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SECOND SESSION
ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

CORRIGENDA TO LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

....

Tuesday, September 3, 1996/Bhadra 12, 1918 (Saka).

....

| <u>Col./Line</u> | <u>For</u> | <u>Read</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 20/23 | 107.50 | 10750 |
| 40/11 | DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL | DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL |
| 112/4 | SHRI SHHITTUBHAI GAMIT | SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT |
| 127/3 | DR. B. R. SARODE | DR. G. R. SARODE |
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, September 3, 1996^{*} Bhadra 12, 1918 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not able to understand anything.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Today the Gujarat Legislative Assembly was going to discuss the Motion of Confidence but the Hon. Deputy Speaker of the Assembly ... (Interruptions) adjourned the House. We want to condemn the conduct of the Hon. Deputy Speaker. The Legislative Assembly was to meet today but the Hon. Deputy Speaker adjourned the House before the commencement of the session. He has no right to adjourn the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir We ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please speak one by one [English]—I am not following what you are saying ...

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please, sit down. I am not able to understand what you are saying. Please, sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, this can be raised after the Question Hour ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. One Member may speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : How can they discuss Gujrat here? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then you go on speaking.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I do not understand what you are speaking...

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am unable to make out the issue. One Member may speak.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : They have already raised the issue. They can raise the matter during Zero Hour.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Hon. Member speak.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, generally, it is not our tendency to interrupt the proceeding at the commencement of Question Hour. But, if the House does not take cognizance of the unusual situation which has arisen there, the business transacted here will become meaningless. The session of Gujarat Legislative Assembly was to commence today and the Government of Gujarat was to seek the vote of confidence at about 1 p.m. Since the Hon. Speaker of Gujarat Legislative Assembly, is very sick, he could not preside over the proceedings: However, he had already given his ruling that he did not recognize the group of 46 M.L.As and the Government would seek the vote of confidence today at 1 p.m. As soon as the session of Gujarat Legislative Assembly Started, the Hon. Deputy Speaker, instead of asking the Government to seek the vote of confidence, adjourned the House sine-die.

* Not Recorded

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : They cannot discuss Gujarat here. *(Interruptions)* This is highly derogatory. You cannot discuss the conduct of either the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the State Assembly in the House ... *(Interruptions)* The rule does not permit it. The rule is very clear. You cannot discuss the conduct of the Deputy Speaker of the other House ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, your conduct cannot be discussed in any of the State Assembly neither the conduct of the Deputy Speaker nor of the Speaker of the State Assembly can be discussed here

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : He is right ... *(Interruptions)* What Shri Dasmunsi has stated is right. But, we want to apprise you of the issue here so that the situation is well understood first ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep) : Sir, you should give your ruling as to whether you have suspended the Question Hour or not?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow you also, but first listen to him. You can also speak.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : The incident which took place in Gujarat Legislative Assembly is the murder of democracy and a conspiracy. If the leaders of Congress Party from Gujarat come here and meet the Hon. Prime Minister ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, have you received a formal motion to suspend the Question Hour? ... *(Interruptions)* They can raise this issue during the Zero Hour

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Question No. 441—Shri Manikrao Hodyla Gavit.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : No issue can be raised during the Question Hour without bringing a formal motion to suspend the Question Hour. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Let them raise this issue during the Zero Hour. Let the Question Hour continue. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, confidence or lack of confidence in the Government has to be determined in the Assembly. We cannot decide it outside. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you give your ruling that it cannot be raised in the Question Hour. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am not discussing the conduct of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, not at all ... *(Interruptions)* You asked me as to what the facts are. I was just presenting the facts before you. ... *(Interruptions)* We are not discussing the conduct of other Assemblies. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already asked Mr. Manikrao Hodyla Gavit to ask Question No. 441.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.12 hrs.

[English]

Pilferage of Coal

*441. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have at any stage made an assessment of the loss of coal by pilferage, while in transit from the coal fields to destinations;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the preventive measures taken to cut down such losses and the extent to which it involves the railway staff and the Railway Protection Force en route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) Railways do not undertake the assessment of loss of coal due to pilferage enroute, as the coal is moved at owner's risk predominantly in open wagons. Railways also do not supervise loading at collieries not provided with weigh bridges, and unloading at the destination.

The Railways have a system of preventing theft/pilferage of coal and other commodities in stations, yards and in transit. Railway Protection Force is deployed in the yards to prevent pilferage of all the commodities transported in Railway wagons including coal. The other preventive steps taken are as follows :

1. On sections which are identified as vulnerable for theft/pilferage, goods trains including coal rains are escorted by armed RPF staff.
2. Intensive beat patrolling is also undertaken in major yards and affected sections/areas.
3. Crime Intelligence Wing of the RPF is activated which collect criminal intelligence and on the basis of which

raids and searches are conducted to seize the stolen materials and bring the culprits to book. In particularly bad areas, dog squads are also deployed.

Railways do not, however, have much control on trains in transit which travel through the various state territories, law and order and control of crime being under the control of the State Governments, that is, the police and civil administration. However, the Railways maintain close coordination with the GRP and local police of various states in seeking their co-operation to apprehend the criminals and stop such activities

There have been instances of involvement of Railway employees including RPF in pilferage of coal. During the last three years total 183 railway employees including 3 RPF staff were found involved in coal pilferage. Appropriate action was taken against them including prosecution in the court of law.

11.13 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatia, and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 12 o'clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

*442. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish more Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

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

(c) whether the Government are providing any financial assistance to the State Governments for the smooth functioning of existing Krishi Vigyan Kendras;

(d) if so, the criteria fixed for the allocation of assistance for the purpose; and

(e) the amount actually allotted and released during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Government has already approved the creation of all the 78 KVKs as stipulated during the VIIIth Plan. However, in addition 20 districts have been identified for the establishment of new KVKs subject to clearance of Planning Commission and availability of funds during 1996-97. In so far as, establishment of KVK during 1997-98 is concerned, the details will be worked out while functioning the IXth Plan.

(c) Yes Sir, 6 KVKs under state government/public undertakings are being provided financial assistance, in addition to 141 KVKs under state agricultural universities/central universities, 26 KVKs under ICAR Institutes and 88 under voluntary organizations are also being given financial assistance.

(d) Funds are allotted for the activities based on annual action plan prepared by each KVK. Major activities of KVK include vocational training to farmers, farm women and rural youths, on-farm testing on crop, horticulture, live stock and other areas, front line demonstration on oilseeds and pulses and inservice training of field level extension officials.

(e) The total amount sanctioned to States/U.Ts. during the last three years is Rs. 102.38 crores and total amount released is Rs. 105.56 crores. The State and Year-wise details are given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Lakh)

| Sl. No. | Name of States/U.T. | 1993-94 | | 1994-95 | | 1995-96 | | Total | |
|---------|---------------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | | Sanctioned | Released | Sanctioned | Released | Sanctioned | Released | Sanctioned | Released |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | A & N Islands | 27.48 | — | 19.75 | 21.85 | 16.93 | 43.64 | 64.16 | 65.49 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 328.07 | 353.98 | 219.70 | 245.86 | 226.10 | 313.28 | 773.87 | 913.12 |
| 3. | Arunchal Pradesh | 33.92 | 19.85 | 31.21 | 38.13 | 11.95 | 11.95 | 76.08 | 69.93 |
| 4. | Assam | 43.34 | 37.21 | 44.23 | 59.08 | 116.36 | 69.84 | 203.93 | 262.42 |
| 5. | Bihar | 236.64 | 265.70 | 355.56 | 248.76 | 304.01 | 214.64 | 896.21 | 729.10 |

| 1. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-----|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| 6. | Delhi (UT) | — | — | 4.75 | 4.75 | 17.45 | 43.83 | 22.20 | 48.58 |
| 7. | Goa (UT) | 11.25 | 21.50 | 9.90 | 6.00 | 10.20 | 19.76 | 31.35 | 46.76 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 179.49 | 125.70 | 121.76 | 159.11 | 112.10 | 132.47 | 413.35 | 417.28 |
| 9. | Haryana | 230.25 | 156.39 | 122.75 | 57.41 | 139.70 | 197.48 | 492.70 | 411.28 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 106.13 | 106.13 | 70.45 | 90.32 | 119.90 | 77.64 | 296.48 | 274.09 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | 45.01 | 48.31 | 36.45 | 45.67 | 53.33 | 53.70 | 134.76 | 147.68 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 90.88 | 88.73 | 90.40 | 165.64 | 209.05 | 224.31 | 390.33 | 488.68 |
| 13. | Kerala | 96.76 | 93.26 | 86.86 | 102.78 | 140.95 | 208.23 | 324.57 | 403.77 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 199.31 | 150.72 | 34.29 | 142.76 | 261.11 | 237.02 | 494.71 | 530.50 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 287.03 | 281.09 | 177.37 | 311.70 | 411.90 | 544.69 | 876.30 | 1137.48 |
| 16. | Manipur | 37.57 | 19.85 | 23.29 | 38.13 | 11.95 | 11.95 | 72.81 | 69.93 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 45.07 | 34.49 | 35.24 | 34.29 | 53.78 | 53.78 | 134.09 | 156.95 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 22.92 | 22.69 | 6.53 | 6.53 | 17.05 | — | 46.50 | 29.22 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 16.92 | 19.85 | 11.20 | 38.13 | 11.95 | 11.95 | 40.07 | 69.93 |
| 20. | Orissa | 157.62 | 139.68 | 266.87 | 163.86 | 205.86 | 220.20 | 630.35 | 523.74 |
| 21. | Pondicherry | 12.60 | 11.91 | 11.58 | 9.76 | 30.05 | 16.26 | 54.23 | 37.93 |
| 22. | Punjab | 132.16 | 153.73 | 16.70 | 300.55 | 120.00 | 79.60 | 368.86 | 33.88 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 548.66 | 335.79 | 290.95 | 279.01 | 261.60 | 266.22 | 1101.21 | 881.02 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 37.57 | 19.85 | 24.29 | 38.13 | 11.95 | 11.95 | 73.81 | 69.93 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 121.51 | 144.81 | 124.15 | 304.20 | 258.10 | 233.65 | 503.76 | 682.66 |
| 26. | Tripura | 56.04 | 28.47 | 40.98 | 24.05 | 21.70 | 25.50 | 118.72 | 78.02 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 635.84 | 385.16 | 224.26 | 387.15 | 272.37 | 496.08 | 1132.47 | 1268.39 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 139.96 | 103.38 | 154.98 | 156.66 | 175.65 | 89.09 | 470.59 | 349.13 |
| | Total | 3880.00 | 3167.83 | 2755.45 | 3480.21 | 3603.02 | 3908.71 | 10238.47 | 10556.75 |

Setting up of Slaughter Houses

[Translation]

*443. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for setting up of new slaughter houses in the country;

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

(c) the reasons for setting up certain slaughter houses near the airports.

(d) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Notice to Cabinet Secretary", appearing in the Hindustan Times dated August 5, 1996, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) (a) and (b) The Central Government does not establish any slaughter house itself. It only provides assistance to state for modernization/establishment of service slaughter houses for production of hygienic meat. Assistance is also provided to meat processing plants as also export oriented slaughter houses which are supported by State Governments. State wise list of slaughter house/meat processing units assisted is as enclosed as statement

(c) It is proposed to give assistance on priority basis for modernization/establishment of modern slaughter houses outside 10 km radius of airports to prevent bird hit hazards to aircraft

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) The notice and petition have not yet been received from the Hon'ble Delhi High Court.

STATEMENT

STATE-WISE DETAILS OF SLAUGHTER HOUSE/MEAT PROCESSING PLANTS PROJECTS ASSISTED BY GOVERNMENT

| State | Number of Projects | Locations |
|----------------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 5 | Hyderabad, Nellore, Vijayawada, Guntur, Vishakhapatnam |
| Assam | 4 | Guwahati (2) Nazira, Silcher |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------|---|----|--|
| Goa | | 1 | Usgaon |
| Himachal Pradesh | | 1 | Shimla |
| Jammu & Kashmir | | 1 | Srinagar |
| Karnataka | | 1 | Bangalore |
| Kerala | | 13 | Thrissur, Kottayam, Muvattupuzha, Irinjalakude, Thiruvalla, Tripunithura, Thiruvananthapuram (2) Manjari, Angamaly, Mallapuram, Kannur |
| Madhya Pradesh | | 3 | Bhopal, Gwalior, Raipur |
| Maharashtra | | 7 | Nanded, Koregaon, Shrirampur (2) Kalyan (2), Ahmednagar |
| Mizoram | | 1 | Aizwal |
| Nagaland | | 2 | Dimpur, Tijit |
| Punjab | | 1 | Derabassi |
| Sikkim | | 1 | Majithar |
| Tamil Nadu | | 2 | Saidapet, Perambur |
| Tripura | | 1 | Agarhala |
| Uttar Pradesh | | 10 | Allahabad (6), Aligarh (2) Agra, Lucknow |
| West Bengal | | 1 | Durgapur |
| Chandigarh (UT) | | 1 | Chandigarh |

[English]

Encroachment of Forest Land

*444. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the encroachment, transfer and sale of land of Reserve Forests/Khasland in Sikkim was enquired into by the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar;

(b) whether pursuant to the memorandum by some Senior Citizens of Sikkim, the Assistant Inspector General of Forests (EZ) inspected the areas;

(c) if so, the gist of findings of both the reports submitted by RCCF, Bhubaneswar and AIG (EZ); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The area was inspected by Regional Office, Bhubaneswar pursuant to the memorandum by some Senior Citizens of Sikkim.

(c) The gist of findings of both the reports submitted by the Regional Office, Bhubaneswar are attached as statement-I and statement-II.

(d) The report received from the Regional Office, Bhubaneswar on part (a) of the question has been sent to the State Government for detailed comments.

STATEMENT-I

| Allegation | Findings |
|---|--|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. Alleged transfer of 3 ha of RF land in Rhododendron Sanctuary by former Forest Minister for running a tourist resort. | The resort is located in khasland and not in either the sanctuary or the reserved forest. Khaslands are sort of fuelwood reserves for the village and are under control of the Forest Department. It is a violation of the FC Act. |
| 2. Transfer of 5 plots in 3 villages of khasland in 1991-92 measuring 83.29 ha. for getting higher compensation by some influential persons (Minister's relatives) Date shown as 86-87 in records | In 1952 and 1976-78 surveys, 4 plots were recorded as khasland. Subsequently during 1991-92 surveys the said plots have been transferred in favour of private individuals by Revenue Officers. In 3 plots measuring 33 4420 ha., the Forest Department of Sikkim is taking up the matter for rectification of the records as per 1952 survey maps with the concerned district authorities. As per the records maintained in the Head Office of the Survey and Settlement at Gangtok, the said survey numbers are still khaslands. In one plot measuring an area of 44.0820 ha., the disputed ownership between forest and the individuals is being dealt with by the district authority. Plot measuring 12.2440 ha. and not 14.2440 ha. is a private land. |
| 3. 1100 acres of RF land in Munguthang given to people of Lachung by Attestation Officer in 1993 | The survey of India Topo sheet clearly shows that these lands were RFs as per the 1952 survey. The villagers of Lachen were not satisfied with the survey done in 1980 and they represented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister requesting for another survey. The resurvey done during the year 1980 was not accepted by the Forest Department. Forest Department |

| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|
| | represented before the Attestation Officer. The Attestation Officer has given verdict in favour of people basing his judgement on a document signed between Tibetan and Sikkim Government during July 1929. The Attestation Officer has failed to appreciate that the survey conducted during 1952 and 1976-78 classifying the area as RF, supersedes all previous agreements and orders. The Government of Sikkim has appointed a High level team comprising of PCCF, CCF, Secretary, Law Department and Secretary, Land Reforms Department to go into the details of this case and submit findings to the Government. |

STATEMENT-II

| Allegations | Findings |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. 1100 acres (440 ha.) of land in North Sikkim in Lonak valley at Mugthang on Sikkim-Tibet Border claimed by some villagers of Lachen. | To resolve the disputes between villagers and the Forest Department, the State Government has constituted a High level committee. On the recommendations of this committee, the State Government has notified on 12.3.1996 for recastestral survey of the area. |
| 2. Encroachment of 3 ha. of forest land at Yakche. | It was found during enquiry that the Tourist Resort is functioning in Khasmal Forests. The State Government has been requested to furnish its comments in the matter and the report is awaited. |
| 3. Construction of VIP Complex at Gangtok. | The State Government has intimated vide letter dated 29.2.96 that according to revenue records, the land involved is a Government land and not a forest land. Therefore, Forest (Conser vation) Act, 1980 is not applicable. |

- | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> |
|--|---|
| 4 Construction of Teesta Phase-III in North Sikkim | Ministry of Environment and Forests vide their letter No J-12011/5/92-IA dated 17.8.95 have directed Sikkim Power Department to come up with the Environment Plans on the basis of basin study before the environmental clearance is given. According to records available with the Ministry, additional details have been sought from Government of Sikkim |
| 5 Rathang-chu Hydro Electric Project. | The Environment and Forestry clearances were issued during 1992 and 1995 respectively. The stay granted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter on appeal from NGOs has been vacated and State Power Department has been asked to go ahead with the project work at the risk and peril of the State Government |

Condition of Women Prisoners

*445 KUMARI UMA BHARATI Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the condition of women prisoners in jails in the country is very miserable.

