question. It is possible that Bofors who had been selling their guns and their commodities to various persons all over the world - supposing Hindujas are the agents for those persons, do you want that we should go into all those things? Can it be so. This is exactly what perhaps you would like to do. The question is that if you make out a case, one can appreciate it. Be a little reasonable; have some rationality with you. Suppose you make out a case that there is a nexus of these documents with the deal in question and the Bofors, certainly we are prepared to go in for it even now, inspite of the fact that JPC has given the report.

One another aspect which I would like to bring to your kind notice is this. I would like to tell you that the events that have developed from the end of 1986 and in the beginning of 1987 - be it the letters from the President which were clandestinely leaked out to the Press, or the HDW matter which was openly deliberately leaked out as the Defence Minister has already said, to the Press and the matter of Bofors that has come out, and with the clamouring of the Opposition parties that the Government should resign - do you think that there is no design in all these things? It runs as a thread. What else is it except destabilization? And there was a continuous conspiracy, and they wanted to make capital out of it, where they had no evidence whatsoever.

I would not like to take more time. I have perhaps explained the matter in detail. I would only like to advise my friends, and submit that so many discussions have taken place about Bofors. The drama is over, but the players are not willing to make a graceful exit. In my submission, my friends have fallen in love with their performance...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We have all been washed out by his 1 1/2-hour performance.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: They do not seem to mind that the theme has exhausted itself. The audience is restive, they have nothing to sustain the interest; but still you would go on. As I said earlier, I again recall the cartoon: "And they would go on saying Bofors, Bofors..."

17.59 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. DEATH OF SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (RAJYA SABHA) ON MAY 3, 1988

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): The House

is aware of the sad and untimely death of our colleague 'Shri K. V. Panicker on 3/5/1988. Shri K. V. Panicker was examined last week at the LNJP Hospital of Delhi Administration. The patient Shri K. V. Panicker was diagnosed as a case tuberculosis of lymphnode. Dr. R. B. Singh, who is a private practitioner holding the degree of BIMS and also a personal physician of the deceased administered streptomycin injection.

At 10.00 P.M. on 2/5/1988, Shri K. V. Panicker was brought to the Casualty Department of LNJP Hospital by Dr. R. B. Singh. Shri K. V. Panicker was in an unconscious state. On examination, it was found that Shri Panicker had no spontaneous respiration, and peripheral pulses were absent, heart sounds were absent and both his pupils were semi-dilated and fixed. He was immediately rushed to resuscitation ward. With provisional diagnosis of cardio-pulmonary arrest, resuscitative measures were carried out by Dr. D. D. Kulpati, Prof. M. Khalilullah and other doctors. Despite all possible efforts including intra-cardiac pacing, the patient could not be revived and was declared dead at 0.40 hours on 3/5/1988.

18.00 hrs.

Police have registered a case - FIR No. 205/88 dated 3/5/1988 under Section 304/A IPC. The Police authorities have arrested Dr. R. B. Singh who administered the medicine on 3rd May, 1988 (AN). and subsequently he was released on bail. According to the Police authorities, the doctors had purchased 10 vials of medicine out of which 5 vials were manufactured by M/s. IDPL and 5 vials manufactured by M/s. Sarabhai Chemical from Navjeevan Medicos, Hauz Kazi. One empty vial (IDPL manufactured) which was administered and the remaining vials were recovered from the doctor. The Police authorities are investigating the matter further.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum): This is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On the statement straightway, we cannot discuss anything. If you want to have a discussion on this, you give a separate notice.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: The testing should have been done; the testing was not done. It is a common knowledge. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order, please. On the statement straightway, we cannot discuss anything. You have to give a separate notice if you want to have a discussion on this subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): At the time of giving it, it should have been tested. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No discussion on the statement.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): We want a discussion on this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have to give a separate notice for this. Order, order, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Whatever it is, we cannot discuss it on the statement straightway. Shri goswami

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Are we continuing our discussion? There is a meeting of the IPG at 7 p.m. I think this is a very important subject. So, don't ask us to speak now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have to continue this discussion.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Since there is a meeting of the IPG at 7 p.m., let us adjourn the House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We should adjourn the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): It was decided by the Chair this morning that the debate will be concluded today and the reply will be tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): It was decided in the Business Advisory Committee that the debate will be concluded today and the Minister will reply tomorrow.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: We have a meeting of the IPG. So, we would like to discuss it tomorrow.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We have to attend that meeting.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: It was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee. The same thing was said by the Speaker in the morning. So, let us continue the discussion.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We should adjourn the House at 6.30 p.m. - after half an hour.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Dinesh Goswami.

18.05 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193--Contd.

[English]

Report of the Joint Committee to enquire into Bofors Contract--Contd.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the distinguished speaker who preceded me spoke about drama. It appears that the Centre is not in the grip of a fever Ramayana. And to-day we see a curious spectacle, that those people who are suspected of FERA violations, economic offenders, they have all under-

gone change of hearts, they are all cooperating with the Government fully and wholly, Ajitabh Bachchan is cooperating with the Government, Bofors are cooperating with the Government, Win Chadha is cooperating with the Government and the *Ravanas* and *Vibhishanas* on this Opposition side are the only ones who are trying to destabilise this country. This talk of destabilisation is not new. When the Swedish Radio, for the first time announced that huge amounts have passed hands, the very same allegations were made if I may quote from the Report itself from page 5 of the Report—

"Commenting upon the allegations contained in the news-item, the Government of India issued the following statement on 17 April, 1987:

'Government categorically deny the allegations contained in the News stories based on the reports broadcast by the Swedish radio and television in connection with an arms order placed on the Swedish firm Bofors. The news item is false, baseless and mischievous. During the negotiations the Government had made it clear that the company should not pay any money to any person in connection with the contract. Government's policy is not to permit any clandestine or irregular payments in contracts. Any breach of this policy by any one will be most severely dealt with.

The report is one more link in the chain of denigration and destabilisation of our political system".

But the fact remains that subsequently the National Audit Bureau did find that huge amounts of Rs. 65 crores passed hand from Bofors to some other persons, whose identity, even now we do not know.

Mr. Shiv Shanker, all the time was saying, that the Opposition has not been able to prove the case. Are we the prosecutors in this case? Wherefrom does he get the idea that we are the prosecutors?

Now, for the first time in the Indian Parliament, an investigating committee was formed and the duty of the Committee was to investigate into all the aspects. The fact remains, that the only person or the only company who could have thrown light as to whom the amounts have been paid, why the amounts have been paid, was Bofors. But Bofors did not cooperate with this Bofors, Shankaranand Committee. Unfortunately, Mr. Bofors Shankaranand has not a word of condemnation against Bofors, that the Company at no point of time did cooperate with this Committee. May I point out that the Government of India spoke in very high sounding words about eliciting information from Bofors. I may point out from the report itself at page 118 of the report, that this Government's position was that nothing less than complete information regarding the nationals and the circumstances of the payments made by Bofors shall satisfy the Government of India.

Mr. Pant, may I ask you, has Bofors given you complete information regarding the persons to whom payments have been made and the circumstances of the payments? Are you satisfied? The thunder with which at one point of time you roared like a lion was lost and ultimately succumbed like a lamb before Bofors, and because of that we have reasons to feel suspicious that there is something underhand in the whole thing. I think our suspicious are genuine.

I ask Mr. Pant also, that the Defence Department or the Defence Ministry passed five important questions to the administrators of the Bofors, and the questions find place in the report itself. And I would like to refer to some of these questions. The questions were for the precise amount which has been paid and the amounts which are due to be paid by Bofors, the recipients of such amounts and the services rendered by such persons, copies of all contracts, agreements and correspondence between Bofors and such recipients, and all other documents.

And then when the reply of Bofors came, again it was pointed out on page 115 of the Report.

[Shri Dinesh Goswami]

"We regret to observe, as was also pointed out by Mr. Vohra during his brief discussions with Mr. Bredin on July 3, 1987 that your communication under reference does not answer any of the questions raised in para 5 of my afore-said letter of June 16, 1987."

Bofors right from the very beginning has decided not to cooperate not only with the Government but with the Committee. All the time, they have refused to give information, and some of the informations are very tardy. For example, I quote one of the questions that was asked in at Page No. 118.

"On 24th August, 1987, another letter was sent to M/s. Bofors asking for some clarifications, namely

"Your previous agent in India who "among others" received part of "considerable amounts" was not an indian citizen or an Indian company. If so, why on what basis, and for what consideration were such payments made in relation to the Indian Contract?"