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any plan to improve their condition;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the time by which the same is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) (a) to (d) Though it would be inaccurate to say that the condition of women prisoners in jails in the country is very miserable, the Central Government has been stressing the need for further improvement in the living conditions of prisoners.

'Prisons' is a State subject. However, the Central Government, on its part, has been providing, apart from guidance on improvements on various aspects of prison functioning, financial assistance to the States for modernization of prisons. The Tenth Finance Commission has

also provided funds to the State Governments to improve the conditions in jails. It is expected that the State plans to improve the infrastructure in jails would lead to better living conditions in jails.

[Translation]

Construction of Rail Line

*446 SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for delay in the construction of Dlii-Rajhara-Rowghat-Jagdalpur rail line;

(b) the target for completion of the said route;

(c) whether this said route has been included in the priority list of the railways under the policy for the development of backward and neglected areas, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) The Dalli Rajahara-Rowghat-Jagdalpur line is to be taken up on a cost sharing basis between the Railways, Ministry of Steel and Madhya Pradesh Government. The work has been included in Railway Budget of 95-96.

The basis of cost sharing is as under :

1 Government of Madhya Pradesh would provide free land and royalty concessions of totalling Rs. 27 crs.

2 Ministry of Steel will bear the actual cost of Construction between Dallirajahara and Rowghat (95 kms), presently estimated at Rs. 134 crs. and would also provide a contribution of Rs. 75 crs. as budgetary support for Rowghat-Jagdalpur sector.

3 Railways would provide the balance cost amounting to Rs. 133 crs.

The MOU is under finalization. The major issues which are pending are :

(i) Ministry of Steel had earlier agreed to a 7% return which was to be adjusted through freight concessions. Now they are demanding 16%.

(ii) SAIL had earlier ensured a traffic of 2.4 million tonnes in the first year of operation which would rise to 3.3 million tonnes and more from the 3rd year. Now, they are guaranteeing only a minimum traffic of 2.4 million tonnes per year to entitle themselves for equivalent return on investment.

(iii) The Ministry of Steel are contributing to this project so that they can carry iron ore from Bailadilla Mines of Bhilai Steel Plants. However, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has not yet cleared the proposal for mining from Bailadilla. The Ministry of Steel want to sign the MOU only after this clearance is obtained.

This Ministry is ready to take up the work after the signing of MOU and deposit of money by SAIL, and other parties.

Since this line would be a project oriented one, and would also serve the backward and tribal areas, the project would be assigned category 'A' once the MOU is signed and the work is taken up. The target for completion of the line would be fixed once the work is started.

[English]

Construction of Railway Line

*447 SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a proposal to construct railway line from Lanjigarh Road to Ambaguda in the recent past and the same has been approved upto Janagad in the Waltair Division of the South Eastern Railway,

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct rail line between Junagad-Ambaguda in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Construction of a new line from Lanjigarh Road to Junagarh only has been sanctioned. There is no proposal for construction of a railway line between Junagarh and Ambaguda in the near future.

(c) Does not arise.

Freedom Fighters Pension

*448 SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government consider extension of time beyond July 31, 1981 to enable the remaining Freedom Fighters (Swatantrata Sainiks) to avail Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension in their old age,

(b) whether the Government consider and approve the major events of the Freedom struggle, viz Kayyur, Morazha, Punnapra-Vayalar in Kerala in the approved list of Freedom struggle movement in the country, and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The last date for receipt of applications for grant of freedom fighters pension was 31-3-1982. Applications received after the prescribed date are also considered by the Government provided the same are accompanied by documentary evidence from official records which could prove suffering of atleast six months imprisonment/exceterment/internment/under ground suffering or loss of job etc. No last date is fixed now.

Participation in the Kayyur, Morazha and punnapra-Vayalar movements in Kerala as a part of Freedom Struggle

is being reconsidered in consultation with the State Government of Kerala.

[Translation]

National Agriculture Production Index

*449 SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Index for National Agricultural Production (Anawari Report) was determined along with the details thereof;

(b) whether any changes have been incorporated therein, and

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Annawari system of estimating agricultural production was introduced when the system of preparation of crop forecasts was initiated in the country. The preparation of crop forecasts was initiated with wheat crop in 1884 followed by rice, cotton, jute, sesamum, linseed the rapeseed and mustard in 1885. Later on more crops were brought under the purview of Crop Forecasting/Estimation system. The system of estimating crop yield/production based under traditional method (Annawari System) was continued till the scientific method of yield estimation of major crops on the basis of crop cutting experiments was introduced sometime in early fifties. The index of agricultural production which indicate the relative change in production of crops with respect to base period, are available for the period 1949-50 to 1994-95 with triennium ending 1981-82 = 100 as the base.

(b) The production estimates are now prepared based on estimation of yield through organizing scientifically designed crop cutting experiments. The coverage of crops and area under this method of estimation of production is being increased over years. Presently, about 46 crops are covered under the scientifically designed crop estimation surveys and construction of index number of agricultural production in the country.

(c) The change in the method of estimation of production from "Annawari" to scientifically designed crop cutting experiments was mainly aimed at improving the reliability of estimates of production as the former method was supposed to be subjective in nature.

[English]

Production of Oilseeds

*450. SHRI B. DHARMABIKSHAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country is facing acute edible oil deficiency due to shortfall in the production of oilseeds and increase in their prices;

(b) if so, the total production of oilseeds in each State as against the targets fixed during 1995-96.

(c) the reasons for shortfall in the production of oilseeds and hike in their prices.

(d) the specific steps proposed to be taken to achieve self-sufficiency in the oilseeds production; and

(e) the amount allocated for the purpose to each State for 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As compared to the estimated demand of 72.54 lakh tonnes of edible oils during the oil year (November-October 1995-96), the production of edible oils is of the order of 66.70 lakh tonnes showing a gap of about 6 lakh tonnes between the total requirement and net availability of edible oils from all domestic sources. There is, however, no shortfall in the production of oilseeds, rather a record production of 22.9 million tonnes has been estimated during 1995-96. This has resulted in lower average wholesale price index of oilseeds from January to July, 1996 at 279.8 as compared to 284.9 for the corresponding period in the year 1995.

(b) The Statewise targets and actual production is given in statement I attached.

(c) There is neither any shortfall in production nor hike in their prices.

(d) In order to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oilseeds, a well-defined production strategy is under implementation through a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme. This programme is under implementation in 22 States in the country. The financial assistance is provided for various critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, rhizobium culture, gypsum/pyrite, improved farm implements, plant protection equipments, sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are organized on farmers' fields to transfer the production technology.

(e) A statement II attached.

STATEMENT-I

(Lakh Tonnes)

| Sl. No | State | Production Target | Achievement in production |
|--------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 25.00 | 30.06 |
| 2. | Assam | 1.90 | 1.94 |
| 3. | Bihar | 1.80 | 1.54 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 29.00 | 22.63 |
| 5. | Haryana | 8.50 | 8.97 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 0.50 | 0.43 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 18.70 | 15.82 |

| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
|-----|----------------|--------|--------|
| 8. | Madhya Pradesh | 42.00 | 49.82 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 22.00 | 21.10 |
| 10. | Orissa | 7.50 | 3.28 |
| 11. | Punjab | 2.70 | 2.93 |
| 12. | Rajasthan | 27.20 | 31.46 |
| 13. | Tamil Nadu | 17.20 | 17.40 |
| 14. | Uttar Pradesh | 15.50 | 15.00 |
| 15. | West Bengal | 4.60 | 5.49 |
| 16. | Others | 0.90 | 1.10 |
| | Total | 225.00 | 228.97 |

STATEMENT-II

| S. No. | State | Allocation |
|--------|-------------------|------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1433.33 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 45.33 |
| 3. | Assam | 206.66 |
| 4. | Bihar | 133.33 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 666.66 |
| 6. | Haryana | 233.33 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 40.00 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 93.00 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 800.00 |
| 10. | Kerala | 66.66 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 1613.00 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 1366.66 |
| 13. | Manipur | 106.66 |
| 14. | Meghalaya | 20.00 |
| 15. | Orissa | 600.00 |
| 16. | Punjab | 133.33 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 1433.33 |
| 18. | Sikkim | 66.66 |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 1133.33 |
| 20. | Tripura | 33.33 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 733.33 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 333.33 |
| | Total | 11291.92 |

Wagon Manufacturing Unit

*451. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a wagon manufacturing unit at Chitradurga in Karnataka, and

(b) the time by which the said unit is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Flora

*452 SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :
SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Smuggling depleting precious flora' appearing in the Statesman dated August 8, 1996.

(b) if so, the number of cases of smuggling of commercially and medicinally valuable flora detected by the Government during the last three years, State-wise.

(c) the value of such flora stolen/smuggled out of the

country during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent trafficking of the Indian flora?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of smuggling cases of medicinal plants and products detected during last three years by the Regional Deputy Director of Wildlife Preservation under this Ministry are given in the attached 'Statement-I'. Since the cases are detected at limited export points only, which may be coming from various states, detection figures are not possible to be classified statewise.

(c) The approximate value of the products seized in attempted smuggling, during the last 3 years is around Rs. 10 crores.

(d) Steps taken to prevent smuggling of Indian flora are given in the enclosed Statement- II.

STATEMENT-I

Cases detected by the regional Dy. Directors (Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta) During the Last 3 years

| Sl. No | Item Seized | Bombay | | | Delhi | | | Calcutta | | |
|--------|--|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | Taxus Baccata Leaves/Taxol Resins | 2510 Kg. | 109.5 Kg. | — | 107.50 Kg. | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2. | Nardostachys Jatamansi/oil | 8357 Kg. | 103 Kg. | 229.45 Kg. | 3,200 Kg. | 22.85 Kg. | — | — | — | — |
| 3. | Cedar Oil | — | — | — | — | 430 Kg. | — | — | — | — |
| 4. | Podophyllum emodi | — | — | — | — | 100 Kg. | 101.50 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 5. | Costus Oil | — | — | — | — | 2 Kg. | 25 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 6. | Swertia Chirata | — | 30 Kg. | 55 Kg. | — | 1000 Kg. | 4214.5 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 7. | Rauwolfia serpentina | — | 50 Kg. | 265 Kg. | — | — | 5 Kg. | 5.64 Kg. | — | — |
| 8. | Aloe spp. | 235 Kg. | — | — | — | — | 10 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 9. | Berberis aristata | 1191 Kg. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10. | Kuth roots (Saussurea lappa) | — | 97 Kg. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 11. | Aristolochia Spp | — | — | — | — | 2.3 Kg. | 10 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 12. | Agar wood | 5000 Kg. | 41668 Kg. | — | — | — | 3.390 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 13. | Commiphora whightii | — | — | 172 Kg. | — | 625 Kg. | 4 Kg. | — | — | — |
| 14. | Cycas leaves | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 34 pkgs |
| 15. | Sandalwood powder/ log/ sandalwood items | 1000 Kg. | 36 Kg. | 556.44 Kg. | 9,500 Kg. | 1119.50 Kg. | — | — | — | — |

STATEMENT-II

The steps taken to prevent smuggling of Indian flora include :

1. Collection of wild plant species covered under schedule VI of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from any forest land or specified area has been banned by law.

2. Export of 56 species of plant or plant portion and their derivatives covered under P. No. 47 (PN)/92-97 dated 30.3.94 obtained from the wild have been prohibited

3. Export of plants other than above 56 species requires a legal Procurement Certificate (LPC) from Regional Dy. Director, Wildlife Preservation, Ministry of Environment and Forests or Chief Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests of the State concerned from where these plants have been procured.

4. The cultivated variety of plant/plant portions covered by P.N. 47 can be allowed for export subject to production of certificate of cultivation and a CITES permit, wherever applicable

5. Export of sandalwood in any form excluding finished and processed handicrafts products, machine finished products are prohibited.

6. Export of Red Sandalwood in any form whether raw, processed or unprocessed as well as any products made thereby is banned.

7. The export of plants and plant portions are allowed only through the six major points at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi, Tuticorin and Madras

8. International trade in India with respect to species covered under Appendix—I of CITES is prohibited and for 15 species, covered under Appendix—II of CITES, is regulated under the provisions of the CITES.

9. Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities whenever information of illegal trading in wild plants reaches them

10. Inter departmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organizations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organizations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995.

Raw Cashewnut Production

*453. SHRI N. DENNIS :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps taken by the Government for increasing the production of raw cashewnut all over the country;

(b) the total amount of raw cashewnut produced during the last five years, State-wise.

(c) whether the Government purpose to provide more financial assistance to the State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala for cultivation of the cashew trees on the waste land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) (a) Government of India has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme during VIII Plan on the Integrated Development Programme of Cashew with a Plan Outlay of Rs. 47.85 crores with the following major objectives, viz.

1. Multiplication & supply of planting material of improved & high yielding varieties.

2. Improving productivity of existing plantation

3. Adoption of improved production and pest management practices.

4. Training of farmers.

(b) State-wise and year-wise production of rawcashew is given in the attached statement

(c) and (d) During the first four years of the Eighth Plan i.e., from 1992-93 to 1995-96, Rs. 362.26 lakh has been released to the State of Kerala and Rs. 144.94 lakh for the State of Tamil Nadu for the cultivation of cashew trees cluding plantations on the wasteland. For the year 1996-97, and allocation of Rs. 162.71 lakh for he State of Kerala and Rs. 315.75 lakh for the State of Tamil Nadu has been made of which a sum of Rs. 41.06 lakh for Kerala and Rs. 51.38 lakh for Tamil Nadu has been released.

STATEMENT*(PRODUCTION OF CASHEW IN INDIA)*

(Production in Metric Tonnes)

| State | 1991-92 | 1992-93 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Kerala | 143200 | 151600 | 140200 | 149000 | 140000 |
| Karnataka | 26750 | 31260 | 31540 | 33000 | 37600 |
| Goa | 14490 | 33810 | 34590 | 37000 | 17800 |
| Maharashtra | 31960 | 25590 | 28280 | 31200 | 69900 |
| Tamil Nadu | 12710 | 19190 | 19200 | 20000 | 30930 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 40360 | 44880 | 46570 | 50000 | 71700 |
| Orissa | 31840 | 39060 | 43420 | 46500 | 43000 |
| West Bengal | 3660 | 3660 | 3990 | 4100 | 6960 |
| Others | 350 | 340 | 360 | 370 | 340 |
| Total : | 305310 | 349390 | 348150 | 371170 | 417830 |

(Translation)

Interrogation of Women

*454. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission has expressed its reservations about the child labour system and tendency of interrogation of women in the Police Station after the sunset and has also impressed upon the need for reforms in this regard;

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

(c) whether the National Human Rights Commission had also given suggestions/directions to the Government during the last three years in the matter,

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon,

(e) whether the Government propose to issue directions to the State Governments in this regard;

(f) if so, the time by which, and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) (a) Yes, Sir. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has expressed its concern and objection to the prevalence of child labour, including those employed in hazardous industries, and has made recommendations towards its elimination. However, the Commission has not discerned a general pattern about the interrogation of women in the police station after sunset, and has not issued general instructions in this regard.

(b) Government is fully conscious and alive to the problem of child labour and need for its elimination. Government has taken a series of steps to tackle the problem of child labour. A National Policy on Child Labour was announced in August, 1987 which, inter alia, comprises :

- a legislative action plan;
- focussing of general development programmes for benefitting children whenever possible; and
- project based action plans in areas of high concentration of child labour engaged in wage/quasi-wage employment.

A major programme has been launched by the Government of India in August, 1994 to eliminate child labour working in hazardous occupations by the year 2000 A.D. Under the programme, an estimated 20 lakh children are sought to be brought out of work and put in special schools. During 1995-96, an amount of Rs. 34.40 crores was allocated for child labour related programmes. By the end of 1995-96, a total of 76 child labour projects have been sanctioned to cover around 1.5 lakh children through special schools to provide

non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend etc. During the current year, tentative allocation of Rs 56 crores has been made for the purpose

A National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour (NAECL) has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Union Labour Minister to tackle the problem of child labour. The NAECL has adopted a plan of action titled "Identification, release and Rehabilitation of Child Labour" to deal with the problem of child labour in the country. Briefly, it calls for the convergence of services and schemes of the Central and State Government at the implementing level, the district, to effectively handle the identification and rehabilitation of child labour, the economic rehabilitation of the family depending on child labour and strict enforcement of relevant laws. The plan of action has been sent to all States and Union Territories for adoption.

Through the now universalized ICDS Network and IMY Network, Government is assisting in preventing children from entering into the labour force by ensuring that children in the age group of 0-6 years attend/come to the ICDS Anganwadi Centres located in child labour endemic areas and encouraging mothers to send their children to Anganawadi Centres and then schools. All blocks in identified child labour endemic districts have been covered under the Universalization of ICDS Scheme during 1995-96 for ensuring that child labour is eliminated within these districts.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The NHRC has made recommendations on the question of child labour in its Annual Reports for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96. In the Annual Report for the year 1994-95, tabled in both Houses of the Parliament on 26.8.1995 along with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations, the Commission had, inter alia, recommended, (i) adoption of appropriate legislation on compulsory primary education, matched with the necessary resources required for the purpose, (ii) early action on central government's proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition) and Regulation Act, with a view to strengthening its provisions and (iii) expeditious and effective implementation of the child labour project for the glass-works industry of Ferozabad, U.P. for which the Commission had stimulated the preparation and implementation of an integrated programme, involving the coordinated efforts of a number of Central Ministries and U.P. Government, NGOs and others.

As far the recommendation regarding adoption of appropriate legislation on compulsory education, Government agrees that the promotion of education helps in eradication of child labour. Government of India has initiated a number of steps to achieve universalization of elementary education which includes operation Black-Board, National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, District Primary Education Programme, etc. In addition, the State Governments have also taken steps to provide incentives which include exemption from tuition fee up to upper primary stage (Class I to VIII); provision of free text books; provision of free uniform and attendance scholarship.

In its endeavour to ensure education for all by 2000 AD, the United Front Government has resolved to make free and compulsory education a fundamental right. Government has initiated widespread consultation at the political level and with educational experts with a view to carefully examining the financial, administrative and legal implications. The proposal was discussed in the conference of State Education Ministers and State Education Secretaries, held on 9-10 August, 1996 in which Chairperson and other Members of the National Human Rights Commission participated. The Conference recommended constitution of a Committee under the Chairmanship of an Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development (Education) to examine the various legal, financial, administrative and academic implications of the proposal to make free and compulsory elementary education a fundamental right. The Committee has since been constituted.

As regards the recommendation regarding early action on the amendment to Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, the Government is examining a number of suggestions with a view to amending the Act to lend it more teeth. Government of India has also been impressing upon the state Governments from time to time to strictly enforce the child labour related laws.

As for the child labour project, Ferozabad, children are taken out of hazardous work and put into special schools where they are provided with non-formal education, vocational training, stipends, health checks and nutrition etc. So far 40 special schools have been sanctioned in favour of this project. All these special schools have become operational. By the end of March, 1996, a total of 2926 children have been withdrawn from work and put in the special schools. The parents of such children are also being covered under poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes in order to improve their economic conditions.

The NHRC has dealt with the question of child labour in its Annual Report for the year 1995-96 also, submitted to the Government recently. The report will be laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament alongwith a Memorandum of Action Taken on the recommendations of the Commission.

(e) to (g) As mentioned in answer to part (b) above, the plan of action prepared by the NAECL has been sent to all States and Union Territories for adoption. Further, as mentioned in answer to parts (c) and (d) above, the Government of India has also been impressing upon the State Governments from time to time to strictly enforce the child labour related laws.

Detenu In Jails

*455 SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered the respective courts to release all the detenu in the jails whose

trials were pending for one year or more for the offences attracting imprisonment upto seven years;

(b) the number of such undertrials at present, State-wise, and

(c) the steps taken in compliance with the Supreme Court's order for their early release and trials?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) In its judgement dated 15 1996 in the Writ Petition (C) No. 1128 to 1986, "Common Cause" Vs. Union of India and others, the Supreme Court of India has, inter alia, made the following directions :

- (i) Where the offences under I.P.C. or any other law for the time being in force for which the accused are charged before any criminal court are punishable with imprisonment not exceeding three years, with or without fine, and if trials for such offences are pending for one year or more and the concerned accused have not been released on bail but are in jail for a period of six months or more, the concerned criminal court shall release the accused on bail or on personal bond to be executed by the accused and subject to such conditions, if any, as may be found necessary, in the light of Section 437 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.).
- (ii) Where the offences under I.P.C. or any other law for the time being in force for which the accused are charged before any criminal court are punishable with imprisonment not exceeding five years, with or without fine, and if the trials for such offences are pending for two years or more and the concerned accused have not been released on bail but are in jail for a period of six months or more, the concerned criminal court shall release the accused on bail or on personal bond to be executed by the accused and subject to the imposing of suitable conditions, if any, in the light of Section 437 Cr.P.C.
- (iii) Where the offences under I.P.C. or any other law for the time being in force for which the accused are charged before any criminal court are punishable with seven years or less, with or without fine, and if the trials for such offences are pending for two years or more and the concerned accused have not been released on bail but are in jail for a period of one year or more, the concerned criminal court shall release the accused on bail or on personal bond to be executed by the accused and subject to the imposing of suitable conditions, if any, in the light of Section 437 Cr.P.C.

(b) Such information is not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) The follow up action on the directions of the Supreme Court is to be taken by the concerned Courts/authorities in the States.

**Illegal Migrants
(Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983**

*456. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 is discriminatory in character in respect of the foreigners issue in Assam,

(b) whether this Act made the Assam a heaven for Bangladeshi infiltrators to the detriment of the interests and integrity of India,

(c) whether the Government propose to scrap the said Act,

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (e) The Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 provides for the establishment of Tribunals for the determination, in a fair manner, of the question whether a person is an illegal migrant to enable the Government to expel illegal migrants from India and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act extends to the whole of India but is presently in force only in the State of Assam

Proposals have been received from various quarters for the repeal of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983. The matter is under active consideration and is likely to be finalized shortly

Road Accidents

*457. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether there is any proposal to amend certain sections the Indian Penal Code relating to the road accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to cancel the driving licences of the motorists involving in three fatal road accidents and make the punishment more stringent; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) No such proposal is at present with the Government.

[Translation]

Uneconomic Routes

*458. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the trains are being run on the uneconomic routes in different regions of the country;

(b) if so, the total loss likely to be incurred by the Department upto March, 1996 on account of running of trains on the uneconomic routes;

(c) whether some new plans had been formulated during the last three years from 1993-94 onwards to convert uneconomic routes into the profitable ones;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the time by which these plans would be fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The estimated loss likely to be incurred during the financial year 1995-96 is Rs. 166 crores

(c) to (e) The following steps have been taken/proposed to be taken for reducing the losses on uneconomic routes :

(a) Conversion to Broad Gauge from Meter Gauge and Narrow Gauge.

(b) Introduction of Rail Bus Service.

(c) Special steps to boost tourist traffic in those lines where there is potential for the same.

(d) Withdrawal of inflation in distance for charge for passenger fares in the following hill sections in order to boost passenger traffic;

(i) Kalka-Shimla

(ii) Pathankot-Jogindernagar

(iii) Mettupalayam-Udhagamandalam

(iv) Siliguri-Darjeeling.

The implementation of the steps in this connection is a continuing process. Earlier, steps like introduction of one engine only system, economy in staff, closure of unremunerative stations, converting stations into contractor operated halts etc. were taken.

*[English]***Centrally Sponsored Schemes In Assam**

*459 DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the details of the new Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented and proposed to be implemented in Assam for the development of Agriculture during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the details of the achievements made thereunder during the said period; and

(c) the amount allocated and utilized for those schemes so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A list of new schemes being implemented by Department of agriculture and Cooperation for development of Agriculture during 1995-96 and 1996-97 is given below

(i) Streamlining certified seeds production of important identified crops

(ii) National Programme for Varietal Development

(iii) Integrated Seed Development Programme for remote/not easily accessible areas

(iv) Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system

Out of these schemes, the schemes implemented in Assam are given below along with amount released in 1995-96.

| Sl. No | Name of Scheme | Amount Released (Rs. in lakh) in 1995-96 |
|--------|--|--|
| 1. | Integrated Seed Development for remote/not easily accessible areas | 1.06 |
| 2. | Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping Systems | 43.66 |

The above schemes are likely to be continued during 1996-97 also, for which release of funds would be made on receipt of proposals from State Government.

There is no proposal under consideration at present to start any other new schemes during 1996-97.

Since the above schemes were started during 1995-96, it is too early to assess the achievements at this stage.

*[Translation]***Medical Facilities in Trains**

*460 SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH .
SHRI P. C. THOMAS

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide medical facilities and services of doctors in all the long distance trains

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said facilities are likely to be provided in the trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) A proposal for providing the services of Railway doctors in the long distance trains alongwith other associated details is under finalization

Provision exists to provide first-aid to the travelling public who are overtaken by sudden sickness or injuries during journey. First-aid boxes are provided with the Guards of all and with the train/catering superintendent of some selected long distance trains. Contents of these boxes can also be used by any doctor who happens to be travelling in the train or by the Guards of train who are compulsarily trained in first-aid

*[English]***Gauge Conversion**

3940 SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether priority is given to the backward and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe dominated districts in India for conversion of Meter gauge line to Broad gauge and for new railway links or completion of on going projects;

(b) if so, whether Eklakhi-Balughat Railways Project of West Bengal and conversion of Meter gauge to Broad-gauge between Barsoi junction of Bihar o Radhikapur of West Bengal would be taken on priority basis; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) This is not the major criteria for taking up works. However, lines having traffic potential which also serve the developmental needs of tribal and backward areas are given priority.

(b) and (c) Eklakhi-Balughat is already in progress. The work is being given priority. As regards, Gauge Conversion of Barsoi-Radhikapur it is not included in the first phase of project Uniguage. However, the section would be considered along with remaining lines when the next phase is taken up.

Hindi Month

3941 SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether September, 1996 is being celebrated as Hindi month.

(b) whether any assessment regarding the use of Hindi is likely to be made in this month; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to promote the use of Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) . (a) "Hindi Fortnight" is being celebrated this year from 1st September, to 15th September, 1996

(b) and (c) To review the quarterly progress reports received from Central Government Offices regarding the work done in Official Language Hindi in these Offices; to fix the targets after preparing annual programme and after obtaining report in regard to their implementation, submission of Annual Assessment Report before the Parliament, etc., are the regular functions of this Department. No special assessments has been proposed to assess the progress of work being done in Official Language Hindi.

Shifting of B.S.F. Staff

3942 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entire staff of the intelligence branch of B.S.F. posted at Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozpur has been shifted recently following the arrest of a Joint Assistant Director for his alleged involvement in smuggling of the narcotics;

(b) whether the Government have initiated any enquiries against these officials and some of their predecessors for acquisition of assets disproportionate to their known sources of income; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) . (a) BSF have reported that all the members of Intelligence Branch posted at Amritsar have been shifted after the arrest of Joint Assistant Director for his alleged involvement in smuggling of narcotics consignments. As regards transfer of officials posted at Gurdaspur and Ferozpur, it has been reported that only those officials who had completed their normal tenure of posting have been shifted.

(b) and (c) BSF have informed that whenever such cases come to notice, discreet enquiries are made by the

Vigilance Branch and the competent authority initiates disciplinary action against the delinquent as per BSF Act and Rules if there is *prima facie* case or involvement. Accordingly an enquiry to assess the assets of one official has been ordered by BSF.

Fake Railway Passes

3943 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a well organized racket in the fake Railway passes is thriving in Bihar for the past several years;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the steps taken to countenance this racket in the fake Railway passes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Government is not aware of any well organized racket in the fake Railway passes thriving in Bihar. However, during the last 2½ years, 7 isolated cases of sale/travel on fake Railway passes have been detected and since outsiders are involved in these cases, the same were referred to CBI/Police for investigation. Reports from them are still awaited.

Frequent checks are being conducted by vigilance and Commercial Departments at Reservation Offices, in running trains and on platforms to detect such instances.

Funds for Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Karnataka

3944 SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided to Karnataka during the Eighth plan for the implementation of various centrally sponsored schemes for increasing the agricultural production in the state; and

(b) the number of farmers benefitted as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The financial assistance provided to the Government of Karnataka during the Eighth Plan for implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing the agricultural production in the State is given in enclosed statement. It is difficult to quantify the number of farmers benefitted as a result of implementation of the schemes as benefits flow both directly and indirectly.

STATEMENT*Financial Assistance Released to Karnataka During Eighth Plan*

| Sl No | Name of the Scheme | Funds Released during VIII Plan |
|-------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | National Watershed Project for Rainfed Areas | 8848.38 |
| 2. | Development of Tropical Arid and Temperate Fruits | 304.16 |
| 3 | Development of Cashewnut | 342.53 |
| 4. | Development of Vegetables | 56.55 |
| 5. | Development of Spices | 541.20 |
| 6 | Development of Commercial Floriculture | 69.61 |
| 7 | Development of Root and Tuber Crops | 4.85 |
| 8 | Development of Arecanut | 169.24 |
| 9. | Development of Betelvine | 12.64 |
| 10. | Development of Cocoa | 60.96 |
| 11. | Use of Plastics in Agriculture | 2320.43 |
| 12 | National Pulses Dev Project (NPDP) | 384.00 |
| 13 | Oil seeds Production Programme (OPP) | 2533.58 |
| 14. | Oil Palm Development Programme | 1423.79 |
| 15 | Integrated Cereals development Programme—Rice | 347.62 |
| 16 | Integrated Cereals Development Programme—Coarse Cereals | 709.73 |
| 17 | Intensive Cotton Dvelopment Programme | 196.54 |
| 18 | Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system | 247.92 |
| 19 | Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilisers | 58.66 |
| 20 | National Project on development of Fertiliser Use in Low Consumption and Rainfed Areas. | 5.69 |
| 21. | Soil conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects | 2130.57 |
| 22. | Assistance to the Cooperative Credit Institutions in the Cooperatively Under-Development States | 163.50 |
| 23 | Agriculture Credit Stabilisation Fund | 130.00 |
| 24. | Special Scheme for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes | 11.00 |
| 25 | Accelerated Maize development Programme | 40.99 |
| 26 | Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation Among small Farmers | 144.60 |
| 27. | Integrated Seed Development for not easily accessible/remote areas | 5.21 |
| 28. | Development of Infrastructure for Benefit of Small and Marginal Farmers | 3690.00 |
| 29. | Agriculture Census Scheme | 87.69 |
| 30. | Assistance to Women's Cooperatives | 91.00 |
| 31. | Assistance to Weaker Section Cooperatives | 48.00 |
| 32. | Timely reporting Schemes of Estimates of Area and Production of Crops | 112.98 |
| 33. | Improvement of Crop Statistics | 13.99 |
| 34. | Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits, Vegetables and Minor Crops and Diagnostic Studies | 157.42 |
| 35. | National Project on Bio-fertiliser | 4.50 |
| 36. | Streamlining Certified Seed Production of important identified vegetable crops. | 1.36 |
| | Total : | 25470.89 |

[Translation]

Rice Research Centre

3945 VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the names of rice producing areas of Rajasthan,

(b) whether the Government are considering to set up a Rice Research Centre in Kota Bundi,

(c) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be set up, and

(d) if not, the reasons for not setting up the Centre at Kota Bundi while there is a vast scope of production of the fine quality rice?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The major rice producing areas of Rajasthan are the districts of Banswara, Dungarpur, Kota Bundi, Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Sriganganagar

(b) There is already a centre of All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project (ICAR) in operation at Agriculture Research Station, Kota under Rajasthan Agriculture University

(c) Does not arise

(d) Does not arise

[English]

Bankura Damodar Railway

3946 SHRISUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to run Bankura Damodar Railway train of the South Eastern Railway by diesel engine, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Sir, the Bankura-Damodar Railway is a privately owned Railway and is not a part of the South Eastern Railway. The Government does not propose to run the Bankura-Damodar Railway train by Diesel engine

(b) Does not arise

Dolphin Population

3947 SHRI MULL APPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether any study has been made on the Dolphin population in the Indian waters;

(b) if so, the details of findings thereof,

(c) whether cases of killing of Dolphins are being reported,

(d) if so, the details of such reports during 1995 and 1996 till date, and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the 1991 report of a survey conducted by the Zoological Survey of India, the Dolphins are most seen in the Chambal, Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers of India. They have estimated a population of river Dolphin as 500-750 in Ganges and its tributaries, 500 in Brahmaputra, 43-47 in Chambal and 3000-3500 in estuarine belt

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

[Translation]

Unreserved Coaches

3948 DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 92 dated July 16, 1996 and state

(a) the time by which and the destinations from where the short distance stopping trains with unreserved coaches are proposed to be introduced, and

(b) the names of the trains to which additional unreserved coaches are proposed to be attached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Introduction of trains is a continuous process on the Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources. However, following short distance passenger trains are proposed to be introduced during 1996-97 :

1. A shuttle train between Ajmer and Jaipur.
2. A Passenger train between Delhi and Shamli.
3. A Fast Passenger train between Madurai and Coimbatore.
4. A Passenger train between Ratangarh and Degana.
5. An additional Main Line Electric Multiple Unit service between Asansol and Durgapur.