This is the vital question which remains unanswered. If the persons to whom this Rs. 65 crores of rupees has been paid, they were not commission agents as far as the Indian deal is concerned, then where was the question of termination of the contract? It is not that the other Governments have asked that there would be no middlemen. Only the Prime Minister of this country asked Bofors that there cannot be any middlemen, and the Prime Minister of this country did not say that you Bofors cannot engage any middlemen for any contract whatsoever under the sun. The contract must have a relation with the Indian contract. If it is the case that the payment was not paid to three concerns so far as the Indian contract is concerned, where was the question of cancellation of these contracts and also the winding up charges also. Reference has been made to the opinion of the Attorney-General. Mr. Shiv Shanker has said that the Attorney-General has

opined that there is no violation of the contract. I differ with him in all respects. I quote what the Attorney-General has said at Page 180.

"The committee pointed out that Bofors had taken the stand that they had paid no commissions, that they had terminated the consultancy agreements in pursuance of the wishes of the Government of India and had therefore paid only winding up costs. Reacting to this, the Attorney-General said that in the absence of the contracts which M/s. Bofors had entered into with the three companies to whom the winding up costs had reportedly been paid, it would be difficult to say whether the amounts paid constituted "commissions" and were thus against the terms of the contract".

Therefore, no final opinion was given by the Attorney-General. The opinion of the Attorney-General was, whether it was a commission of winding up charge depend on the contract agreement that Bofors had entered with the three companies. Unless the three documents are before us, it is not possible to hold whether Bofors have violated the contract or not. Now Bofors took in umbrage under the ground of confidentiality. I would like to ask Mr. Pant, if there was an agreement though unwritten, and even now a question still remain unanswered, as to why this vital aspect that there must not be any middlemen in this deal was not in the contract or agreement? Though it was not written, there was a contract that there will be no middlemen. If a particular document is going to establish whether that contractual obligation has been correctly discharged or not by Bofors and if only a particular document can establish whether Bofors have violated that particular provision or that agreement, can Bofors take umbrage on the ground of that it is a confidential document.

I will ask Mr. Jagan Nath Kaushal, who was a member of this Committee. A party, who is bound by a contract and an agreement, if whether he has fulfilled the contract or an agreement depend upon a par-

ticular document, and if the party says, 'I am not going to place the document' and if that document is not placed under the law, some sort of a conceptual prejudice be treated against him. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL
(Chandigarh): Give me an opportunity after he stops.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: To me, the question is not whether the Prime Minister has got the money or not. I have never accused in my speeches that the Prime Minister has taken the money. I have no proof. But the simple question is, there was a clear mandate given by the Government of India that there will be no middlemen. No. 2, no commission will be paid. If commissions were paid by the Bofors to a middleman there was a violation of the contract. And the first task before the Committee was to find out whether this agreement with the Government of India had been violated by Bofors or not. These three documents are the documents of contract to which Attorney-General has referred, between the Bofors and the companies which have been described by Mr. Shiv Shanker as hollow companies. Look to the impertinence of the Bofors. While replying to various questions look up page 122 -- the way the whole Committee was treated with contempt, I may respectfully submit, by Bofors. Now in a reply to a question whether the Bofors would reimburse the amount 319 million SEKs to the Government of India, the Chief Jurists said:

"I would not like to go into the debate concerning the violation of the contract. Our stand is very very firm and I think to have such debate in this forum is not correct."

I do not think, ever before a foreign company should have dared to give such a reply before a Committee. And Mr. Shiv Shanker says that this Committee has done a great job. This Committee has humiliated this Parliament and the country before Bofors, the way this Committee was treated.

At page 123, on his attention being

drawn to a statement of the Chairman of the Nobel Industries (Mr. Thunholm) that so far as he was aware, payments had been made to Indians or to an Indian company in connection with the contract, -- this statement has not been made by the destabilisation forces of the opposition; unfortunately, this is a statement made by Mr. Thunholm; may be, he is also a part of the de-stabilisation forces for the Government -- to this the Chief Jurist stated:

"Sir, now I am in a little awkward situation because Dr. Thunholm is the Chairman of my Board and the Company Secretary. I think he has been wrongly quoted by the Swedish journalists, when he talked to them."

Well, if he wrongly quoted, Mr. Thunholm should have appeared before the Committee and he should have placed the correct version before the Committee. Here is the version given by that gentleman and somebody else comes and says that he might have been wrongly quoted. Was it not the duty of the Bofors JPC to summon Mr. Thunholm and get from him what was his correct version?

Then look at page 124. Asked further if they were aware of a company named SVENSKA which was stated to be a letter box company and to which payments were reported to have been made, the gentleman who came and appeared stated:

"We will not comment on that."

And Mr. Shankaranand and the distinguished Members of the Committee accept that, well, if you do not comment on that, we do not ask any further question. Is it the way an investigating committee functions a parliamentary committee functions? And to that parliamentary committee, now we shall have to give a certificate that this Parliamentary Committee has done a great and yeoman service to this country.

Look at page 126. The Committee asked the witnesses that if India as a buyer asked the seller whether some payments had been made to a third party by the seller without the knowledge of the buyer,

[Shri Dinesh Goswami]

the question of commercial confidentiality could not come in the way. That was the vital question. And the Chief Jurist stated:

"I do not want to go into a sort of legal debate about this because that is an interpretation how you look at matters."

After all, who is the final arbiter of this interpretation? When a party appears before a parliamentary committee, the parliamentary committee should have been the final arbiter of this interpretation. Has the Parliamentary Committee come to the conclusion that the interpretation given by this committee on the basis of which the question was asked was wrong and the interpretation given by the chief Jurist was correct? Well, Mr. Shankaranand and his Committee members accept it and does not pursue this question further. And still we will have to give a certificate to this Committee that this Committee has done a great job for the country.

Let us continue further. The Committee enquired how the winding up charges could be paid as a percentage of the contract value. Well, this is a very vital question. After all, these are winding up charges. If there is a commission I can understand that commission shall have some reference, some relevance or some relation with the total amount of contract. But you don't give winding up charges on the basis of a percentage. Clarifying the position in this regard, the Chief Jurist stated: "I should start with the Audit Bureau's Report. I think they called the Chief Executive of Nobel Industries in this regard. I will give you a little background to that. We were asked one day to meet the Managing Director of the Auditors Committee and give him some information from the background, etc. We gave him the information about the company, the marketing, etc. and the winding up cost. I must say regretfully ..." the Chief Executive, in order to simplify the case, says: "around two to three per cent of the order". Will you so casually treat two to three per cent of an order, running into crores of rupees? Regretfully the Chief Executive says: "two to

three per cent". Am I to understand that Bofors is such an innocent company? If I would have been so lucky as Mr. Shiv Shanker, that I could have spoken for one hour, I would have torn this Report into pieces. But knowing my limitation of time, I will still refer to some of the points raised.

On page 146 they say: "The Committee pointed out that "in respect of two of the companies, the Directors named by Bofors could not be traced and it appeared that they were merely letter box companies." To this, Mr. Morberg replied: "Winding up charges have been paid to these three companies. We will not give any further information concerning these companies, more than what we have already given." Such impertinence was tolerated. Let us continue further: "The Committee enquired whether the witness could produce copies of agreements with the three companies in support of their stand..." Mr. Morberg says: "That is not possible for us to hand over the agreements because of commercial secrecy." Mr. Gothlin stated: "I can very well understand the argument which is put forward here. The company has nevertheless...", this is very important, "The company has nevertheless, whether it is good or bad judgement, we could from the confidential point of view, not produce the contracts in question." Mr. Morberg has the audacity to say that "whether a judgement is good or bad, he treats it with contempt and are not going to produce this document." And still we shall have to compliment and give certificate to Bofors and to this Committee. This Committee, in my respectful submission, has failed totally in the investigative duty which was assigned to it. And what is the conclusion? The Committee could not come to any conclusion whatsoever.

Again, there is Win Chadha's very interesting deposition: "On his attention being further drawn to the fact that the agreements provided for payment of remuneration as well as commission, Shri Chadha stated:

'The words 'commission' and 'remuneration' both are in Swedish

language." If it is same in Swedish language, when Mr. Morberg deposes and says that it is remuneration, it may mean commission. If for Mr. Chadha the word 'commission' can be interpreted as 'remuneration' then the winding up remuneration can be interpreted as commission, if there is only one word - and Mr. Chadha seems to be the final authority on the Swedish language.