6 Main Line Electric Multiple Unit services are proposed to be introduced on the following sections

- (i) Panipat-Ambala
- (ii) Dahod-Ratlam
- (iii) Anand-Godhra
- (iv) Nagpur-Badnera

Diesel Multiple Unit/ Push Pull/Air brake shuttle services are proposed to be introduced on the following sections

- (i) Amritsar-Pathankot
- (ii) Vijayawada-Narsapur
- (iii) Satna-Rewa
- (iv) Satna-Manikpur
- (v) Ahmedabad-Mehsana-Abu Road
- (vi) New Jalpaiguri area
- (vii) Shoranur-Nilambur
- (viii) Cuttack-Paradeep
- (ix) Katihar-Mansi Barauni

(b) An additional 2nd class unreserved coach is being provided on 6039/6040 Madras-Varanasi Express and 6043/6044 Madras-Patna Express from 1-10-1996. In addition, one 2nd class unreserved coach will be provided between Pathankot and Barkakana on 8101/8102 Muz Express from October 1996.

Besides restoring 3039/3040 Delhi Howrah Janta Express, the frequency of 5209/5210 Amritsar-Barauni Jansewa Express is also being increased from biweekly to triweekly from October 1996 thereby substantially increasing the unreserved accommodation for passengers

[English]

Stoppage at Mulanthuruthy

3949 SHRI P. C. THOMAS Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to provide a stoppage of Vanchind or Venad Express running through Kerala at Mulanthuruthy,

(b) if so, whether it has been implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) It is not commercially justified

Sub Standard Fertilizer

3950 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether nearly 14,000 tonnes of urea imported from Hindustan Lever involving National Fertilizers Limited has been found sub-standard and harmful for the crop.

(b) if so, the name of the country from which the urea has been imported.

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard.

(d) if so, whether the report of the inquiry has been submitted to the Government, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Out of the total material discharged from vessel 'Sea Venus' at Sagour Port and subject to quality check, 6514 MTs of Urea was found to meet the quality specifications as prescribed in the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO) 1985. The balance 11736 deficient in particle size

(b) This consignment of urea was imported from Romania

(c) to (e) Based on the findings of the Regional Fertilizer Control Laboratory, Kalyani, which conducted the quality check, the distribution to farmers of the entire quantity declared non-standard was stopped. Separately, M/s. National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) have been in accordance with the prescribed guidelines, issued notice for imposition of penalty for the deviation in particle size

Milk Powder

3951. SHRI B. L. SHARMA 'PREM' Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) whether the milk powder is being imported in the country from the foreign suppliers by the Government and private agencies;

(b) if so, the names of supplier countries/agencies and the quantum imported during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken to ensure that the imported milk powder is of the requisite standard quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha

Vendor Stall at Howrah Coaching Complex

3952. DR ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the passengers are facing a lot of difficulties in the absence of any railway vendor stall at Howrah New Coaching Complex and unauthorized hawkers are supplying unhygienic foods to the passengers of that complex, and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to open railway vending stall at the New Complex?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Return Reservation Facilities

3953. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps are being taken to provide return reservation facilities on the reservation centres of West Bengal particularly at Asansol, Durgapur, Raniganj, Purulia, Bally, Seoraphylli, Jadavpur and salt lake areas,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Booking for onward and return journey reservations can be made at Asansol, Durgapur, Raniganj, Purulia, Bally, Sheoraphuli, Jadavpur and Salt lake areas for all trains originating from the stations linked to the reservation system at Calcutta. Besides, reservations for other trains passing through these stations can also be secured to the extent of quotas available there.

The facility of onward and return journey reservations from the stations linked to the other four reservation systems at Mumbai, Delhi, Secunderabad and Madras can become available at all reservation offices with networking of the five reservation systems. For this purpose the work of development of necessary networking software has been taken up.

(c) Does not arise.

Use of Mixed Fertilizers

3954. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether mixed fertilizer plants in Maharashtra are using subsidized fertilizers such as Urea, D.A.P. and M.O.P.,

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to curb such practice, and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance for Pollution Control

3955. DR DEBI PRASAD PAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any help to West Bengal for preventing pollution in the State during the last three years,

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) The details of the help provided to the Government of West Bengal by the Union Government for prevention of pollution is given in the attached statement.

(c) Does not arise.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme and Details | Assistance given | | |
|---------|---|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | Reimbursement of water cess for pollution control measures, assisting industrial units in the adoption of clean process technologies and sewage treatment system in Class II and Class III towns. | 1,23,47,674 | 1,34,85,886 | 2,42,10,782 |
| 2. | Assistance for abatement of pollution-grants-in-aid for specific schemes/projects and research studies. | - | - | 8,00,000 |
| 3. | Scheme for setting up of Pollution awareness and Assistance Centres (PAAC) (Scheme commenced in 1995-96) | - | - | 25,000 |

Relief Scheme for Fishermen

3956. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision on the centrally sponsored Saving-Cum-Relief Scheme for the marine fishermen, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Demolition of Temple

3957. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Uma Maheshwari-Lakshmi Kanta Jain temple built by the Chola rulers at Ravandur village in Periyapattan Taluk of Mysore district has been razed to the ground;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against those found guilty, and

(d) the details of steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has reported that some stones of a dilapidated ancient temple in Ravandur village were removed for construction of Kalyana Mantapa.

(c) The local police has been asked to take action against persons responsible for illegal removal of the stones and also not to allow removal of stones from the temple.

(d) The Government of Karnataka has asked its Archaeology Department to examine taking over the above temple under the provisions of Protected Monument Act.

Research Centres in SC/ST Dominated Areas

3958. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are giving priority to open research centres or seeds farms in the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes dominated area for high yielding varieties in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the number of such projects in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)

(SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The programmes are designed to develop seeds of High Yielding Varieties and Hybrids and also to generate appropriate potential technologies for different Agro-Climatic conditions covering location specific requirements and wide coverage to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes dominated areas. These programmes are also for social and economic upliftment for weaker sections of the country in which Scientist and farmers' linkages complement in generating useful seed material and technologies to suit the User Class.

(c) The following 3 seed Projects for the State of West Bengal are given below

(i) National Seed Project on Vegetable at Pedong.

(ii) Hybrid Seed (Rice) at Chinsura.

(iii) National Seed Project at Central Research Institute on Jute and Allied Fibre, Barrackpore

Rail-link to Sikkim

3959. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sikkim Government has urged the Union Government for the extension of Railway lines up to Sikkim;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering the proposal keeping in view of the geographical situation of the State,

(c) if so the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A survey for restoration of the narrow gauge line to Sikkim from Silliguri to Sivok has been ordered recently.

Further consideration of the project would depend when the results of survey become available.

[Translation]

Cow Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Bill, 1992

3960. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details pertaining to the Uttar Pradesh Cow Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Bill 1992;

(b) since when the said bill is under consideration of the Union Government for approval; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded to the same?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter (Amendment) Bill, 1992, was received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh on 1-6-1992 for the consideration and assent of the President of India. Comments of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) have been sent to the State Government for clarifications on 24-6-1996. The clarifications of the State Government have not been received.

[English]

Unauthorized Guest House

3961 DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unauthorized Guest Houses operating in Delhi, and

(b) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) (a) and (b) There were 369 unauthorized guest houses/hotels operating in the National Capital Territory of Delhi as on 24.7.1996. Of these 369 cases, prosecution proceedings have already been launched in 326 cases.

Insurgency

3962 SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken serious note of the insurgents operating in the North East, taking shelter in Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been taken up with the new Government of Bangladesh, and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The Government is aware of the misuse of the territory of Bangladesh by some insurgent groups operating in the North-East. The Government of Bangladesh has been sensitized about our concerns on various occasions and at various levels. The matter was also discussed during the last visit of the Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh to Delhi in August 1996. It is hoped that cooperation would be forthcoming to check such negative activities.

Ishaan Research Laboratories

3963 SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Drug Control Department has lifted the ban on Ishaan Research Laboratories (IRL) for the manufacturing of the Biotique range of products;

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

(c) whether the Drug Control Department and Licensing Authority had earlier delicensed IRL from continuing its manufacturing of such products; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) Information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Manufacturing of Double Decked Coaches

3964. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manufacturing of double-decked coaches have been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether improved designs of double decked coach are under development process; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Prototype of Double Decker coaches were put on trial a few years back on some trains. Complaints were received regarding dust and noise pollution, hence no regular production was taken up.

(c) and (d) To overcome the problems of noise and dust pollution, air-conditioned double decker coaches are under development. Designs developed with the existing air-conditioning package have the problem of inadequate head-room on the upper deck as well as lower carrying capacity and hence are not commercially attractive. Efforts are being made to develop alternate designs with enhanced capacity.

[English]

Recommendations on Child Abuses by HRC

3965. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether child abuses have been examined by the Human Rights Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the recommendations of the commission in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The problem of child abuses have been examined by the National Human Rights Commission.

(b) The problems of child labour, child prostitution and female foeticide and infanticide have been engaging the attention of the National Human Rights Commission.

(c) With a view to eliminate child labour, the commission has, inter-alia, recommended, (i) adoption of appropriate legislation on compulsory primary education, matched with the necessary resources required for the purpose, (ii) early action on Central Government's proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, with a view to strengthening its provisions and (iii) expeditious and effective implementation of child labour project for the glass-works industry of Ferozabad, Uttar Pradesh for which the Commission had stimulated the preparation and implementation of an integrated programme, involving the coordinated efforts of a number of Central Ministries and Uttar Pradesh Government, NGOs and others.

As regards the problem of child prostitution, the Commission has emphasized the need for taking preventive steps like cutting of the supply of children into child prostitution. The Commission has also underlined the need for according priority to the stopping of supply of children into this area alongside efforts to rehabilitate them. In particular, the Commission has favoured the provision of compulsory education, stricter enforcement of law, motivating the representatives of political parties, law enforcement agencies, grass-root functionaries, and NGOs. The Commission has

also expressed concern at international trafficking in female children and stressed the need for bilateral and multilateral efforts to check it.

As regards the female foeticide and infanticide, the Commission has decided to examine all aspects of the problem in depth with a view to formulating recommendations for action. In this task, the Commission is working closely with the National Commission for Women, and the Department of Women and Child Development. It is also being assisted by the Madras School of Social Work, which is extending its study of Tamil Nadu to other parts of the country, in order to provide the Commission with the best possible research data upon which to base its views.

[Translation]

Pending Bills

3966. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI N. J. RATHVA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many bills are pending with the Union Government for according the administrative clearance;

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

(c) the present status of these bills?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) A statement of Bills of various States for obtaining the administrative approval of the Government of India before their introduction in the State Legislatures and the date on which they were received in this Ministry is enclosed. The State Legislations call for examination by the concerned Departments/Ministries of the Government of India and consultations with the State Governments wherever necessary. The concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments are reminded constantly to expedite their views in the matter. Discussions are also held where necessary, to expedite the clearance of the Bills.

STATEMENT

(Position As On 29-08-1996)

| Sl. No | Name of the State | Date of Receipt | Name of the Bill |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 10-07-96 | The Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 1994. |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 08-02-95 | The Andhra Pradesh Universities Amendment Bill, 1995. |
| 3. | Andhra Pradesh | 17-01-96 | The Andhra Pradesh Buildings (Lease, Rent and Eviction) Control (Amendment) Bill, 1995. |
| 4. | Andhra Pradesh | 17-01-96 | The Registration (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1995. |

| 1. | 2 | 3 | 4. |
|----|----------------|----------|---|
| 5 | Andhra Pradesh | 23-01-96 | The Indian Stamp (Andhra Pradesh Third Amendment) Bill, 1995. |
| 6 | Andhra Pradesh | 07-03-96 | The Andhra Pradesh Special Land Tribunal Bill, 1995. |
| 7 | Andhra Pradesh | 22-05-96 | The University of Health Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 1996. |
| 8 | Andhra Pradesh | 10-07-96 | The Indian Stamp (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1996 |
| 9 | Andhra Pradesh | 01-08-96 | The Andhra Pradesh Assigned Lands (Prohibition of Transfers) (Amendment) Bill, 1996 |
| 10 | Assam | 22-04-96 | The Bengal, Agra and Assam Civil Courts (Assam Amendment) Bill, 1996 |
| 11 | Assam | 30-05-96 | The Assam Tea Plantations Provident Fund (And Pension Fund) (And Deposit Linked Insurance Fund) Scheme (Amendment) Bill, 1996 |
| 12 | Goa | 15-05-96 | The Goa University (Amendment) Bill, 1996. |
| 13 | Gujarat | 19-08-96 | The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1996 |
| 14 | Haryana | 03-08-95 | The Indian Stamp (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1995. |
| 15 | Haryana | 31-07-96 | The Registration (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1996. |
| 16 | Kerala | 09-01-96 | The Travancore and Cochin Christian Succession (Revival and Validation) Bill, 1995 |
| 17 | Kerala | 28-05-96 | The Code of Criminal Procedure (Kerala Amendment) Bill, 1996. |
| 18 | Madhya Pradesh | 26-08-94 | The Madhya Pradesh Rajya Sahakari Krishi Aur Gramin Vikas Bank Bill, 1994 |
| 19 | Madhya Pradesh | 23-09-94 | The Code of Criminal Procedure (Madhya Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1994 |
| 20 | Madhya Pradesh | 10-04-95 | The Madhya Pradesh Nagar Tatha Gram Nivesh (Dwitiya Sansodhan) Vidheyak, 1996 |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh | 12-07-96 | The Madhya Pradesh Prakoshtha Swamitva Vidheyak, 1996. |
| 22 | Maharashtra | 27-09-91 | The Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Measures Bill, 1991. |
| 23 | Maharashtra | 12-11-93 | The Maharashtra Rent Control Bill, 1993. |
| 24 | Maharashtra | 24-06-94 | The Maharashtra Universities Bill, 1992. |
| 25 | Maharashtra | 15-09-94 | The Hindu Minority and Guardianship (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 1994 |
| 26 | Maharashtra | 22-08-94 | The Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 1994 |
| 27 | Maharashtra | 27-11-95 | The Code of Criminal Procedure (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 1995. |
| 28 | Maharashtra | 07-05-96 | The Coroners (Amendment) Bill, 1996. |
| 29 | Orissa | 14-06-93 | The Electricity (Supply) Orissa Amendment Bill, 1993. |
| 30 | Orissa | 28-07-95 | The Orissa Reservation of vacancies in Posts and Services (For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) (Amendment) Bill, 1994. |
| 31 | Orissa | 31-07-96 | The Code of Criminal Procedure (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 1996. |
| 32 | Tamil Nadu | 17-10-92 | The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1992. |
| 33 | Tamil Nadu | 22-07-93 | The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and charitable Endowment (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 1993 |
| 34 | Tamil Nadu | 21-02-95 | The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995. |
| 35 | Tamil Nadu | 24-04-95 | The Tamil Nadu Ownership Flats and Plots (Regulation of Promotion of construction and Transfer) Bill, 1995. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|-------------|----------|---|
| 36 | Tamil Nadu | 30-05-95 | The Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Idol Thieves Bill, 1995 |
| 37 | Tamil Nadu | 30-05-95 | The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Amendment Bill, 1995. |
| 38 | Tamil Nadu | 31-07-95 | The Tamil Nadu Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Amendment and Validation Bill, 1995 |
| 39 | Tamil Nadu | 30-01-96 | The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Amendment Bill, 1995 |
| 40 | Tamil Nadu | 04-03-96 | The Tamil Nadu Horticulture Nurseries (Regulation) Bill, 1996 |
| 41 | Tamil Nadu | 18-04-96 | The Indian Stamp (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1996 |
| 42 | West Bengal | 21-09-90 | The West Bengal Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1989 |

Theft of Coal from Trains

3967 RADHA MOHAN SINGH Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the theft of coal from the trains in Bihar,

(b) if so, the number of such cases that have come to light during the last three years, and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The number of cases of theft reported during the last three financial years in Bihar is as under

| Year | Number of cases reported |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 88 |
| 1994-95 | 99 |
| 1995-96 | 149 |

(c) Besides dealing with the criminals under the provisions of the RP (UP) Act, the following preventive measures are taken by RPF :

1. Escorting of block rakes carrying coal by armed RPF party as far as possible
2. Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other affected areas/sections.
3. Joint checking at inter-change points of zonal railways by RPF staff to take stock of the conditions of the wagons carrying coal.
4. RPF armed pickets are posted/deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible

5. Dog squads are deployed for patrolling vulnerable yards and areas

6. Plain clothes RPF personnel are also deployed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down the criminals

7. Based on criminal intelligence, raids and searches are conducted on the dens of criminals/receivers of stolen coal in order to bring them to book.

8. Close coordination between RPF, GRP and local Police is maintained at various levels to apprehend criminals and receivers of stolen coal.

[English]

Leakage in Acid Plant

3968 SHRI O. BHARATHAN Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that leakage has appeared in the Sulphuric acid plant in Travancore Titanium Products company,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether the contract for construction of acid plant was given to a private firm of Mumbai and the same did not execute it carefully, and

(d) if so, the action taken against those responsible for the present leakage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Cotton

3969. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India has the largest cotton acreage in the World;

(b) whether the productivity of cotton in the country is much lower as compared to foreign countries such as USA, China etc.;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the productivity of cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The area under cotton in India as per FAO Production Year Book 1994 was 7.67 million ha. as against 31.118 million ha. in the World in 1994.

(b) Yes, Sir. The average yield of cotton in 1993 was 264 kgs. per ha. in India as against 679 kgs. per ha. in USA and 750 kgs. per ha. in China.

(c) The main reasons of low productivity of cotton in India are :

(i) Almost two third of area under cotton is rained which is characterized by erratic rainfall behaviour;

(ii) Area under hybrid variety of cotton in India is about 35% of the total area which is very low compared to other countries;

(iii) Use of certified seeds is limited;

(iv) There is low rate of adoption of modern technology by the farmers, etc.;

(v) Cotton is grown mostly in black soil which faces water logging and poor drainage resulting in poorer yield;

(vi) Cotton crop is prone to pests and diseases which cause damage to crop etc.

(d) To increase production and productivity of cotton, the activities taken up under the scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme include transfer of technology through field demonstrations, Integrated Pest Management Demonstrations and farmers' training as well as incentives for use of critical inputs like hybrid seeds, farm implements, sprinkler sets, pheromone traps etc. As a result of these measures, the yield of cotton has increased from 152 kgs. per ha. in 1980-81 to 267 kgs. per ha. in 1995-96 and production increased from 7.01 million bales of 170 kgs. to 13.03 million bales likely in 1995-96.

Production of Pepper

3970. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's pepper production is the lowest among the neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the fact thereof;

(c) whether the area under pepper cultivation has risen by over 20,000 hectares but the production has remained at the level of 1989-90, during the last five years;

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

(e) the measures being taken to improve the productivity of pepper in the country particularly in the State of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The area and production of Black pepper in India for the years 1989-90 to 1994-95 is given below :

| Year | Area ('000 ha.) | Production ('000 M.T.) |
|---------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1989-90 | 171.50 | 55.20 |
| 1990-91 | 173.40 | 48.00 |
| 1991-92 | 184.20 | 52.00 |
| 1992-93 | 189.40 | 50.90 |
| 1993-94 | 190.99 | 51.32 |
| 1994-95 | 195.05 | 53.11 |

The reasons for stagnant production are :

1. Black pepper is a perennial crop with a gestation period of 3 to 4 years and it reaches full bearing only in the 8th year;

2. Prevalence of pests and diseases;

3. Existence of substantial area under old and senile gardens.

(e) For increasing production and productivity of spices, Centrally Sponsored Integrated Programme for Development of Spices is being implemented during 8th Plan with an outlay of Rs. 125.00 crores. Out of this, Rs. 63.50 crores have been allocated for development of pepper. The measures being taken to improve productivity of pepper in the country are : (1) Production and distribution of roasted pepper cutting of High Yielding Varieties; (2) Rehabilitation of old pepper gardens; (3) Distribution of input kits; (4) Plant protection against quick wilt diseases; (5) Eradication of little leaf diseases; (6)

Demonstration plots; (7) Demonstration of High Production Technology; and (8) Area expansion. All these programmes except eradication of little leaf disease, distribution of input kits and demonstration of High Production Technology are being implemented in the State of Karnataka. For pepper development in Karnataka, an outlay of Rs. 415.29 lakh has been provided during 8th Plan. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for pepper development, an amount of Rs. 259.55 lakhs has been released to Government of Karnataka during 8th Plan till the end of 1995-96.

Late Running of Trains

3971 SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the trains including Shan-E-Punjab and others touching Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir are generally running late;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of times express/superfast trains touching Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir reached late at their designation during the last six months; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the running of 2497/2498 Shan-E Punjab Express and other trains touching Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir get affected at times due to reasons such as accidents, agitations, equipment failures, alarm chain pulling, miscreant activities, bad weather etc.

(c) All efforts including intensive chasing and daily monitoring at different levels are being undertaken regularly. In addition, punctuality drives both at Inspectorial and Officers' level are also being launched.

Construction of Jetty

3972. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sanghi Cements has constructed a jetty in Kutch, Gujarat within the Coastal Regulation Zone;

(b) whether the permission has been accorded at any level for the same by the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the prosecution being initiated for violation of the CRZ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (d) M/s Sanghi Industries Limited applied for environmental clearance for proposed constructions of a jetty in Kutch, Gujarat. The proposal is under appraisal by an Expert Committee and permission has not as yet been given.

Damage to Railway Property

3973 SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of damage and sabotage caused by the anti-social elements to the railway property during the last six months, zone-wise;

(b) the number of persons found responsible and the action taken against them; and

(c) the measures taken to protect the railway property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The details of damage and Sabotage caused by the anti-social elements to the Railway property during the last six months (February, 1996 to July, 1996) zone-wise are as under:

| Railway | No. of Cases reported | Value of Railway property damaged (in Rupees) |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Central | 67 | 7,070 |
| Eastern | 4 | 1,71,00,000 |
| Northern | 5 | 1,500 |
| North-Eastern | 4 | 1,070 |
| Northeast Frontier | 5 | 2,750 |
| Southern | 3 | 33,57,500 |
| South Central | 12 | 1,75,73,000 |
| South Eastern | — | — |
| Western | 1 | 5,000 |
| Total | 101 | 3,80,47,890 |

(b) 103 persons have been found responsible and prosecuted under various sections of law.

(c) Tough maintenance of law and order in Railway premises is the responsibility of the State Governments. RPF personnel are also deployed at vital installations and important situation to protect the Railway property. Close liaison is maintained with Government Railway Police and local Police authorities. Coordination meetings with high officials of the State are regularly held.

Use of Hindi

3974. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any incentive is likely to be awarded to the employees doing official work in Hindi, and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) As per the prescribed norms, following incentives are admissible to the officers/employees of the Government for doing their work in Hindi :

1. Original noting/drafting in Hindi.

2. Maximum dictation by the Officers in Hindi.

3. On taking dictation in Hindi alongwith English dictation and for working on Hindi Typewriters/Computers by Stenographers/Typists.

Terminal Facilities at Gandhidham

3975. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan/proposal to increase all terminal facilities for the passengers and goods trains at Gandhidham railway station in view of its proximity to Kandla Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The facilities are adequate for the present level of traffic. However, Gandhidham-Bhuj section is under Gauge Conversion and facilities as required to handle the traffic after BG conversion will be provided alongwith conversion work.

Poultry Farms

3976. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have urged the Union Government to help and improve the poultry farms in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) This Department does not have any approved scheme to assist Poultry Farms in the States

[Translation]

Integrated Dairy Development

3977. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Union Government under the Integrated Dairy Development in non-operational hilly and backward areas for increasing the production of milk during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the assistance provided to each State under the scheme during each of the last three years; and

(c) the achievement made during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Integrated Dairy Development Project in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas in an integrated scheme comprising all aspects of dairy development including provision of input services for milk production enhancement and processing and marketing of milk and milk products depending upon the needs of the specific areas. 31 projects in 20 States have been approved during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 and are at various stages of implementation. A Statement indicating total project cost funds released for all the projects is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing the Approved Cost of the Project and Funds Released Under the Central Sector Scheme Integrated Dairy Development Projects in Non-operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas

(Rs in Lakhs)

| No | State | Approved cost of project | Funds released during | | | Total upto 1995-96 |
|-----|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
| | | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| (A) | Projects approved during 1993-94 | | | | | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 458.50 | 100 | 150 | — | 250 |
| 2 | Gujarat | 679.95 | 150 | 0 | 150.00 | 300 |
| 3 | Madhya Pradesh, Central Bastar, Guna, Narsingpur | 781.06 | 225 | 290 | 150.00 | 665 |
| 4 | Manipur | 224.1 | 25 | 100 | — | 125 |
| 5 | Mizoram I Project | 367.99 | 100 | 146 | — | 246 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 337.71 | 100 | 150 | — | 250 |
| 7 | Orissa-I Project | 631.00 | 50 | 142 | — | 492 |
| 8 | Sikkim, Sikkim (North), Sikkim (East, West, South) | 676.47 | 125 | 200 | 300.00 | 325 |
| 9 | Tripura-I Project | 304.9 | 25 | 100 | 100.00 | 225 |
| 10 | Uttar Pradesh, Bundelkand region, Purvanchal region, Terai region | 1242.89 | 190 | 200 | 310.00 | 700 |
| | Sub-Total A | 5706.57 | 1090 | 1478 | 1010.00 | 3578 |
| (B) | Project approved during 1994-95 | | | | | |
| 1 | Assam | 1260.76 | 0 | 400 | 0 | 400 |
| 2 | Bihar-I Project | 158.61 | 0 | 75 | 0 | 75 |
| 3 | Meghalaya | 141.29 | 0 | 75 | 0 | 75 |
| 4 | Orissa-II Project | 443.21 | 0 | 150 | 100 | 250 |
| 5 | Tripura-II Project | 319.51 | 0 | 113 | 0 | 113 |
| 6 | West Bengal | 498.88 | 0 | 200 | 150 | 350 |
| | Sub Total (B) | 2822.26 | 0 | 1013 | 250 | 1263 |
| | Sub Total (A) + (B) | 8528.83 | 1090 | 2491 | 1260 | 4841 |
| (C) | Project approved during 1995-96 | | | | | |
| 1. | A&N Administration | 239.41 | — | — | 91.00 | 91.00 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 447.32 | — | — | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 3. | Bihar-II Project | 729.00 | — | — | 150.00 | 150.00 |
| 4. | Haryana | 203.75 | — | — | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| 5. | Jammu | 635.120 | — | — | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| 6. | Kashmir | 608.165 | — | — | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh-IV Project (Chattarpur, Khargone, Satna & Rewa) | 599.850 | — | — | 163.00 | 163.00 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | 1985.235 | — | — | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| 9. | Mizoram (II Project) | 349.190 | — | — | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| 10. | Tamil Nadu | 336.630 | — | — | 150.00 | 150.00 |
| | Sub-Total (C) | 6133.673 | — | — | 1244.00 | 1244.00 |
| | Grand Total (A+B+C) | 14662.503 | 1090 | 2491.00 | 2504.00 | 6085.00 |

*[English]***Indian Citizens in Bangladesh**

3978. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the matter in respect of allowing the Indian citizens living in Indian Enclaves in Bangladesh to cast their votes is Pending with the Government,

(b) if so, since when; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) There are 119 exchangeable enclaves in Bangladesh and 72 Bangladesh enclaves in India. As stipulated under the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974, the enclaves are to be exchanged between India and Bangladesh, without any claim of compensation. Neither side has been able to exercise control over its enclaves which are located in the other country. Exchange of enclaves has legal and constitutional implication which is linked with other outstanding issues pertaining to the 1974 Agreement such as transfer of adverse possessions, demarcation of boundary and ratification of the Agreement. The related issue of citizenship of the inhabitants of the enclaves has also to be decided. The Government has no administrative control or access to the enclaves lying within Bangladesh and hence extension of voting rights to the inhabitants has not been possible.

Performance of Foreign Aided Projects

3979. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints/reports against certain States in regard to the unutilisation/misutilisation of funds provided by the World Bank and other foreign agencies for various forestry projects and the dissatisfactory performance of such projects,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any effective machinery to oversee the performance of such projects,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to set up an effective mechanism in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (e). The overall progress under the on-going externally aided forestry projects funded by the World Bank, Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), Overseas Economic Cooperation fund (OECD), Japan, Overseas Development Administration (ODA), (UK), Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and European Economic Community (EEC) has been quite satisfactory.

The projects are monitored and reviewed periodically through Quarterly Progress Reports and regular review

mission of the donor agencies. In addition to this the progress of the projects are monitored in the Ministry through de-briefing meetings with donor agencies mission and officials of the concerned State Governments. To utilise the whole external assistance the extension of the project are sought from time to time.

*[Translation]***Harassment to Passengers**

3980. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the passengers travelling by second class on the long distance trains are harassed by the daily passengers holding seasonal tickets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Some cases have come to notice.

(b) Apart from taking follow up action on specific complaints, surprise checks are organised frequently by Commercial and Vigilance Departments in close concert with RPF and GRP to apprehend persons travelling without proper authority. Action is taken against such people under provisions of Railways Act. Ticket checking activities are intensified in trains and sections which are found to be vulnerable.

Reservation Quota

3981. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether despite the stoppage of August Kranti train at Valsad Station, tickets for Valsad are not sold for this train,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to reserve a quota of berths for Valsad in this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The tickets at Valsad station are not being issued by August Kranti Rajdhani Express trains as no quota has been allotted at this station by this train. Instructions have now been issued to Northern and Western Railways to allot a reservation quota of 2 berths each in AC 2-tier and AC 3-tier and 4 seats in AC Chair Car at Valsad by 2953/2954 Nizamuddin-Mumbai Central August Kranti Rajdhani Express from the earliest possible date.

Fishing Harbours

3982. SHRI N.J. RATHVA :
SHRI A. SAMPATH :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fishing harbours in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the proposal to set up some fishing harbours in some coastal States are pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken to clear those proposals; and

(e) the assistance provided by the Central Government to those harbours, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (e). A statement is enclosed

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise

STATEMENT

| Sl. No. | State/U.T. | Number of fishing harbours completed | Assistance provided by the Central Govt. (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|---------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Gujarat | 3 | 1376.00 |
| 2 | Maharashtra | 1 | 1107.00 |
| 3 | Karnataka | 5 | 568.59 |
| 4 | Kerala | 4 | 2953.10 |
| 5 | Tamil Nadu | 7 | 1728.56 |
| 6 | Andhra Pradesh | 4 | 3608.59 |
| 7 | Orissa | 4 | 5188.30 |
| 8 | West Bengal | 3 | 1033.18 |
| 9 | Andaman & Nicobar | 1 | 67.00 |

[English]

Espionage Activities

3983. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested for espionage activities during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the nationalities of those arrested; and

(c) the steps taken to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) A number of Indian and foreigners have been arrested for espionage activities during the last three years. However, it will not be in public interest to disclose more details in this regard.

(c) Government is alive to the situation and is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate the designs of such persons by sensitising and gearing up the intelligence machinery sharing of intelligence with State Governments and coordinated action by the concerned agencies of Central and State Governments

[Translation]

Heritage Train

3984. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any scheme to introduce 'Heritage Train' on the line of 'Palace on Wheels'.

(b) if so, the areas of the country propose to be covered by this train;

(c) the progress regarding the pending 'Heritage Train Scheme for the Shekhawat area of Rajasthan.

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce 'new air conditioned tourist train' from Jodhpur-Jaisalmer, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration

(d) No, Sir

(e) Does not arise.

Indian Veterinary Research Institute

3985. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any project was started by the Indian Veterinary Research Institute in the Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the project and its present position?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir. No project has been started by Indian Veterinary Research Institute in the Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Beautification of Stations

3986. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the stations with their locations where beautification work is likely to be taken by the private parties,

(b) the details of private parties who have shown their interests in the scheme and

(c) the time by which the work on the stations would be actually started by the private parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Railways do not propose to entrust the work relating to beautification-cum-maintenance of railway stations to private parties.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Transfer of IPS/PCS

3987 DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IPS and PCS officers transferred in Uttar Pradesh in July and August;

(b) the names of D. Ms. and SSPs transferred in July and August, separately along with the number of officers who have been transferred in less than one year, and

(c) the number of junior police officers transferred in July and August?

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

[Translation]

Booking Office at Surat

3988 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether demand for opening of railway booking office at Surat is lying pending since long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which booking office is likely to be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work had been sanctioned but could not be taken up due to encroachment of the land and non-clearance thereof by Surat Municipality.

(c) The work has again been included in the Budget 1996-97 as the clearance has since been done.