Now let us find the Committee's helplessness on page 175. What is the conclusion? "With the refusal on the part of Bofors to make these disclosures, in spite of very close questioning by the Committee, no headway could be achieved on this issue. However, it is to be noted that such disclosures, according to Bofors, might involve them in a breach of contract conditions with the parties who were acting as their consultants. According to the legal advice tendered to the Committee by the Attorney-General, Bofors can claim commercial secretary... As such, the Committee in the absence of any further reliable information or proof are of the view that while full details of the reasons for payments and the names of recipients are not known, no direct evidence of documentary proof is available to sustain the allegation that the payments made by Bofors are of the nature of bribes or commissions paid to middlemen." Therefore, how do they come to the conclusion? Their whole judgement is based on the evidence of Bofors, whose conduct in the international arena of arms dealings is very well known. And the Committee does not take into account at all the conduct of the Bofors with regards to a number of issues like the names of the Directors. There is no reply. Mr. Shiv Shanker says : "How do you link up Hindujas with Pitco?" Well, only minutes back you said that the amounts were taken back by the Directors. Now, if that is the case, are the Hindujas the Directors of Piecco? You can't have the cake and eat it too.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I never said that.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: you said Mr. Shiv Shanker. You said that the amounts might have been taken by the Director and in the next moment you would say that 'yes, it is 1981 contract and you cannot relate it with the present contract and therefore Hindujas cannot be involved in the present deal'. Therefore, on the one hand, you will say that the Directors might have taken back and if your argument is to be logically accepted that in 1981 Hindujas were directors ... (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: He said Bofors Directors.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: You are talking in the air. I have not said it at all. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Of course you said that the Directors would have taken it back. Now, what he said was that the amount given to Pitco may not be to Hindujas. Therefore, if in 1981 the amount had been taken by Hindujas, then are Hindujas not the Bofors directors? If Hindujas are not the Bofors directors, then these arguments cannot be accepted that what happened in 1986 or 1987 that had the Bofors directors taken in 1981, the situation was different, the Hindujas might have taken the amount. Therefore, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, if we look into this report, it has been shown and fully established that the Bofors have treated the Parliamentary Committee and the Parliament with contempt. They were the parties who could have given the information and they were bound to give information because the condition of the contract was that no middlemen could be employed, no commission could have been paid and if the documents which are in possession of the Bofors could establish whether middlemen were employed or commissions were paid and non-disclosure of documents in my respectful submission, was the greatest delinquency on the part of Bofors and that advantage was taken by Bofors because of the failure of the JPC as my friend, Mr. Indrajit Gupta said, we are not supposed to give a certificate to them, even though they did not disclose the most important facts, did not place the relevant documents be-

[Shri Dinesh Goswami]

fore the Committee. And they did so because the Government made a public statement that whatever they may do, the contract would not be terminated will ever be diluted. Therefore, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I will not take much of the time of the House. I will say that this report is a white washing report. It has failed to investigate properly to come to a conclusion on any of the terms of reference for which the power of investigation was given to this Committee and that is why we reject this report in toto. I am sorry that I cannot compliment Mr. Shankaranand's Committee because in spite of the fact that the Committee had some very very distinguished members to whom we had the highest regard, the Committee failed to achieve the purpose for which it was constituted and may be, in the ultimate analysis, if we look back, the way the Committee functioned, the way the Committee allowed Bofors to go out of its grip, the way the Committee did not ask the proper question, if fully establishes that the Opposition did the right thing by not being on the Committee because the whole exercise was an exercise of white-wash.

SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am only trying to give an answer to Mr. Dinesh Goswami. When he put a personal question to me, he said that he would like me to answer whether we could compel Bofors to disclose their contracts regarding which they say that winding up charges have been paid. Mr. Dinesh Goswami's contention is that it could be done because it was part of our contract that there shall be no middlemen. Now, this particular question was put to the Bofors and when we said that the charge against you is that there has been middlemen in this contract, they said no, there has been no middlemen. We said that you have paid that money. They said that money had been paid to our consulting agents as winding up charges. We said "produce those contracts". They said "those contracts we will not produce"... (*Interruptions*)

We said "you will have to produce those

contracts because you cannot claim any confidentiality regarding these contracts." But they refused. Now, the question is: Was their stand correct or not? And the precise question was put to the Attorney General by the Committee, which you will find at page 182, and I quote:

"The Attorney General further observes that just as the Government of India could not be compelled by any third party to disclose the terms of contract with Bofors, the latter also could not be compelled to do so in so far as their dealings with third parties were concerned. Therefore, the stand of the Bofors was correct."

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The attorney General did not take into account that point, that is, whether a breach of the contract with the Indian Government is dependent on a particular document, that document can be compelled to be produced. The Attorney General has not taken that point into consideration. These are not two independent contracts. These is a link between these two contracts.

These are not independent contracts, but one linked with the other... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL: Sir, I will, with respect, say, I have great respect for Mr. Goswami, but in this particular matter the stand which he has taken is not legally correct. The correct stand is whether those were winding up charges or not can only be determined by the production of those documents, and regarding those documents they have a right to claim privilege and I also subscribe to the view of the Attorney General.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, after a pretty long time, after some years, I am intervening in the debate in this House. Except for speaking sometimes on matters

which are under my charge, I have not intervened for a long time. Today, I would venture to make a few submissions, a few observations. Of course, it is the privilege of Mr. K. C. Pant to reply to the debate which he will. I would like to make some submissions.

I have respect for all the hon. Members who have spoken and one speaking before me, Hon'ble Goswami, Indrajit Gupta and other Members, all those who have spoken, I have respect for them. They are good speakers, eminent men in the Opposition, and I have gone through carefully all what they have said. Well, I am glad that Mr. Dinesh Goswami very frankly and forthrightly said that he never said, he never blamed the Prime Minister for having received any commissions or anything or any bribes. It is a straight-forward statement by him. Well, he never said it, and if he had believed it, he might have said it... (*Interruptions*). He says, he never said it. Other speakers also today, if I go by their speeches, none of them, if I read the tone of the speeches, I will come to some of the points, all what has been said right from the beginning inside the House and outside the house was making allegations, innuendos, absolutely without any evidence charging this Government, charging the Prime Minister, and charging everything with having done so many things. That is missing today from the speeches of the hon. Opposition leaders. I am glad about it. If they have become wiser, I am happy about it.

Hon. Goswami said: Well, are we supposed to prove the charges? Are we supposed to be prosecutors? Now, I would tell hon. Goswami and hon. Members of the Opposition that as Members of Parliament we are supposed to make an allegation when we have some grounds for that and if challenged, we are supposed to prove it. We are responsible for it. If we make false, baseless, concocted charges merely based on suspicion in gestures and surmises, we are liars. We are bound to prove it. Tonnes of allegations have been made inside the House and our side the House with not an ounce of evidence and still we say, 'Well, it is our responsibility to

make the allegations, not our responsibility to prove.' You are retreating from the responsibility of proving the charges, though the Government does not depend on your proving or not proving. The Committee was set up and the Committee had gone into it. With due respect to all of you and to the Committee, the Committee has gone to the farthest extent to find out what it could possibly find. And it has found out what it could possibly do. And its work, in my opinion, is very commendable.

Now, hon. Member, Indrajit Gupta said, well right from the beginning, he felt that the Committee would not be able to find out anything. Therefore, we thought, we shall not join it. Well, it is obvious. You did not want to join the Committee because you thought, the Committee will not be able to find out anything and there is not much in it which could be found out -- or who has received the payment and so on. Then, he further said, therefore, he did not want to be a party to the Committee so that the responsibility does not come on him. You ask for a committee. Then, you did not want to join the Committee. You do not join the committee and then, you are relying on what? I would say, you use strong words, loud words, brave words and then, finally a retreat. No, is it not our responsibility to prove it. Is it not our responsibility. Your responsibility is only to raise mudslinging, to indulge in character assassination? Your responsibility is only to make false allegations, even fabricated allegations and get away with it? No. One pertinent question I am raising before you. We must consider ourselves as proud Indians. I do not feel happy. I want an alternative to the Congress to be there in the country, in the interest of the country. I want it. Let us think dispassionately, why during these 40 years, we do not have no Opposition in the country which exists in every corner of the country, a national opposition, with a national existence and national perspective, national programme, capable of facing the Congress. Why? If you go into it, it is because, most of the Opposition Parties have adopted this attitude of having a short-cut of character assassination, false charges trumpeting up, finding something and continuing with that

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game. With most unfortunateness and with a deep sense of anguish and pain, I would say, I could understand other things, I could understand many things. I can understand, you are all political people. We are all political people. I do not say, I am not a political man. So you are, so am I. We are all political parties and we have political thoughts. But in the history of 40 years of this country, so many times, so many kinds of allegations have been made, so many things have come from time to time. Indiraji was the worst target of that, with so many false allegations, tonnes of case diaries being released against her but not even one case was filed. She was discharged. All these case diaries were released every day but not one FIR was registered. Such a thing was done. The worst clouds of suspicion were created, this and that. That was all followed, and what was the result? Some of these sitting here belonging to the other Parties disappeared and we came back. We came back, because there was no alternative. We were not there outside because there was no alternative to us. We are here because we have a vision, we have a dream, we have policies, we have programmes. We are the Party which still today attracts the largest number of people from all parts of the country. You have not been able to develop Opposition because your approach is opportunistic; because your approach is shallow; because your approach is cut-short method; because your approach is not based on anything. That is what has happened. If you ask me what pains me the most is, that you have brought those so-called Bofors things, which was connected with the Defence of our country. If you ask me, frankly during these 40 years of India's existence, as a free country and a democratic country -- I do not want to use any unparliamentary word -- this instance, of the Bofors instance, the manner in which you raised it, the manner in which you pumped it, the manner in which you did it, this has been one of the most shameless and opportunistic chapters in the Indian history by the Opposition. You could not succeed then. You cannot succeed today. Today I asked

somebody, what is the Opposition's *mantra*? They say, Bofors. I asked, what is their Bhajan? They say, Bachchan. I asked, what is their deity? They say, Vishwanath -- Nath of the entire world. These are the things. Where have you reached? Where will you reach? You are all now worried, you see. Somebody said, 7.5 millions of Indians have lost faith in us, have lost credibility in us.

Bofors thing started one year ago, more or less, a little more than one year ago. I want to remind you that during this all one year, much of the time has been taken by Bofors, on Bofors, about Bofors, regarding Bofors, by you here, in the media... (*Interruptions*). Hear me. I want to know all the noise that you have been making about Bofors. What has happened in this country? You will say "Yes. We did it." We defeated you in Tripura.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: With the help of the army.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I do not say that we defeated you with Bofors gun. You say "We defeated you in Bofors gun"... (*Interruptions*). I am not yielding. Whenever you lose, you say, it is rigging. Whenever you win, it is honest election... (*Interruptions*). We won in Nagaland.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: In Meghalaya what did you do?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I will tell you about Meghalaya. We won a number of parliament bye-elections during this one year. We won a number of legislature bye-elections. We won local elections in a number of places in Andhra Pradesh and in Karnataka... (*Interruptions*). Don't live in a fools' paradise, I tell you. If you wish to, I am happy. If you wish, Mr. Amal Datta, I would rather wish you to remain in your perpetual fools' paradise. About Haryana elections, ask Mr. Devi Lal, whether he won the elections only because of Bofors? No. He would kill himself if you say that. He has his own reasons. Reasons are many. Therefore, I am saying it that you seem to think that you have created

something. It is nothing. You have retreated. Let us come to certain things... (*Interruptions*). You don't dispute. These are all repercussions. You have said this. I am only answering some of the points.

I am very glad to say, almost everybody has said, well, nobody has seriously challenged the necessity, for a gun of that kind. It is accepted and today there is consensus in the House that such a type of gun was needed.

Secondly, there has been no serious challenge. There is no use raising noise like this. It is a fact. Go by the record.

The quality of the gun has not been seriously disputed by anybody. The price has not been disputed by anybody.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Then why was the money paid?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: You and I going to become *Guru* and *Chela*... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: *Guru* and *Chela*?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: After retirement, I will become a *Sadhu* and he will become a *Chela*.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Allowed!... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI R. L. BHATIA (Amritsar): Mr. Bhatia, he will spoil you.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Neither he will spoil me nor I will spoil him.

[*English*]

The quality of gun is not seriously disputed. Gun was needed. It is not seriously disputed. The price is not seriously disputed. What are you trying to hang on? You are trying to hang on the note of Shri Aladi Aruna, the dissenting note. I do not

go into the question that the split has come in the AIADMK and all that. I do not want to cast any aspersion on any body. You are trying to hang on the note of Shri Aladi Aruna. What is the operative portion of Shri Aladi Aruna's note? He says, the core of it is, there is no direct evidence against the Prime Minister with regard to this case. But, Prime Minister took extraordinary interest in this case. What is the extraordinary interest and what are the consequences of his extraordinary interest that he talked to the late Prime Minister of Sweden Shri Olof Palme and, as a result of this, none of you has disputed that as a result of his talking to him not to have the agents and as a result of negotiations, it was done. If I am not wrong, 17 meetings of the Price Negotiating Committee were held. They were long meetings with detailed minutes. Three people from the Finance Ministry were there. You have not disputed it. The matter went to the Finance Minister. He also signed it. I find some of his *chelas* are not here today because I have not issued a whip. If a whip is there, they would be here. They would speak against us but they would vote for us... (*Interruptions*).

These are the facts. Can you deny them? What I am saying is this. There was a point about the quality and price of the gun. According to the report, the gun has been offered on a price lesser than even given to the Swedish Army. So, all these are facts which were undisputed. There was a mention of Rs. 200 crores. Shri Shiv Shanker and all other people have dealt on this point at length. Therefore, I don't want to go into them again. Secondly, there was a time... (*Interruptions*)

Don't run away from the realities. At that time, you found Sweden as your Mecca. Some of the Opposition party leaders thought that Sweden has their Mecca. All of you have decided to go to Sweden without even enquiring from the Swedish Government whether you should go or not. You could not go. Then, when the Swedish Public Prosecutor made some announcements, he became your God. You were saying that he is bringing out this thing and that thing but this Government is

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not doing this and that. What are the findings? Please read page 174 of the report of the Swedish Public Prosecutor. He says that no crimes have been committed according to the Swedish laws. He does not accept your theory of bribes or anything. He has just closed the investigation. You tried this in Sweden. But you have failed. One thing has been said. Of course, there are some companies which are bogus. Some companies do not exist and so on. We have not been able to find out. The Committee has frankly, forthrightly stated that they have not been able to find out from them about this.

Shri Dinesh Goswami says that the Committee has humiliated this country. He asked: "Why not compel Bofors? Why not compel Bofors to be straightforward?" Some of them insisted on that. Shri K. C. Pant has very well answered it. You could have done it, by cancelling the contract. The report says this. The first point is whether the contract should be cancelled legally? Secondly, you have to go in arbitration. What are the consequences? This is the one difference between you and us. It would have been very easy for us if we were jingoists, if we were merely only self-seekers or opportunists as some of you. We could have said: "All right, we cancel the contract". But we think more of India; more of India's defence than ourselves. When the expert opinion, technical opinion, military opinion is this that these guns are necessary all the same because of Pakistan' threat to India, you don't challenge this opinion. None of you have challenged this opinion. For us, it is possible to cancel the contract in order to gain some handsome contract that too legally. We have the opinion of the Attorney-General on record about the cancellation of contract. But the only thing that you go on saying is that the Government has not done this and that. What have you suggested? One thing was suggested. You have said that we did not invite people. I was surprised. I am sorry that Shri Jaipal Reddy is not here. He must have some important work. He has gone away. So also, Prof. Madhu Dandavate. I expected

them to be here and not to retreat. I thought that they would be here. I have great respect for Prof. Madhu Dandavate. He has spoken maximum on Bofors. Today, he is not found here to listen. I have no grievances. He must have some important work. All of us have some important engagements. What has happened now? Let us see whether the cancellation of the contract should be done at all. If at all, at what cost to the country? Somebody said that nobody was invited. Shri Jaipal Reddy went to the extent of saying who knew that the Committee was there. The Joint Parliamentary Committee has been appointed. But nobody knew of it. It was not even known to you. I tell you law is this. Even if you have no faith, even today, I ask you to search your conscience and say about this. While speaking here, has anyone of you said anything new or has there been any piece of evidence? There was nothing. When the time for extension of the term came, you have said nothing new. You have got nothing new. You have admitted and Shri Indrajit Gupta admitted and some of you also admitted. Nothing could be found out.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:
Why?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I ask you. The Bofors Committee was sitting there and everybody knew of it. The JPC was sitting. The whole country knew. It came in the Radio, in the Press and on T.V. If any one whether Indian or foreigner -- had any evidence, even the rivals -- they should have come before the Committee. They should have come before the Committee. In fact, those who were briefing you, if at all, I do not know whether there was any one or not, have let you down. If there was anything, they should have come out. I do not blame the media. So much has been written in the press about Bofors. Well, they are interested. Whenever I call them even for a little personal chat, they open their book and start writing. Well, when they get material, when allegations are made, such serious allegations are made and repeated by persons supposed to be responsible -- I believe, you are responsible people -- they are bound to write and they

have written. But then the question is whether we have acted with a sense of responsibility or not. The law of the land is that anybody can set the machinery of criminal law into motion at any time. If any one of you had any material against anybody, 'A', 'B', 'C', or 'D', Chadha, Hinduja, etc., etc., if you had any evidence, you could have set the machinery of law into motion. My friend, Mr. Amal Datta, is a very good lawyer, but I do not know whether he is a criminal lawyer or a civil lawyer. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee is there. The other people are there. Even now they have nothing. What they are now trying to bank upon is, "Well, the *Hindu* has written something about it." It is a pity that some observation of Prof. Tewary which he later on elaborated about the *Hindu* was sought to be used as an argument. That is where the level of debate has been brought down to by the opposition; that is where we have come to.