Mahesana-Taranga Train Service

3989. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the train running between Mahesana-Taranga hill of Kokoshi-Patan has been cancelled,

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to restore it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir 141/142 Mahesana-Taranga Hill Passenger was cancelled from 10.6.92

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Lack of commercial justification.

[English]

High Powered Committee

3990 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government had set up a high powered committee to look into the representations of Drug Industry regarding the price control of certain drugs;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the recommendations thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting the report, and

(e) whether there is any demand to change the terms of reference of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The terms of the Committee stands expired on 30th April, 1996.

(e) No, Sir.

Environmental Projects in Tamil Nadu

3991. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Centrally aided projects undertaken in Tamil Nadu for the improvement of environment and development of forests during the last three years;

(b) the achievements made in this regard, project-wise and

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for this purpose, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c) The details of the Centrally aided projects undertaken in Tamil Nadu for the improvement of

environment and development of forests during the last three years alongwith achievements both Financial and Physical are given in the Statement enclosed

STATEMENT

| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme | Broad Objectives | Extent of Funding | Status | Achievement during the last three years 93-94, 94-95, & 95-96 | |
|---------|--|--|--|---------|---|---|
| | | | | | Financial | Physical |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Development of National parks and Sanctuaries | To develop National Parks and Sanctuaries | 100 % | Ongoing | 91.59 | 14 National Parks Covered |
| 2 | Eco development around protected areas | To provide alternative sustenance to communities living on fringes of National Parks | 100 % NR 50% R | Ongoing | 8.62 | 2 National Parks Covered |
| 3 | Project Elephant | To ensure long term survival of elephants | 100 % NR 50% R | Ongoing | 43.92 | Target fixed in terms of financial releases |
| 4 | Assistance to Botanic Gardens | To upgrade Botanic Gardens | 100 % | Ongoing | 18.55 | 3 Botanic Gardens Covered |
| 5 | Modern Forest Fires Control Methods | Controlling Forest Fires to protect and conserve forests | 100 % | Ongoing | 12.72 | Target fixed in terms of Financial releases |
| 6 | Non-Timber Produce including Medicinal Plants | Raising Non-Timber produce including Medicinal Plants | 100 % | Ongoing | 78.80 | 1918 ha area covered |
| 7 | Seed Development Scheme | To develop infrastructure for quality seeds | 100 % | Ongoing | 10.42 | Target fixed in terms of financial releases |
| 8 | Integrated Afforestation & Eco-development projects scheme | Promote Afforestation & Eco-Development | 100 % | Ongoing | 132.31 | 1051 ha area covered |
| 9 | Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project Scheme | Augmenting supply of fuelwood & fodder in identified fuelwood deficit districts | 100 % | Ongoing | 276.60 | 9305 ha area covered |
| 10 | Biosphere Reserve Scheme | To implement the Management Action Plan for the 2 Biosphere Reserves set up in the State | 100 % | Ongoing | 110.26 | 2 Biosphere Reserves covered |
| 11 | Project Tiger | To ensure viable population of tigers. | 100 % NR 50% R | Ongoing | 94.46 | One Tiger Reserve covered |
| 12 | Eco-Development around Tiger Reserves | To provide alternative sustenance to communities living on fringes of Tiger Reserves | 100 % NR 50% R | Ongoing | 4.76 | One tiger Reserve covered |
| 13 | Paryavaran Vahini | Great environmental-awareness through active participation of public | 100 % | Ongoing | 1.26 | Constituted in 7 districts |
| 14 | Conservation of mangroves | Conservation & Management of mangroves | 100 % | Ongoing | 13.33 | 2 Mangroves covered |
| 15 | Central Zoo Authority | To Develop Zoos on Scientific Lines | 100 % | Ongoing | 22.64 | 2 Zoos covered |
| 16 | National River Action Plan (River Cauvery Action Plan) | Pollution Abatement of River Cauvery | A Scheme for pollution Abatement Work for Cauvery River covering five towns of Tamil Nadu viz. kumarapalayam, Bhawani, Erode, Trichy and Pallipaldyam at a total cost of Rs. 38.2 crore has been started on equal sharing of cost by centre and State. So far an amount of Rs. 105.98 lakhs has been released. | | | |

Quarters for Railway Employees

3992 SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether sufficient number of quarters have been constructed in the country particularly in Gujarat for the Railway Employees;

(b) if so, the number of quarters available at present and number of quarters required to be constructed as on September 30, 1995;

(c) the time by which these quarters are likely to be constructed;

(d) the number of quarters out of them allotted to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees

(e) the reasons for allotting less number of quarters to the employees belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe categories;

(f) whether the Railway Quarters are less in the number than that of the Railway employees in Gujarat particularly in the tribal areas; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAI MAHARAJ) (a) to (g) On Indian Railways, about 40% employees have been provided with quarters. Provision of additional quarters, to house more and more employees, is a continuous process and is undertaken by including suitable works in this regard in the Railways Annual Works Programme depending on the availability of funds.

No discrimination is meted out to SC/ST employees in allotment of quarters.

Railways do not maintain this information State-wise.

Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited

3993 SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be please to state (a) whether the Expert Management consultants such as ASCI and TMTC have been giving reports to IPCL since 1985 regarding surplus man-power to the tune of 30%;

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

(c) whether the IPCL Management has taken a decision to redeploy 15% surplus manpower in Baroda and Gandhar Projects;

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

(e) whether despite the surplus manpower, IPCL have made large scale direct recruitment from outside the Gujarat State;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether action has been taken against the persons responsible for it; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) (a) to (h) The Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) have advised that their first manufacturing facility was set up at Baroda, where expansions have been carried out in Phases. Addition of every new plant and technology meant increase in man-power employed. The rapid growth and expansions also generated certain im-balances in man-power necessitating periodic review. The ASCI were asked to conduct a detailed study of the existing man power in Baroda Complex of IPCL in 1986 to identify im-balances in man-power. The ASCI submitted a report in 1988 indicating varying percentages of surpluses at different levels upto 30% whereas in certain pockets there were nil or marginal surpluses. The TMTC were not involved in man-power study of Baroda Complex. They were partly involved in designing the organisational structure for Nagothane Complex (Maharashtra) of IPCL.

2 IPCL is a technologically sensitive company. Chance is always given to the interested supervisory employees to serve at new locations. Therefore, some of the experienced supervisory personnel have been shifted from Baroda to Nagothane and Gandhar Projects. Non-supervisory requirements for the expansions project at Baroda is planned to be met from within the manpower already deployed in Baroda Complex. These exercises are undertaken over a period of time to trim the surpluses available in various pockets of Baroda Complex.

3. Recruitment is made for the up-coming Gandhar Complex in Gujarat and for the Nagothane Complex in Maharashtra as also for Baroda Complex as per the genuine needs. Recruitment to supervisory manpower is being made on All India basis as per the normal guidelines issued by the Government of India from time to time. Recruitment of non-supervisory staff for each Complex is undertaken from the State in which the particular project is situated after following the guidelines of the Government of India contained in the compulsory Notification of vacancies (Employment Exchange) Act.

Drought/Flood Affected Areas

3994 DR. M. JAGANNATH
DR. L. RAMANA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in the country witnessing drought and flood situation every year, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to find out the permanent solution to this problem in such areas during the last three years; and

(c) the amount spent in each State in this regard during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (excluding the DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) An area of 745 lakh hectares in 13 States has been identified as drought prone and 400 lakh hectares in 20 States and 2 Union Territories as flood prone in the country. However, it cannot be said that such areas face drought and floods every year.

(b) An on-going Area Development Programme called Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) is implemented to mitigate the adverse effects of drought. In addition, a number

of other programmes such as development of irrigation, watershed development and soil and water conservation help in providing long term solutions to the problem of drought. Various flood management measures such as embankments, drainage channels, town protection, raising of villages and anti erosion programmes are undertaken by the State Governments as part of the Plan Programme.

(c) A Statement indicating the expenditure incurred in various States under the DPAP and Flood Control Programmes during the last three years is enclosed.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Crores)

| Sl No | State | Expenditure incurred under | | | | | |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | | D P A P | | | Flood Control Programme | | |
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 24.05 | 23.55 | 28.48 | 126.87 | 40.15 | 48.17 |
| 2 | Arunchal Pradesh | — | — | — | 1.43 | 2.50 | 3.12 |
| 3 | Assam | — | — | — | 17.40 | 20.60 | 23.76 |
| 4 | Bihar | 8.80 | 6.32 | 3.75 | 30.41 | 28.57 | 50.00 |
| 5 | Goa | — | — | — | 0.30 | 0.40 | 0.30 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 11.94 | 11.91 | 8.30 | 2.46 | 1.60 | 1.60 |
| 7 | Haryana | 2.04 | 2.24 | 0.20 | 12.59 | 9.08 | 10.00 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | — | — | 0.43 | 1.38 | 1.54 | 2.00 |
| 9 | Jammu & Kashmir | 4.04 | 5.03 | 4.79 | 8.83 | 11.28 | 12.38 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 16.09 | 17.19 | 14.71 | 11.05 | 10.10 | 9.72 |
| 11 | Kerala | — | — | — | 27.56 | 15.00 | 18.00 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 13.39 | 10.65 | 14.89 | 0.48 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 18.26 | 23.83 | 13.87 | 0.31 | 0.46 | 0.55 |
| 14 | Manipur | — | — | — | 2.61 | 5.29 | 5.28 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | — | — | — | 0.96 | 11.00 | 8.23 |
| 16 | Mizoram | — | — | — | 0.10 | — | — |
| 17 | Nagaland | — | — | — | 0.05 | — | 0.20 |
| 18 | Orissa | 11.26 | 8.90 | 6.76 | 7.79 | 7.00 | 6.80 |
| 19 | Punjab | — | — | — | 10.85 | 13.53 | 15.79 |
| 20 | Rajasthan | 7.30 | 10.13 | 10.02 | 5.72 | 7.08 | 8.65 |
| 21 | Sikkim | — | — | — | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.26 |
| 22 | Tamil Nadu | 10.74 | 13.96 | 8.21 | 9.82 | 1.27 | 3.49 |
| 23 | Tripura | — | — | — | 2.20 | 2.00 | 2.20 |
| 24 | Uttar Pradesh | 19.44 | 20.91 | 17.81 | 9.00 | 11.99 | 13.23 |
| 25 | West Bengal | 4.32 | 6.72 | 1.97 | 32.00 | 36.00 | 47.00 |

Global Tendering

3995 SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether in a Global Tender in October, 1995 a multinational French Firm named TLM, France was awarded a contract for Fabricator and Supply of Cadmium Copper Catenary Wire at Forty per cent higher rates than the prescribed rate; and

(b) if so, the details and justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund

3996 SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Overseas Economic Co operation Fund Japan is willing to sanction any loan for afforestation of the dry Eastern Zone comprising of Bellary, Raichur, Gulbarga and Bidar in Karnataka,

(b) if so, the details of the project,

(c) the amount of loan proposed to be given by the OECF,

(d) whether the project report had already been submitted to the OECF, and

(e) if so, the time by which the said loan is likely to be received and the work is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) Japan is willing to support the forestry project entitled "Forestry and Environment Project for Eastern Plains of Karnataka." The project will cover 16 districts of Eastern Plains of Karnataka including Bellary, Raichur, Gulbarga and Bidar districts

The total cost of this project is Rs. 355.41 crores for five years covering about 5,48,000 ha. of area in 16 eastern districts of the State. The main objectives of the project are to preserve the unique ecologically sensitive areas of eastern plains, develop environmentally sound management programme for land, water and other natural resources, assure the sustainability of the living standard of the people, reduce poverty and augment earning capacity of poor people and ensure sustainable use of land and other natural resources by setting up participatory process of planning and management

A Fact Finding Mission from OECF visited the State in February, 1996 to discuss the project in detail. The project has been pre-appraised by the OECF, Japan in July 1996 and it is likely to be launched in 1997-98.

Accident at Shikohabad

3997 SHRI JAGAT VIRSINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a goods train between Jharia and Bhatinda met with an accident on July 8, at the Shikohabad station,

(b) if so, the loss incurred to the railway property,

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the causes of the accident, and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The loss incurred to railway property due to this accident was Rs. 36,40,000/-.

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The enquiry committee has concluded that the accident occurred due to breakage of CBC lift

Staff of ROH Depot, Mughalsarai, Eastern Railway has been held responsible. Action under Discipline and Appeal Rules against them is under progress

[Translation]

Express Train Between Gaya and Kiul

3998 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no express train running between the Gaya Junction and Kiul on the Eastern Railways,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps being taken to introduce an express train on this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) No express trains are running in the Gaya-Kiul section of Eastern Railway due to operational constraints on the single line section. This section is adequately served by passenger train services and no new express is proposed.

[English]

Drug Price Control

3999 DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of representations received against the wrong inclusion of drugs under the Drugs price control;

(b) the action taken on each of the representations;

(c) the manner in which the transparency for inclusion/exclusion of drugs has been ensured;

(d) whether the complaints against the wrong exclusion were also received and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken on these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (e) Representations from 27 companies and one Industry Association were received against inclusion of 19 drugs under price control. In a few of these representations, exclusion of certain other drugs has also been questioned in order to support the arguments advanced therein against inclusion. The Government had appointed a Committee to look into the matter related to these representations in regard to inclusion/exclusion of drugs from price control. Subsequently, representations have been received against inclusion of 3 more drugs. As at present, the term of the Committee stands expired on 30th April, 1996. Transparency has been ensured by applying the criteria laid down in the "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986" to the data as available with the Government for the year ending 31st March, 1990 across the board.

[Translation]

Extraction of Information from Terrorists

4000. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to evolve any technique having humanitarian approach for extracting information from the hardcore terrorists/extremists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The law provides that interrogation should be done in a humane manner without taking resort to causing physical harm. To this end, all police officers are being oriented and sensitised for resorting to humanitarian methods of interrogation viz., use of modern equipment for interrogation like polygraph machines (lie detectors), winning the confidence of the suspect, making him confess truth by prolonged, expert and sustained interrogation and by confronting him with hard facts to glean the truth.

Stoppage at Bayana

4001. SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide a stoppage of 2925/2926 Bombay Deluxe Express at Bayana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Welfare of Fishermen

4002. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEM AO
SHRI SURESH PRABHU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes formulated for the welfare of fishermen in each State;

(b) the amount allocated for each of the scheme, State-wise;

(c) the time by which the schemes are likely to be implemented; and

(d) the steps taken to provide social security to the fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme known as "National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme" had been formulated for the welfare and social security of fishermen in different States/Union Territories. This scheme has the following three components

1. Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen;
2. Development of Model Fishermen Villages; and
3. Saving-Cum-Relief.

(b) The details of amount allocated State-wise for the Scheme during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The Scheme is implemented on year-to-year basis and has been implemented upto the year 1995-96.