Now, your last weapon is what the *Hindu* has written. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Indrajit Gupta said that the Committee should have waited and gone into what the *Hindu* has written. My simple question is this and you will not be able to answer that. You as political parties were not interested in finding out the truth. If you could find something which would damn us, you would have done it. You knew from the beginning that you would not be able to do it. You made a proposal for a Joint Parliamentary Committee hoping that you might be able to get something. But when you found that you would not get anything, you ran away from it in spite of Mr. Pant's repeatedly asking you to join it -- he was almost begging of you. And today you are relying on the dissenting note given by Mr. Aladi Aruna. If you were nine there or ten there, well, the dissenting note could have become more powerful, more meaningful. I think, some of you have now an inward sense of guilt that you did not join this Committee. If you had joined this Committee, maybe you could have helped. But you did not want to because you were not interested in finding out the truth. If the truth is against us, then you are interested. If the truth is not against us, then you are not interested. Then you would

like the matter to remain; you will go on and on in your artificial balloon raising suspicion, cloud, dust and what not; you will go on getting whatever benefits you can.

Finally, I want to end by saying this. I would not say that we are all clever people. Our friend, Mr. Jaipal Reddy, says evasively one sentence: "We know what are their relations with the Hinduja" and then leaves it at that, so that he can raise a point for record. His eyes are above for getting something in the press. If he had really something, he should have elaborated on it. The very fact that he did not do that shows that he had nothing to substantiate. Now, an inference can be drawn. It is all wishful thinking.

Another thing is this. We have a very interesting Opposition. The Prime Minister, day in and day out, has spoken on this issue. He comes to the House and says that neither himself nor any member of his family is involved in this and that, if anybody was found involved, whoever it is, friend or relative, action will be taken against him. First, the Prime Minister is charged, is accused, directly and indirectly throughout the country; many come and say, "It is wrong". Then they say, "Look, the Prime Minister comes and says this; he is trying to clear himself." A funny Opposition indeed. I remember, in my Assembly days, I made a statement and the Opposition leader gave a statement. I asked him: "Suppose I had made a different statement, what would you have done?" and he said, "I had the other one ready in my pocket." This is what you are. One thing more and I have done. Well, the Committee has not called the Prime Minister in the witness Box, nor the Defence Minister in the witness box nor Mr. Arun Singh in the witness box. Why is that the Committee has not called them? You know that somebody is called in the witness box against whom evidence is there. Not that one, who is required, to explain, is called. Not a shred of evidence is with you, not before the House, not before the Joint Parliamentary Committee, but you have all retracted from that position today. Have the Committee called the Prime Minister and given you the Opportunity to say that the Prime Minister is in the dock?... (*Interruptions*). Just a

[Shri H.K.L. Bhagat]

19.00 hrs.

minute. Well, I thought, Mr. Acharia, you are more reasonable and sensible. They should have called Mr. Pant, they should have called Mr. Arun Singh, that kind of thing is what is called witch-hunting, that is a roving thing which you wanted. We are in Parliament. We are not having a public meeting in Chowringhee where you and I can speak anything and get away. We can get away with anything there. But not here. Therefore, I am saying that there is no question of this. It happens. Try to see from the beginning. I do not put all of you together. I do not club all of you. Even if you try, you cannot put yourself together. I know even then you cannot put. We are not existing because there is no alternative to us. We are existing because we are a very positive force. I tell you and you mark my words, I am not a political *Jyotshi* in spite of this talk of Bofors which you think exist. Your *Mantra* is bofors, your *Bhajan* is Bachchan and your God or Deity is Vishwanath. Now with this, you will be nowhere and with the support of the people, we will be back here in the Central Hall.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Banatwalla to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called Mr. Banatwalla to speak and not anyone else. Mr. Banatwalla is on his legs. I cannot allow others. Nothing goes on record except Mr. Banatwall's speech.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is a great national tragedy that for the past one year or more, the country had to content itself with thick cloud of suspicion regarding corruption at higher quarters raised by allegations against the Bofors contract. I must compliment the Government that as soon as it was convinced that there was some *prima facie* evidence of huge payments having been made, the Government conceded to the demand for a Joint Parliament Committee. That was a very good thing a right thing to have done.

Unfortunately, many in the opposition failed to rise to the occasion and join the Committee. We do not, of course, approve of their failure to serve this House and the nation. These are points apart. But as far as the report is concerned, the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, I am very unhappy to say that despite the report, the controversy will continue. With all honesty I rise to express my total dissatisfaction with the Report. The Report is very much disappointing. I respectfully submit that the Joint Parliamentary Committee has grievously erred in its conclusions. The conclusions are not borne out by its own findings. The conclusions are not borne out by the facts and the material that it had before itself. Because the conclusions are not borne out by its own findings, I most respectfully submit that the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee is a gross misuse or abuse of Parliamentary Procedure and Forum.

The point that I am making is simply that there are certain conclusions in this Report; but those conclusions are not borne out by the findings of the JPC; those conclusions are not borne out by the facts and the material that it had.

I don't want to accuse anybody of corruption whatsoever. It is not my habit to play the filthy game of mud slinging in the hope that some of it will stick somewhere. I am not given to that particular type of tactics. But it is my duty to point out to the House that the conclusions of the JPC are not borne out by the facts and the material that it had before it. That is my only submission.

Take the question of the recipients of huge amounts. That huge amounts were paid is not doubted. The question is, who were the recipients? The Committee failed to find out who were the recipients of these amount. The Report says:

"On the ground of commercial confidentiality, Bofors have not furnished

full details of the persons to whom winding up costs were paid. It has not been possible for either our investigating agencies or any other source to find any evidence regarding the identity of the recipients. The Committee, therefore, have not been able to reach any conclusion in regard to the identity of the recipients."

When the Committee has not been in a position to identify the recipients, then, how can the Committee come to the conclusion that no Indian--resident or nonresident--has been involved? This is the only point that I am making. I don't want to accuse anybody. I am not here to accuse. I only say that according to the facts and the material before it and according to its own admission, there was no basis whatsoever to say that no Indian--resident or non-resident -- was involved.

How can you clear all the Indians? What is the basis of this conclusion? The fact remains that even in the case of three companies that were named by Bofors, the JPC could not find out as to who were the real owners of those three companies, quite apart from the other individuals. Those companies also were such as were registered in tax havens obviously for the purpose of tax avoidance and secrecy. One of them is reported to have done no business during the last two years or perhaps more. Such has been the situation. Therefore, I say, a sweeping conclusion was made by the JPC irrespective of the fact that it could not find out the recipients of this huge amount.

Take another point with respect to the nature of payments. The Committee has come to the conclusion that the payments were in the nature of winding up costs. But again this conclusion is not borne out from the findings. I quote from the Report:

"Bofors have expressed inability to furnish copies of their initials as well as termination agreements with the three companies to whom winding

up costs were paid on the plea of commercial secrecy. According to the advice of the Attorney-General the stand taken by Bofors is sustainable in the circumstances of the case."