(d) The components of (1) Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen, and (2) Saving-Cum-Relief of the Scheme provide social security to the fishermen

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | Allocation of Funds During | | |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 25.00 | 150.00 | 74.50 |
| 2. | Assam | — | 19.95 | — |
| 3. | Bihar | 12.00 | — | 2.25 |
| 4. | Gujarat | — | — | 67.02 |
| 5. | Goa | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|---------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| 6 | Himachal Pradesh | 0.11 | 0.10 | 0.21 |
| 7 | Jammu & Kashmir | — | 0.02 | 18.59 |
| 8 | Karnataka | 82.08 | 79.40 | 94.26 |
| 9 | Kerala | 152.85 | 251.58 | 273.34 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 10.06 | 2.34 | 10.04 |
| 11 | Maharashtra | | | 25.00 |
| 12 | Manipur | | 0.11 | 12.87 |
| 13 | Orissa | 20.08 | 46.82 | 22.55 |
| 14 | Tamil Nadu | 578.44 | 519.28 | 522.00 |
| 15 | Uttar Pradesh | 11.08 | 36.66 | 19.00 |
| 16 | West Bengal | 7.00 | 38.00 | 8.00 |
| 17 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 1.00 | 0.87 | 0.34 |
| 18 | Lakshadweep | — | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| 19 | Pondicherry | 53.00 | 100.00 | 69.46 |
| 20 | Tripura | 6.31 | 10.48 | 20.37 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | — | — | 2.00 |
| | | 959.01 | 1255.64 | 1241.83 |

Prawn Farming

4003 SHRI K S RAYADU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the incentives and concessions provided by the Central Government to the prawn farmers who are earning huge foreign exchange for the country;

(b) whether there are any Government institutions to provide training to the prawn farmers to enable them to organise prawn farming on the scientific lines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to establish such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Three Fishery Research Institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research viz., Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai, Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar and Central Institute of Brackishwater Agriculture, Madras impart training to the prawn farmers on scientific lines. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development" so far 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) have been sanctioned for establishment in the maritime States/UTs. The BFDAs besides

providing financial and extension inputs, also provide training to the prospective fish farmers. Demonstration-cum-training centres have been set up under the scheme to provide training to the prawn farmers.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Incentives and Concessions Provided by the Government of India

| Sl No | Item | Maximum subsidy available |
|-------|---|---|
| 1 | Development /reclamation of brackish-water area into prawn farms and first crop inputs, to small-scale sector | Rs 30,000/- ha |
| 2 | Construction of Semi-intensive prawn farms (for all categories of farmers, including public/private sector enterprises/entrepreneurs) | Rs 30,000/- ha up to a maximum land holding of 10 ha./beneficiary |
| 3 | Establishment of small prawn hatcheries of 2-5 million seed/ annum (for private/public sector) | Rs 1,00,000/- per hatchery or 10% of the cost, whichever is less. |

Other incentives available to small-scale prawn farmers

Stipend for training of prawn farmers (2 months duration) Rs. 25 per day per trainee plus Rs. 140 per trainee, i.e. lumpsum payment for field trips

[Translation]

Use of Fertilizers/Insecticides

4004 SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agriculture experts are of the opinion that the use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides destroys fertility of the soil and reduces the contents of copper, manganese, magnesium, iron, zinc etc., in the soil and use of insecticides brings their harmful effects into the food products; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) There is no empirical evidence to show that use of chemical fertilizers and insecticides destroys fertility of the soil and reduces contents of copper, manganese, magnesium, iron, zinc, etc., in the soil, if used in *recommended doses and in an integrated manner*. Results of long term experiments have shown that gains in crop productivity due to use of chemical fertilizers can be sustained through the use of organics and bio-fertilizers to maintain the soil resource base and its health. Hence,

balanced fertilization and integrated use of chemical fertilizers alongwith the organics and bio-fertilizers is always emphasised. In acidic soils liming is needed to neutralize acidity and achieve the potential of balanced fertilization

At the same time, there is no evidence to show that use of insecticides at the recommended lower doses can harm the soil fertility. If the insecticides are used as per the Integrated Pest Management Methodology, they do not bring in harmful effects into food products. That is why Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is widely propagated by Government of India.

However, imbalanced use of these inputs may cause some harmful effects

[English]

Plantation Programme in Madhya Pradesh

4005 SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various plantation programmes being implemented in Madhya Pradesh,

(b) the number of plants planted during each of the last three years, and

(c) the number of plants survived out of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Afforestation activities are carried out under plantation programmes/schemes of various Ministries/Departments of the Central and State Governments under 20 Point Programme. An indicative list of schemes/programmes of the Ministries/Departments of the central government is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The afforestation activities under 20 Point Programme are carried out under two categories viz., (a) public land brought under afforestation, and (b) seedling distribution for planting on private land. The achievements of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh under these two categories during each of the last three years are as follows :

Areas in hectares
Seedling in Lakhs

| Sl. No. | Year | Seedling distribution for (plantation on private lands) | Area (Public lands including forest lands) |
|---------|----------|---|--|
| 1. | 1993-94 | 439 00 | 125187.19 |
| 2. | 1994-95 | 438.12 | 135000 00 |
| 3. | 1995-96* | 294.60 | 55362.36 |

* Information of work done for the period ending September, 1995.

Random sample checks indicate an average survival rate of seedlings planted under various programmes of approximately 57.5%.

STATEMENT

Indicative list of plantation schemes/programmes of various Central Ministries/Departments

1. Department of Poverty Alleviation and Rural Employment
 - (i) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)
 - (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yozna (JRY)
 - (iii) Drought Prone Area Programme
 - (iv) Desert Development Programme (DDP)
2. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation
 - (i) Integrated Watershed Management in the catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR)
 - (ii) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR)
3. Ministry of Environment and Forests
 - (i) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme
 - (ii) Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme
 - (iii) Non-timber Forests Produce Scheme
 - (iv) Grants in Aid Scheme
4. Department of Wastelands Development
 - (i) Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme
 - (ii) Grants-in-Aid Scheme

[Translation]

Late Running of Trains

4006 SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the train between Hatia and Patna is running late continuously for the last three years,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure running of the train on the scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the running of trains get affected at times due to reasons such as accidents, agitations, equipment failures, alarm chain pulling, miscreant activities, bad weather etc.

(c) All efforts including intensive chasing and daily monitoring at different levels are being undertaken regularly. In addition, punctuality drives both at Inspectorial and Officers' level area also being launched

[English]

Agricultural Production Plan

4007 SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any comprehensive plan for the Andaman and Nicobar Island to boost the agricultural production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Budgetary allocation for Agriculture Sector in Andaman and Nicobar could not be spent during the previous year.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the unspent amount had been surrendered or diverted to any other sector(s); and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). No comprehensive plan for boosting the agricultural production has been prepared in respect of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) to (f) Amount released to Andaman and Nicobar Islands during 1995-96 and amount utilised in respect of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes is given in the statement attached. As per existing rules, unutilised amount in respect of a Union Territory without legislature, results in savings for Central Government and the unutilised amount, if any, is not available for utilisation in the following year.

STATEMENT

Amount Released/Utilised to Andaman & Nicobar Islands During 1995-96

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| S No | Name of the Scheme | Amount Released | Amount Released |
|----------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas | 150.00 | 32.13 |
| 2 | Strengthening of State Soil Survey Organisations | 10.00 | 4.20 |
| 3 | Development of Cashew Nut | 1.70 | 1.58 |
| 4 | Development of Tropical Arid and Temperate Fruits | 10.95 | 1.23 |
| 5 | Development of Spices | 15.00 | 5.21 |
| 6 | Development of Vegetables Seeds | 1.50 | 1.06 |
| 7 | Development of Betel Vine | 1.55 | 1.42 |
| 8 | Strengthening of Extension Training in the country | 35.00 | 17.56 |
| 9 | National Pulses Development Project | 1.00 | 0.70 |
| 10 | Setting up of Bio-Control Laboratories | 20.00 | Nil |
| 11 | Scheme on Agricultural Census and Input Survey | 3.20 | 2.58 |
| 12 | Integrated Brackish Water Fish Farm Development | 5.00 | Nil |
| 13 | Welfare of Fishermen | 0.34 | Nil |
| Total : | | 255.24 | 67.47 |

Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

4008. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to rejuvenate the sick Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), quasi-judicial authority set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, has appointed Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Bombay, as the Operating Agency for a techno-economic viability study and for suggesting long-term rehabilitation measures for IDPL. The Operating Agency has not yet completed the study. Government's future course of action will be decided after the study report has been received and examined.

Hybrid Vegetables

4009 DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research is launching a project for production hybrids of important vegetables;

(b) if so, the varieties of vegetables likely to be evolved by this project; and

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred to meet the project cost?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The ICAR has already launched the project entitled "ICAR Research Network on Promotion of Hybrid Research in Vegetable Crops."

(b) The varieties/hybrids likely to be evolved under this project are in following vegetable Crops :

Tomato, brinjal, capsicum, chillies, okra, onion, cucumber, bittergourd and cabbage.

(c) Estimated expenditure is Rs. 330.38 lakh.

List of Wastes Importers

4010. SHRI SANTAT MEHTA :
SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUÉ :
SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' :

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large quantities of hazardous wastes routinely imported into the country illegally, cause severe damage to the health and environment as reported in the *Sunday Times of India*, New Delhi dated July 21, 1996;

(b) whether there are only seven authorised importers of toxic wastes in the country whereas the records of Customs Department show their number at 151;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) The import of hazardous waste is regulated under Rule 11 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. According to these Rules, the import of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal, however, import of such wastes is allowed for processing or reuse as raw materials. This Ministry has given permission to seven importers of hazardous wastes under these rules. In compliance with the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court, no imports of hazardous wastes are being permitted.

The licence for imports are issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). All shipments are cleared based on this licence. Till 29th April, 1995, imports of all wastes were under the Open General Licence (OGL). In April 1995, the Export Import Policy was amended and hazardous wastes were placed on the restricted list. As per the policy, imports are permitted only against a licence and only for the purpose of processing or reuse. Such wastes would now be requiring a licence for imports.

The information on the actual imports based on the consignments cleared by the Customs' Department, is compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence (DGCIS), Calcutta.

[Translation]

Attachment of Coach

4011. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to attach additional coach from Gaya station with the Bombay Mail, Purshotam Express, Jodhpur Express and Ranchi Express;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which the said coach is likely to be attached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

Intercity Express

4012 SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend Hyderabad-Guntur Intercity Express upto Madras and to introduce Intercity train between Guntur and Madras,

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposals are likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Recovery of Arrears

4013 SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Railways seek recovery of arrears", appearing in Statesman dated May 17, 1996;

(b) whether the Cash-and-carry method introduced by the railways to recover outstanding dues has been ineffective; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The condition of compulsory prepayment of freight is imposed selectively so as to avoid accumulation of outstanding dues. This condition had not been imposed for DESU and Badarpur Thermal Power Plant of NTPC in view of the importance and necessity to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the National Capital. Hence the outstanding dues had accumulated especially against these two organisations.

(c) It has now been decided to impose the condition of prepayment, in principle, on coal traffic moved to power houses with effect from 1.10.1996 so as to avoid further

accumulation. As regards pending outstanding dues every effort is made to liquidate the same.

[Translation]

Railway Bridges

4014 DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the number of bridges on stations falling between Delhi to Ambala and the norms framed by the Railways to construct the new bridges on the Stations;

(b) whether the goods trains normally remain halted at Rathdhana station due to which the passengers have to face great difficulties and also as a result of this accidents have taken place many a times.

(c) whether the Government propose to construct a bridge at this station,

(d) if so, the time by which; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Between Delhi and Ambala, foot-over-bridges have been provided at 7 stations. The stations having high level platforms are given priority for the provision of foot-over-bridges for connecting the platforms

(b) Goods trains sometimes halt at this station for operational reasons. No train accident has taken place on this account.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The work has already been included in the Budget, 1996-97 and likely to be completed by 1997-98 subject to the availability of funds

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Joint Forest Management Scheme of Andhra Pradesh

4015 SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Joint Forests Management Scheme of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for delay in giving clearance to the Joint Forests Management Scheme of Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN

NISHAD : (a) The Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted a comprehensive scheme on Joint Forest Management to the office of the Prime Minister on 31.10.1995 with a request to accord clearance and allot the required budget under Employment Generation Schemes of the Government of India. The total financial outlay of Rs. 1965 crores has been proposed for covering an area of 743000 hectare under joint forest management over a period of six years from 1995-96 to 1999-2000.

(b) and (c). Joint Forest Management schemes framed within the guidelines issued by the Government of India on 1st June, 1990 do not require clearance by the Government of India. The State Government has already been advised to implement the scheme for raising of fuelwood, fodder and forest based fruit trees and non-timber forest produce within the available budget resources under various plantation schemes including World Bank aided project.

Rajiv Gandhi Murder Probe

4016. **SHRI SUDHIR GIRI** : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the probe of Rajiv Gandhi murder case; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on the probe?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). The material is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Quarrying of Rocks

4017. **SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH** : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale and unrestricted quarrying of rocks as well as removal of the sand and solid throughout the country including Krishna river side thereby threatening the ecology and environment; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Being minor minerals, quarrying of rocks, ordinary sand and soil are controlled and regulated by State Governments for mineral concession purposes. Further, to mitigate the adverse environmental effects of unrestricted quarrying of rocks, sand and soli by river sides in the Coastal Regulation Zone, a Gazette Notification under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has been issued on 19th February, 1991 which inter alia regulates such activities in the coastal stretches of seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers and backwaters. Also, wherever quarries and extraction of sand from forest lands are involved, provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Guidelines are applicable.

Foreign Visits by Government Officials and Ministers

4018. **SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES** : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have plans to effect economies in expenditure on foreign of the government officials and ministers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Travels abroad are expensive and also cause disruption in work. Instructions have been issued that foreign visits must be kept to the barest minimum. It has also been provided that when Parliament is in session, foreign travels should, as far as possible, be avoided.

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion Work on Lucknow-Sitapur-Bareilly Section

4019. **SHRI ILIYAS AZMI** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not commencing the gauge conversion work, so far on Lucknow-Sitapur-Melani-Bareilly section meter gauge rail line despite the fact that survey in this regard was made many years back; and

(b) the time expected to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). This is not yet a sanctioned project. Moreover, no survey for conversion of this line was done in the past. However, conversion of this line has been included in the first phase of the Action Plan and is planned to be taken up in the 9th Plan Period.

Construction of New Bridge

4020. **SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all old cemented poles are lying useless after the construction of a new bridge for the passage of the rail line on the small river Gandak between Nonapar, Bhatpar and Rani Stations in the Gorakhpur Division;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to hand over such old poles to the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to construct a bridge on the said poles in the public interest for passage thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Stoppage of Purushottam Express

4021. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give a stoppage to Purushottam Express in both the directions at Parasnath Station of the Dhanbad Division;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not providing facilities for this important pilgrimage place of Jains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No such proposal at present

(b) Does not arise

(c) Availability of alternative train services

[Translation]

Doubling of Rail Line from Daund to Manmad

4022. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct double line on the Daund-Manmad section;

(b) if so, the time by which it would be converted into double line;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to electrify the Daund-Manmad rail line; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Doubling of single line sections is taken up when the carrying capacity of the section gets saturated, freight intensive sections being given priority. The present capacity available on Daund-Manmad section is considered adequate to meet the current level of traffic.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There is no proposal to electrify Daund-Manmad rail line.

[English]

Improvement of Passenger Amenities ,

4023. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Members of Parliament for improvement and extension of amenities to the passengers at railway stations in the Asansol Division;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. These representations are regarding provision/augmentation, of various passenger amenities at some of the stations in Asansol Division.

(c) The Railway stations in Asansol Division are already provided with the facilities commensurate with the volume of traffic handled at each station. Further augmentation of passenger amenities at stations is a continuous process and is undertaken, whenever so warranted based on the volume of traffic handled at the stations, overall availability of funds and other relative priorities.

[Translation]

Private Catering Service in Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express

4024. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is private catering services in the Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains;

(b) whether the Government are incurring loss of crores of rupees due to the illegal use of Government electricity for cooking of food by these private contractors in connivance with the railway authorities; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a high level investigation in this regard and if so, the time by which?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Construction of Houses for Fishermen

4025. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount sanctioned to each State under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the construction of houses for fishermen during the last three years in the country.

(b) whether the amount sanctioned for this purpose has been fully utilised.

(c) if so, the details thereof.

(d) if not, the time by which these houses are likely to be constructed.

(e) whether there is any scheme to construct these houses in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh, and

(f) if so, the time by which and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The details of the amount sanctioned State-wise for construction of houses under the component of Model Fishermen's Village of the National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme during the last three years are given in enclosed statement

(b) to (d) The construction of houses of fishermen is undertaken by the State Governments as per their construction schedule and funds utilisation certificates are sent to the Ministry after completion of the construction work. Out of 16659 houses sanctioned in the 8th Five Year Plan till 31st March, 1996, about 8500 houses have been completed

(e) and (f) The proposals for construction of houses for fishermen are made by the respective State Governments. Such proposals are considered by this Ministry and funds released after approval of the proposal. Keeping in view the limitation of outlay and budget provision for scheme it is not feasible to construct houses in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh

STATEMENT

(Rs in Lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/U.T. | Funds Released | | |
|---------|------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 25.00 | 150.00 | 40.00 |
| 2. | Assam | --- | 19.95 | --- |
| 3. | Bihar | 10.00 | --- | --- |
| 4. | Gujarat | --- | --- | 64.82 |
| 5. | Jammu & Kashmir | --- | --- | 18.59 |
| 6. | Karnataka | 78.70 | 76.02 | 80.00 |
| 7. | Kerala | 50.00 | --- | 40.00 |
| 8. | Manipur | --- | --- | 12.87 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 8.00 | --- | 7.00 |
| 10. | Orissa | 8.00 | 25.00 | --- |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 11 | Tamil Nadu | 138.53 | 100.00 | 47.29 |
| 12 | Tripura | 5.60 | 10.27 | 20.00 |
| 13 | Uttar Pradesh | 10.31 | 34.96 | 17.20 |
| 14 | West Bengal | --- | 30.00 | --- |
| 15 | Pondicherry | 00.23 | 39.26 | --- |
| 16 | Rajasthan | --- | --- | 2.00 |
| 17 | Maharashtra | --- | --- | 25.00 |
| Total | | 334.37 | 485.46 | 374.77 |

[English]

Study on Pollution

4026. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Delhi tops in poor pollution management : CII", appearing in the Statement, dated June 4, 1996,

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the study on the Industrial pollution conducted by the confederation of the Indian Industry,

(c) if so, the findings thereof, and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). CII has not carried out any study specific to pollution status in Delhi. However, CII has carried out a study to assess the Environmental Business Opportunities in India. Besides this, the compliance status in respect of 17 categories of highly polluting industries as identified by the Government is also mentioned in the CII study which is based on a report published by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in March 1995. According to the CPCB report, out of a total of 1551 highly polluting industries in the large medium sectors in the country 209 units are not having adequate facilities for control of pollution. In Delhi, 5 such industries are located. The review of pollution status done by CII indicates that nearly 94% industries in Gujarat, 91% in Tamil Nadu, 87% in Maharashtra and 85% in Rajasthan have installed adequate emission and effluent treatment facilities. In the petrochemical sector, 100% of the industries have adopted pollution control measures.