The relevant documents of contract could not be obtained by the Committee. Then in the absence of those documents of contract how could the Committee come to the conclusion that the payments made were really in the form of winding up costs and not commissions, kickbacks and bribes. Even the Attorney-General's opinion may be considered. We have been told here that the Attorney-General himself has given this opinion to the Committee that Bofors was right in claiming privilege and the Bofors claim not to give the copies of the documents of the contract was sustainable. Our point is not whether Bofors claim was sustainable. That is a different question altogether. Our point is since Bofors claimed that privilege and the documents were not placed before the JPC then how in the absence of those documents of contract JPC could give any opinion with respect to the nature of payments. That is the crucial point. The Attorney-General himself had warned the JPC on this account. The Attorney-General had told the Committee that yes Bofors can claim that privilege. They may not produce those documents of contract but in the absence of those documents of contract we cannot say what the nature of the payment was -- whether the payments were winding up costs, commissions or any other thing. Therefore, I must submit that it was a rather sweeping conclusion to have said that they were winding up costs.

Then again another sweeping conclusion has been made by the Committee to say without any evidence whatsoever that no amount has been paid in violation of Indian laws. Our Committee could not get the documents of contract. They could not know who the recipients were. They could not find out the nature of payments from those documents. Yet the Committee came to the conclusion that no payment has been made in violation of the Indian

[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

laws. In the absence of the documents of contract such a conclusion, I am afraid, is not sustainable.

The only point I am making is that the conclusions are not borne out by the findings. The Joint Parliamentary Committee has said one very correct thing. It has opined in its report that in view of the persistent refusal of Bofors to name recipients and to produce documents of contract, the Committee could not make any headway. So far, correct. The report ought to have concluded there that they could not make any headway. They ought to have left the matter there. But having said that they could not make any headway, they plunged further and made great headway by saying that, yes, no Indians were involved; Yes, the payments were in the nature of winding up costs; and, yes, no Indian laws have been broken.

I, therefore, say that the Committee has been blowing hot and cold in the same breath. In the same sentence you say that you have not been in a position to make any headway. And in the same breath, you say that you exonerate everybody and make sweeping conclusions. Therefore, I am constrained to say that this report cannot be acceptable to the country. The report is not acceptable at all because of such unsubstantiated conclusions that we have. I have, therefore, to express my total dissatisfaction against the report and feel that the report is guilty of misuse or abuse of our parliamentary forum.

It is unfortunate that the Committee failed to take cognizance of the new evidence that has been revealed by the Press, particularly by *The Hindu*. Six documents were published. This House elected the Committee to find out evidence. They ought to have done something to inquire into these matters also which have come in the media and not to treat them with contempt. It would have been in the interest of the nation itself had the entire mystery been solved. Instead, because of the report, the mystery deepens.

Are we now to look up to the Swedish Parliamentary Committee to reveal the truth? It would be a pathetic state. It was the Swedish National Audit Bureau's report that gave us some *prima facie* evidence. Now again, we may have to look up and wait for the findings of the Swedish Parliamentary Committee. That, I say, is very pathetic indeed. The Vice-Chairman of the Committee said and I quote:

"Documents which have been shown to the Constitutional Committee of the Swedish Parliament, if made public, will cause some turbulence in both Sweden and India."

While I am not making any charges whatsoever - I am not a party to that - I really feel that such wild charges ought not to have been made unless and until the Opposition was ready to come forward to tender its own evidence.

I must urge upon the Government not to treat the Report as a last word. That is the only caution for which I have risen. I only want to caution the Government. I was called upon to speak right at the time when it was time for me to break my fast after the whole day. At such an auspicious time, I am here to urge upon the Government, please, not to treat this report as the last word, to continue the investigation because it is not in the interest of the nation that all of us should have an image which is an image of a suspect in the eyes of the nation.

Let us not have, let not anybody have an image which the Opposition is trying to create, an image of a suspect in the eye of the nation. Therefore, it would be in the interest of the whole thing that the Report is not taken as a last word. Unfortunately, the matter was raised under Rule 193 and had there been a motion, I would have come forward with an amendment pleading to this House to send the Report back to the Committee to consider the fresh evidences and the fresh points that are coming up. At least, as the last resort, I appeal to the Government not to treat the Report as the last word and to see that

vigorous investigation is made not only to clear every doubt that is there but to expose even the game of the Opposition, if that is a game. It is also necessary to see that justice is done under this particular case and anybody, if found to be guilty, is brought to task.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): The Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee to inquire into the Bofors contract is under discussion of the House and at the end, regarding the various features of the Members of Opposition, I feel that they have done disservice to the nation by not joining this Committee. If they had so many arguments and so much material placed before the House and if they had several suggestions as far as the functioning of the Committee is summoned, they should have waited and joined this Committee to take the responsibility of finding out the truth as far as this episode is concerned. In fact, there was not much difference between their alternative resolution, as far as the formation of the Committee is concerned, and the ultimate Amendment Motion moved by the Defence Minister for the constitution of this Committee. I feel that the difference was this that they wanted this Committee to go into all the episodes from the year 1980, as far as the Defence deals are concerned, whereas the official motion restricted only to this subject. Therefore, after the Amendment Motion was moved, the whole Opposition should have joined this Committee and helped the House for coming to a further conclusion. Now, it was said that the ruling party first took this very lightly and was not even prepared to constitute a Committee. But I may point out that this Committee came into existence only as a result of the Audit Report of the Swedish Government and for that Audit Report also, our Government had taken the initiative. If we read page 11, it will be clear that it was at the instance of our Government that ultimately the audit took place and quote:

"On 21st April of this year, the Indian Ambassador came to the Swedish For-

eign Ministry and asked that the Swedish Government should help in obtaining information whether the middlemen have been used or not. In view of this, the Under Secretary of State, Mr. Carl John Aberg immediately contacted the leadership of the Nobel Industries and requested that full clarity should be obtained in the matter.

On 24st April, Bofors transmitted a written report to the Indian Ambassador in Stockholm. The Indian Government has declared that an investigation through the Swedish Government is of great importance. The Audit Board will make a speedy review of those transactions which may be relevant in the matter.

On 24st June, 1987, the Swedish Embassy in India presented to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, a copy of the Report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau..."

This Committee came into existence as a result of the audit report and the audit report was at the instance of this Government only. What I want to submit is that the whole episode is based on mere suspicion and suspicion has no answer. The only answer we can give is that we have tried our best to find out the truth.

As I was pointing out, the initiative for the audit report was taken by the Government and as a result of the audit report when something came out, immediately Government moved to constitute this Committee. After the Committee was constituted, many opposition Members have blamed that this Committee has not functioned properly and has not done its duty, apart from the fact that the Opposition Members did not participate at all and did not help the Committee at all. If we read the whole report, it is quite clear that the Committee left no stone unturned to find out the truth. They examined various officials to find out whether the deal with Bofors was the correct and the cheapest one. I have no time to read certain parts of the report, and it has been extensively read by the Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shanker. The

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

whole report says that the experts had given opinion that these guns were the best; even the Committee and the experts in that Committee have from time to time stated and given evidence that these guns were the best and the cheapest also.

As far as the price is concerned, not merely the amount is to be considered, but several other factors, which the Committee has considered have also to be looked into. From that point of view, it has been stated very curiously that these guns were cheaper to India rather than to Swedish Government itself. It has been stated on page 131 and I will quote:

"We say that the final prices in the contract for India are lower than comparable prices offered to any other customer. It means that India is treated as the most favoured customer. For example, for the same field Howitzer, the price offered to India is lower than the price offered to the Swedish army."

The price offered to India was even lower than that offered to Swedish army. There is no doubt that this deal was the best and the cheapest. If that was the position, where is the question of any middlemen taking monies and defrauding this country of the large amounts. The main question is whether any Indian has taken monies and whether while taking those monies, India had to pay any more amount than the guns deserved. That point no Opposition Member has made.

Before the Committee, Bofors officials have also been examined. They have also given evidence and I may point out that the Committee took great pains in finding out the truth. When the Chairman was given three names, the investigating agency was utilised to find out the truth about those three parties. Then the Investigating Agency was utilised to find out the truth about the three parties and, therefore, we cannot make any allegation as far as this Committee is concerned. The

Committee has taken utmost, made utmost efforts when the three names were given. If the Committee wanted to hide anything, Committee would not have used the Investigating Agency to go after those three parties and find out who were they; who were the partners and whether those three companies were real or not. All these things were found out by the Committee and the Committee made utmost effort to find out the truth as far as this is concerned. If the ruling party or the Government or the Committee wanted to have only eye wash and wanted to hide some facts, which I wanted that some facts should not come out, I should not see the light of the day, then they could have used several methods. But we see that when some information came from the Bofors that information was also pursued through the Investigating Agency and what has been pursued or what has been obtained has also been put on record, as far as this report is concerned.

Now, when this report came out, curiously enough the day was so chosen to publish certain more documents by a daily named, Hindu. Now, if we carefully see those documents, I am referring to them because the Opposition has made a point that after the publication of those documents even the Committee could have gone into that. If this method is followed there will be no end to the Committee's investigation. The Committee would make a report, somebody will produce or publish some documents the Committee will sit again and go on with it. After that if Committee could publish the report, somebody will publish some other documents and in this way that Committee can never complete its report. But apart from that fact I will point out that on the face of it these documents are fabricated or constructed and cannot be believed at all. For example three documents were published on 27th April, 1988 two of them are titled as the 'Purchase Declaration'. The Swedish word used is 'INKOPSNAMLA', i.e. the Swedish word and I am told that the meaning of that word is purchase declaration. Now, these declarations are not signed by anybody. Just as we fill up some forms for

getting the draft from the bank and give it to the bank, such printed forms have been just filled in. As you know, below that there is some stamp or some signature. Below the stamp there is no signature at all. So, these are perhaps some printed things used and then shown here as certain documents connected with the PITCO payment, etc. So, these documents are not genuine at all.

Apart from that if we see two letters which were published by Hindu, one letter is dated 19th October, 1979. Now, if you see the report you will find that the philosophy paper was prepared in October, 1979. So, there is no question of having a deal with the Bofors at all. Only the military was considering to have such type of guns. So, at that time it was probable that the letter which was perpetrated to have written by M/s A. B. Bofors for Ordnance Division to the British Bank of the Middle East, Geneva for the Attention of Shri Mer-shi informing the bank about the terms of Agreement with PITCO regarding the amount to be paid, there was nothing in October, 1979 so how can this letter exist at that time. So, absolutely, obviously this letter is a false document and a forged document.

Then, if we see some of these printed forms which are produced in the column 'country' -- it is written in England. The country is not England at all, it was all United Kingdom. So, somebody wanted to forge these documents and made all these mistakes. From these mistakes, it is clear that these documents are forged documents and just printed and published so that there is some more evidence available and the Committee should go into it. Therefore, the whole game is to create suspicion and to continue that suspicion till the end. So even if there is a Report of the Committee absolving everybody, even then suspicion should continue. Therefore these documents are again-again printed and further suspicion is continued so far as the masses are concerned. So, these are all politically motivated.

Hon. Member Shri Banatwalla said that the findings are not based upon the evi-

dence. I would like to know which finding is not based upon the evidence? There is no finding for which there is no evidence or no material, in this Report at all. Of course, you may say that we have not been able to find out the recipient, but the three parties were mentioned. They have been pursued and tried to get information about them. If, ultimately the Committee cannot find out such things, the committee cannot be blamed. It tried its best. It examined all the possible witnesses, All the material was collected. And from that material whatever finding they could give and on whatever conclusion they could arrive at, they have sincerely arrived at. Therefore, the crux of the whole problem, is whether the Government and this Committee appointed by this House had tried its best to arrive at the truth or not and if that test has to be applied, then I may say that they have left no stone unturned to find out the truth. This is the truth which has come before the House. If the Opposition wanted to have this Inquiry in a different way, it was their duty to join this Committee and have the say in the Committee. Without doing that, now if you merely criticise it and say that this is not there, this has not been done by the Committee, it is not fair either to the Committee or to this House.

Therefore, I submit that there is no substance in the criticism made by the Opposition as far as this Committee Report is concerned.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we are discussing an unprecedented report that has been presented by an unprecedented Committee in an unprecedented cover up that will blacken this institution of Parliament for ever.

Since several Members from the other side, including the hon. Ministers have spoken, they have lamented the fact that the Opposition had not joined this Committee after having demanded for one, I would like to make my position clear just to set the record straight.

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

You may recall that on the 26th April, 1987, after this news was flashed through the Swedish Radio and after the same news appeared in our press, we from the Opposition at that very moment of time demanded a Parliamentary Committee to find out whether any money payments were made at all -- I repeat -- whether any money payments were made at all. I am sorry to say that -- Shri Pantji is not here because he has been repeating this over and over again what I have said earlier -- he had chosen to forget it. I have said it even when you asked for the extension of the Committee. Therefore, what I would like to say is that at that particular moment of time the Prime Minister himself, and the Defence Minister got up and charged that the allegations that were made by us were false, baseless, mischievous and fabricated, and went to the extent of even saying that this was part of a destabilizing process.

Mr. Shiv Shanker, while making his speech now, has said -- and I quote: "The Government knew that it was a bogus charge." My hon. colleague Mr. Sharad Dighe, while speaking now, said that it was the Government who initiated and asked the Swedish Government to pursue the matter, and that the report of the National Audit Bureau was the result of the Government's request. If the charges were false, if they were baseless, if this was all a part of destabilisation process, if they knew that this was a bogus charge, why then did Government request the Government of Sweden to further pursue the matter? Whatever may be the case, it was the report of the National Audit Bureau of Sweden which forced this Government to offer the formation of this Parliamentary Committee to go into the Bofors issue. The demand of the Opposition was rejected earlier. That session was over. Those charges were called baseless and false. Yet he says Government chose to request the Swedish Government to find out whether there was any truth in them.

Mr. Shiv Shanker knew that the charges were bogus; the Prime Minister said that they were all baseless, mischievous, con-

cocted fabrications. Yet they asked the Swedish Government, and it was on the report given by the National Audit Bureau that this Government ultimately agreed to form this Parliamentary Committee. So, what I would like to mention here, and I hope I will be understood properly this time, is that there was a qualitative difference between the time when we demanded a Committee, and the time when you agreed to set it up. We asked for a Committee to find out whether money payments were made at all, or not. You agreed, after dismissing all these as false, to form a Committee after the National Audit Bureau of Sweden in its report had stated that money had passed hands. I personally did not think then, or do not think even now that there was any necessity to have a Joint Parliamentary Committee of our country to find out to whom and whether money was paid in some foreign countries. The news emanated from the Swedish National Audit Bureau. The money was paid from the Swedish bank. Bofors is a private company in Sweden. And how did you expect your agencies in India whether they are the CBI, IB or the Parliamentary Committee itself to get at this truth?

I am sorry to say that this most ridiculous proposition of commercial confidentiality which is absolutely absurd, was taken recourse to by Bofors; and unfortunately this has been accepted by no less a person than the Attorney General himself. This Committee which was formed, has failed to even censure the Attorney-General or the Bofors for having agreed to this kind of a most ridiculous proposition that was put forward by the company.

So, what is the confidentiality between a buyer and a seller? Sir, I would like to ask you: will any seller pay commission, remuneration or whatever you may call it, to a third person who cannot influence the buyer? Has it ever happened in any business deal? I am not prepared to swallow this kind of a theory which is being sold to us.

Mr. Shiv Shanker, while speaking, said that there was a Price Negotiation Committee. He asked us whether we were trying to cast aspersions on the Price Negotiation Committee. Then he went on to say that it was the Prime Minister himself who negotiated and because of that, the price was reduced. So, was the Prime Minister the Chairman of the Price Negotiation Committee, or was the price negotiated through this Committee? What is it all about? His entire speech was a bundle of contradictions. He said that seven eminent people constituted the Price Negotiation Committee. Yet it was the Prime Minister who was responsible for the reduction in the price. He said that when two Heads of Government meet, bilateral talks go on. Bilateral talks go on -- on what? On matters, on bilateral issues, on a Government - to - Government basis. Is Bofors a private company, or is it a Government company in Sweden? What was the necessity for our Prime Minister to talk to the head of the Swiss Government on a bilateral basis? Is this issue to be discussed on a Government - to - Government basis? Is Bofors a Government company, or is it a private company?

What control does the Government of Sweden have over a private company according to their law and the situation? These are the questions which have not been answered. He only says, politicising. Today whether it is a Bofors agreement or whatever it is, you had signed it because you are in the political power; you have made use of the political power to cover up this entire episode. Then you want us not to politicise it. Do you want us to take it at spiritual level?

It is a political issue and we will have to fight it back politically, because, by virtue of political power that you had you had signed this contract and you also used to political majority to push it beneath the carpet. I will not fight shy to speak the truth. Political corruption has to be fought politically.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): No, no, that is all right. That is what I say. It is there. But my point is that you were saying something else. Now, straightaway, you say that it is a political issue.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: The political cover up has to be politicised. Certainly, it is a political issue because if you had no political power, you would not have an opportunity to sign this contract. Then you used your political power to push the truth beneath the carpet. Certainly with a political will, political motivation we will fight it back politically. It will ultimately be the people of this country who move you out of your political power.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): We used our political wisdom.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: You used your political wisdom we know for what, to cover up the political issue. You used your political power to sign a contract like the way you have done. You are charging us for politicising it. Yes, we have; we are doing it and we will continue to do it. Don't try to sell these canards. I am not prepared to buy them.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: They will never be satisfied.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: We will not be satisfied unless the truth comes out. It is really shameful the way in which this entire episode has gone on. The Prime Minister of our country is supposed to have spoken to the late Olof Palme about no commission agent even before the deal was finalised, even before your Technical Committee or your Negotiating Committee had not given any report. How did then we presume that this particular weapon would be bought?

Mr. Shiv Shanker said that it is an established practice for a company to have

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

any agent in defence deal and that was worked out earlier. Who said, no? We know that agents are meant for taking commission. What else is the job of an agent? But you told us specifically that there was no middle men, no agent, no commission was paid. This makes more curious and every statement that this Government has made things have become more and more suspicious. If there was no middleman, if there was no agent, if the concept of having an agent was dispensed with, then to whom this money went? It was a deal from the Prime Minister to the Prime Minister; it was a deal between the Government and a company. There was no agent at all; there was no commission paid. Then to whom the money was paid? Was it a charity? Was it a donation given to three hollow companies? On page 135 of this Report, it reads as follows:-

"According to M/s. Bofors one Mr. La Fonte, an employee of Credit Suisse (Bankers) was aware of the payments made to the company. The inquiries made by the Investigating agencies revealed that no person by that name was working in this Bank.

Enquiries made at the Companies registration office, Geneva and scrutiny of published information in respect of all companies registered in Switzerland revealed that no company by the name of Moineao S. A. is registered in Switzerland. Similarly, the names of MORESCO and PITCO were also not found in these records."

They have said that the payment was made to MORESCO. This is the same as PITCO. So, does it need you facsimile of Hindu to prove that the money was paid to three organisations or companies or hollow companies or whatever you may call them? Now, what they say is that the money has been paid to these companies. After that, the money has evaporated into thin air.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am sure, as a student of history you must have heard of the East India Company which exploited

our country in those good old days. Pitco is nothing else but Parmanand India Trading Company. What is this? Founded by whom? Who is Parmanand Hinduja and what do they have to do with Moresco? The way our country was being exploited by the British 200 years ago by the East India Company has today been replaced by the Parmanand India Trading Company to siphon away the resources from our country and stashed away in banks abroad in tax havens from where no clue can be got.

Unfortunately, this Committee went into an aspect which was not assigned to it, that is, they went out of the way to describe the quality of the guns. It is not what we have challenged. Originally all that we were expecting was about the payments. But having gone into this aspect, several lacuna were glaring even in that aspect. This was a deliberate measure taken by this Committee to dilute the entire purpose for which this Committee was formed.

As we have mentioned earlier, we are not arms experts, or technical experts to say anything about them or to go into in detail and make any evaluation of this gun. In to-day's world of competition there is very little to prove the inferior nature; you cannot prove. There are three or four guns to select, it is a very competitive world, so there is very little to do. But I presume there would be very little difference between the French gun and the Bofors, whatever the case may be. But unfortunately the Committee has chosen to highlight and somehow project this before us that the Bofors gun is the best gun.

While Mr. Shiv Shanker was speaking, he made an uncharitable reference to Shri Aladi Aruna. He said that after his Government did not support the Tamil Nadu Government, he turned turtle and wrote a dissenting note.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: That is correct.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Well, Mr. Shantaram Naik, what happened

to General Sundarji, when 16 days after becoming the Chief he reversed his decision ?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: He did not reverse it. He gave reasons.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: The reasons that he gave, if he did not know those reasons 16 days earlier, he was not worthy of being made the Chief of Staff. Do not talk through your hat !

SHRI K. C. PANT: He does not have a hat. Do not be uncharitable.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: There is no question being uncharitable. It was known, his views when he was Vice-Chief, throughout he was for the French gun. You say that the American radar which was produced and given to Pakistan, which he did not realise that those would be available to them, and hence he had planned till 1997 ? Up to 1997 from now for just eight years you are prepared to spend Rs. 1400 crores ! For eight years !

SHRI K. C. PANT: Certainly, for the security of the country.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Here again, I have to very strongly register my protest, Mr. Deputy Speaker, where they use the word "security and Defence" as a holy cow, as a facade to hide all these deals that have taken place.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Call it holy cow, but the security comes first.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: I am not prepared to accept this explanation. I would like to know, if what I have said, is endangering the security of this country. Even the information about this gun is available in manuals everywhere. These are open for sale anywhere in the world. I have not asked for any blueprints or documents of your strategies.
(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: But Pakistan will come to know of it.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: I do not need a certificate from this gentleman sitting over here. I have also been elected by people of this country, on my own, not by holding on to the coat tails of somebody else. I do not have to learn lessons of patriotism from him.

SHRI TARUN KANTI GHOSH (Barasat): Why are you getting angry ?

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: You ask your people to behave properly.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): I hope you will withdraw those two lines.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: If there is anything objectionable, I withdraw, Mr. Deputy-Speaker. I am sorry.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, several questions that were raised remain unanswered. The Committee has eventually come to the conclusion that no money was paid to any non-resident Indian or Indian without finding out who the recipients were. If you could not find out the names of the recipients or the recipient companies, how then the Committee could emphatically state that no Indians were involved. Though my colleague Shri Jaipal Reddy, who initiated the debate, is not present, now, certain reference were made to him. The hon. Minister Shri Shiv Shanker and later on Shri H. K. L. Bhagat referred to something what he had said and said that he had made innuendoes and charges without any substance especially with respect to Walter Vinci. I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister in his reply, specifically whether or not the ammunition for this is being brought through one company Turin in Italy and whether or not Vinci is a Director or some important functionary in the said company.

I would further like to say that it was only the super charged ammunition and not the general ammunition of this Bofors

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

gun which ultimately covered the distance of thirty kilo metres that was required by our Army. What was the loss or damage that could have been caused to our exchequer by way of paying for this super charged ammunition as against the general ammunition, which is normally used? This was not one of the factors into which the committee went into. I say this because I also suspect large commissions on the purchase of ammunition and spare parts, whose total amount is quite a substantial amount in this deal.

Mr. Shiv Shanker, while he was speaking, said that the Prime Minister had got up in this House and said that neither he nor his family members were involved in this. None of us said that the Prime Minister or his family members were involved in this. But when he said it, I would like to ask further question, whether his definition of *family* includes *in-laws* also. No social or legal definition of *family* includes that. I want this to be made clear.

I am sorry to say that this report has denigrated the dignity and prestige of this House, which has been nourished and built over the years by our predecessors like Pandit Nehru and several others. It is unfortunate that we are discussing this kind of report on the floor of this House. Whatever they may say Sir, ...
(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Let us not be personal. Let us not mention families and all that. This is not necessary for this.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: This has come from your side also.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Really not necessary.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, time and again, they have asked, "has the opposition been able to give an evidence?" I would like to say that it was not really we who bought the guns. We did not sell them either.

None of us were commission agents. Finally the Committee that you have appointed was not on the basis of what we asked, but on the basis of the report of the National Audit Bureau of Sweden. All the transactions were done abroad and you expect us to produce documentary evidence from up our sleeves. The Opposition was not able to do it. What did your investigating agency do? Therefore, let us not try to fool ourselves or live in a fool's paradise. If not today, ultimately the truth will come out. We will continue to raise this issue and fight out, always including it politically to see the truth comes out.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Haroobhai Mehta.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Reference to family members should be removed.
(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): As per the new definition of *immediate family*, *in-laws* also come under that

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Why you say *in-laws*, you are particularly mentioning certain people. You can say generally family members. Therefore that word need not be used.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: What?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: *In-laws* and like that.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: It is not unparliamentary. I just wanted a clarification. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is not necessary.

(Interruptions)

673 *Disc. re: Report
of the J.C.*

VAISAKHA 14, 1910 (SAKA)

*to enquire into 674
Bofors Contract*

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY
(Nalgonda): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there
is no quorum.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House
stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11
A.M.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let the quorum
bell be rung → First time the bell is over.
Second time the bell is being rung. There is
no quorum. The Minister will reply
tomorrow....

20.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven
of the Clock on Thursday, May 5, 1988
Vaisakha 15, 1910 (Saka).*

(Interruptions)