(d) The CII has not done any specific study on pollution status in India, but has only referred and analysed the data collected by the Central Pollution Control Board.

Rail Link between Sundargarh to Jharsuguda

4027 KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to connect the District Headquarters Sundargarh with the rail line from Jharsuguda,

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction and the time schedule for completion thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Constraint of resources

Committee on Wildlife Protection

4028 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee had been appointed under direction of the Delhi High Court and the Committee had made several recommendations for protection of the wild life,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement these recommendations;

(d) whether there is also any proposal to amend the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Important recommendations of the Committee submitted to the Delhi High Court are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) As desired by the Delhi High Court an affidavit has been filed by this Ministry giving comments on each of the recommendations to the Delhi High Court. The matter is now subjudice.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) An interstate committee has been set up to review the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and to recommend necessary changes to make its implementation more effective.

STATEMENT*Important Recommendations Made by the Committee on Wildlife Protection*

1. Create a separate Ministry for Natural Resources (Forests and Wildlife).

2. Indian Board for Wildlife should be given statutory backing, the Executive Director, adequate powers, funding the secretariat in the proposed Ministry of Natural Resources (Forests and Wildlife).

3. All State Wildlife Advisory Boards must be constituted and must meet regularly. Honorary Wildlife Wardens must be appointed.

4. Create wildlife wings in Indian and State Forest Services.

5. Ensure all Indian Forest Services as well as State Forest Officers, Foresters and Forest Guards receive wildlife training which should be specialised for those operating for the Wildlife Wing.

6. Implement S.K. Roy report on tourism and Subramanian Committee report along with further suggestions of this report.

7. Increase India's Protected Area network to 7.5% by 2000 A.D.

8. Divide India into five wildlife zones and have action plans for each with implementation at zonal/state level.

9. Create Wildlife Protection Schemes for wildlife residing outside the P.A. network.

10. Better implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Rhino Protection Plan etc. is needed.

11. Protected Areas should be given more autonomy to utilise funds.

12. Institute incentive and award schemes and other welfare measures for field staff.

13. Improve scientific research and integrate it to field management of wildlife.

14. Improve anti-poaching measures.

15. Establish intelligence gathering network for control of poaching and wildlife trade.

16. Improve legal support system to control wildlife crimes.

17. Control illegal trade in wildlife derivatives by designating special courts, establishing intelligence gathering networks, exchange of information, associating other enforcement agencies.

18. Take steps to harmonise relationship of forest communities with wildlife.

19. Take steps to reduce human and livestock pressure on critical wildlife habitats.

20. Harness revenue from low impact tourism to conservation and community development.

21. Reduce pressure of urbanisation of economic development on wildlife habitats.

22. Improve education and awareness for wildlife protection.

23. Create new Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks.

24. A minimum of 15% of total forestry budgetary should be earmarked for wildlife management. Both financial and other resources have to be enhanced.

25. Wildlife field staff should have the same status as that of para military or armed forces.

26. Additionally there are detailed recommendations on proposals to amend Wildlife (Protection) Act in Chapter 6.

Leasing out of Railways Land

4029. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a plot of Railway land measuring about 38 bighas was leased out to Pandu College, Guwahati;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a portion of the said plot is under the unauthorised encroachment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps being taken to remove unauthorised encroachers and to hand over the possession of the encroachment free plot of land to the college authorities; and

(f) the time by which the possession is likely to be handed over to the college authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, Railway land measuring 38 bighas was relinquished to the State Government of Assam with the ultimate objective of the land being transferred to the Pandu College Authority;

(c) to (f). Since the Railway land in question has already been relinquished to the State Government, Railways are not concerned.

Catering Services

4030. SHRI YELLAI AH NANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether catering services in A.P. Express and Dakshin Express are provided by private contractors at major stations/junctions on the routes of these two trains;

(b) whether these trains do not carry pantry facilities to provide on-board catering services to the travelling public including the VIPs;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to award catering contracts to provide food at major stations to the Railway Department itself instead of the private contractors; and

(e) if so, the time by which positive decision in this regard is likely to be taken and also to make it mandatory to carry pantry-cars on these trains regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Catering Services are provided in both the trains through pantry cars. The pantry car in A.P. Express is run departmentally while in Dakshin Express by a private contractor.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Disruption in Train Services

4031. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the train services to and from Howrah Station of the Eastern Railway suffer due to water logging on the Railway line at Howrah Car Shed; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken to ensure that the train services are not disrupted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Train movement is occasionally hampered in instances of intense rainfall/flooding near Howrah Car Shed, within Howrah Yard.

(b) In such abnormal situations the water is pumped out for removing water logging and allow easy movement of trains.

Extension of Railway Line

4032. SHRI VISHESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India has proposed the extension of Delhi-Rajhara Railway line to Raughat for transportation of iron ore from Raughat to Bhilai Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, the latest position in this regard indicating the proposed outlay and the length of the proposed railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of Dallirajahara-Rowghat-Jogdalpur new broad gauge line (235 kms.) has been included in Railway Budget of 1995-96 at an estimated cost of Rs. 369 crores. SAIL will bear the actual cost of construction between Dallirajahara and Rowghat (95 kms.). Work can be taken up after the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and deposit of money by SAIL and other parties. Ministry of Environment and Forests to use of Bailadila Mines, and have indicated that they would sign the MOU and release the amount only after the clearance from MOEF is received.

Transfer of Doctors

4033. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of doctors working on the same place for more than ten years in the Western Railway;

(b) the number of doctors who are being transferred frequently by the Chief Medical Officer, Western Railway without any reason; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 44 (Forty four)

(b) Nil

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Use of Machines for Official Language

4034. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether dozen of machines like computers, telexes, tele-printers etc., have been made bilingual;

(b) if so, the percentage of work done on the Devnagari machine in comparison to the work done on Roman script machines;

(c) whether work on the Devnagari script machines is hindered due to departmental files being only in English;

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Departments for equal utilisation of Devnagri script machines; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for doing cent percent work in the official language in those Sections/Departments which have been declared Hindi knowing departments under sections 10(4) and 8(4) of the Official Language Act?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the quarterly progress reports received for the quarter ending March, 1996, the percentages of bilingual

(Hindi-English) electronic typewriters and computers of the total number of electronic typewriters and computers being used in Ministries/Departments are 73.3 and 57.7 respectively. The percentage of the work being done in Hindi on these machines is 36.5.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Necessary orders are issued by the Department of Official Language from time to time that the employees having working knowledge of Hindi should do their work in Hindi only. This is also ensured during the inspections conducted by this Department. Deficiencies, wherever noticed, are brought to the notice of higher officers of the concerned Departments.

[English]

Purchase by Railway Hospitals

4035. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any standard of quantity or technical specifications have been laid down for the purchase of Medical consumables, medical disposables and Medical electronic equipment by the Railway Hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the particulars of purchases made by the Railway Hospitals of the medical disposables and consumables during 1994-95 and 1995-96 item-wise; and

(d) the names of manufacturers and suppliers of the said items who are registered of regular suppliers to the various Railway Hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A well defined procurement system conforming to quality standards and other technical specifications is available on Indian Railways which is updated from time to time according to the needs.

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

Shatabdi/Rajdhani Express Trains

4036. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN .
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for running of the Shatabdi/Rajdhani Express trains;

(b) whether any such new trains are proposed to be introduced during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Shatabdi Expresses are fully AC trains with sitting accommodation and introduced between points having sufficient day time intercity type of passenger traffic.

Rajdhani Expresses are fully AC trains run between State Capitals and Delhi.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Rajdhani Expresses are planned during the current year as under :

1. New Delhi-Patna via Lucknow (bi-weekly)

2. New Delhi-Ahmedabad (weekly) after gauge conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad line.

3. Diversion of Hazrat Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Express via Goa.

Item No. 2 will be introduced after completion of the gauge conversion between Ajmer-Mehsana and Item No. 3 after commissioning of the Konkan Railway and also manufacture of additional coaches.

Extension of Train

4037. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken action on the demand for extension of Kannur-Trivandrum Express upto Mangalore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but has not been found feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Himgiri Express

4038. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare Himgiri Express as a superfast train;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not fulfil the criterion of superfast train

[Translation]

Booking Windows

4039. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to open additional booking windows at Kota station in view of the increasing rush of passengers and trains; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) The existing counters are considered adequate to deal with the present level of traffic handled at Kota station.

Forest Villages

4040. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of forest villages in Madhya Pradesh and the number of villages out of them converted into the Revenue villages;

(b) whether the final clearance has been obtained from the Union Government for converting the remaining villages into Revenue villages;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d) There are 1346 forest villages in 30 districts of Madhya Pradesh in respect of which proposal have been received from the state Government for renewal of pattas of occupants of these forest villages. Although the state Government had earlier forwarded 10 proposals for conversion of 216 forest villages into revenue villages, however during the processing, these proposals were later on revised by the State Government to renewal of pattas over forest land instead of denotification of forest land to revenue area. In view of the revised proposals, the issue of considering conversion of forest villages into revenue villages in Madhya Pradesh does not arise.

[English]

Railway Electrification

4041. SHRI BASDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether electrification of Railways had been taken up with the objective of increased productivity and reduction of oil import,

(b) whether Ministry have not achieved the increased productivity due to hauling of trains by the electric locomotives,

(c) if so, the Trailing load and speed of a goods train hauled by the Diesel and Electric Locomotives;

(d) the total investment on electrification of main lines excluding the Suburban lines in Bombay (CR and WR), Madras (SR), Delhi (NR), Howrah/Sealdah (ER and SER),

(e) whether any Economic Cost-Benefit Analysis has ever been made of the Electrification Projects;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Electrification has enabled Indian Railways to haul heavier loads at higher speed thus increasing throughput. With only 18.79% of total routes on Indian Railways electrified, it was possible to move 54.4% goods traffic and 49% passenger traffic with electric traction during 1994-95.

(c) Average Trailing load and balancing speed of a goods train on a Tangent level track, hauled by diesel locomotive WDM 2 is 4195 Tonne and 60 KMPH. The figure in case of Electric locomotive WAG 7 is 5236 Tonne, 90 KMPH respectively.

(d) Total investment on electrification on main line upto 31.3.95 is Rs. 2663.52 crore approximately.

(e) to (g) Each of the electrification projects is appraised in terms of its financial, economic and operational aspects. Only those projects which are found advantageous in these respects are taken up for implementations, financial savings after electrification have not been specifically assessed as yet. However, Railways are being asked to carry out productivity test on electrified sections after five years of complete switch over to electric traction.

Area Under Cultivation

4042. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of land under Sugarcane, Cotton and Jute cultivation in the country in respective States where it is mostly grown at present; and

(b) the percentage of irrigated lands out of the total area?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDING AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURNAN MISHRA) : (a) A statement giving State-wise area under cultivation of sugarcane, Cotton and Jute during 1994-95 is annexed.

(b) as per Land Use Statistics 1992-93 (latest available), the irrigated area out of the total net cultivated area in the country is 35.7 percent.

STATEMENT

Area Under Jute, Cotton and Sugarcane During 1994-96

| Name of the State | Cotton | Jute | Sugarcane |
|-------------------|--------|-------|-----------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 837.1 | — | 209.0 |
| Assam | 1.7 | 90.9 | 35.6 |
| Bihar | 0.3 | 122.3 | 123.2 |
| Gujarat | 1204.7 | — | 154.7 |
| Haryana | 557.0 | — | 120.0 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 0.1 | — | 2.4 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 0.1 | — | 0.3 |
| Karnataka | 643.9 | — | 315.2 |
| Kerala | 12.3 | — | 5.3 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 491.5 | — | 41.9 |
| Maharashtra | 2759.9 | — | 517.5 |
| Orissa | 6.6 | 23.7 | 20.3 |
| Punjab | 606.0 | — | 83.0 |
| Rajasthan | 485.9 | — | 21.9 |
| Tamil Nadu | 295.8 | — | 309.3 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 11.1 | 0.4 | 1831.5 |
| West Bengal | 0.1 | 507.9 | 10.6 |
| Others | 10.9 | 5.9 | 10.6 |
| All India | 7925.0 | 751.1 | 3814.8 |

Dieselisation of Darjeeling Railway

4043. SHRI R. B. RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation demanding dieselisation of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway;

(b) if so, the decision of the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A decision has been taken by the Railways that some of the sections of tourist attraction such as Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, Nilgiri Mountain Railway will continue on steam traction. Dieselisation of these sections will be reviewed after 2000 AD.

[*Translation*]

Ban on Domestic Tourists

4044. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

Will the Minister of Home AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a ban on the entry of domestic tourists in the Glaciers on the Indo-Tibet border;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether foreign tourists are free to visit these places;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Entry Permit are issued to all the visitors; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Compensation to 1989 Riots Victims

4045. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Sikhs were killed during 1989 riots in Jammu;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry commission was constituted in this regard;

(c) if so, recommendations of the commission implemented thereon;

(d) whether the Government propose to give compensation to 1989 victims as per decision of the Delhi High Court w.r.t. 1984 Delhi riots; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Awards to Train Drivers

4046. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to give awards to the trains drivers who have saved trains from accident during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representation in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) It is an established policy of the Railways to award persons including driver who shows exemplary courage and presence of mind in averting rail accident. Whenever such a representation or information is received, the same is examined and after ascertaining the facts award is sanctioned.

[*English*]

Special Task Force

4047. SHRI N. DENNIS :
DR. C. SIL VERA :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI E. AHAMED :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Special Task Force in Delhi under the supervision of the Prime Minister to tackle specific and specialised cases relating to law and order situation;

(b) if so, the terms and reference, organisational set-up and sources of recruitment of personnel of this force;

(c) whether the Delhi Government will have any participation in the Special Task Force;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some criteria for direct participation of people in the Special Task Force has been laid down; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (f) It has been decided to constitute a Special Task Force for taking up the investigation of serious crimes in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The modalities for setting up the Force are being finalised.

[Translation]

Harassment of a Woman

4048. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an enquiry into the Usha episode, an inmate of Nari Niketan has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the same is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Union Government have received suggestions/requests from some social organisations/Members of Parliament to conduct an C.B.I. enquiry into the matter;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct an C.B.I. enquiry into the matter; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The investigation of the case in question is still in progress. The blood samples of Smt. Usha, her son and two suspected persons have been sent for DNA test. Efforts are being made to complete the investigation expeditiously

(d) to (f) There were suggestions from certain quarters that the case be assigned to the CBI for investigation. There is, however, no such proposal under the consideration of the Government at present. The Delhi Police is capable of handling such cases.

Rail Transport

4049. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether cement, food grains and fertilizers are being transported in open wagons by the railways at various places in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity of these goods transported, separately during the last year and the income earned as a result thereof;

(c) whether the railways have to bear financial loss due to the theft of the said goods while transporting them in the open wagons;

(d) if so, the amount of claims made for the loss of each item during the last three years; and

(e) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some quantity of cement, food grains and fertilizers is transported in open wagons to various places.

(b) No separate statistics of open wagons is maintained. A statement showing the commodity-wise loading and earnings (on originating basis) for the last two years is given below

| Commodity | Loading (in million tonnes) | | Earnings (Rs. in crores) | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|
| | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| Cement | 31.45 | 31.80 | 1119.97 | 1211.68 |
| Foodgrains | 20.72 | 25.81 | 854.90 | 1085.76 |
| Fertilisers | 21.47 | 23.24 | 671.70 | 725.32 |

(c) and (d). No separate statistics on compensation claims paid by the Railways on theft of commodities is maintained. However, compensation claims paid for loss/theft of cement, food grains and fertilizers booked for carriage by the Railways during the last three years is as under :

| Commodity | Year | Amount Paid (Rs. in lacs) | |
|---------------------|---------|------------------------------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Cement | 1993-94 | 31.28 | |
| | 1994-95 | 46.29 | |
| | 1995-96 | 39.48 | |
| Chemical and Pulses | 1993-94 | 99.01 | |
| | 1994-95 | 149.22 | |
| | 1995-96 | 186.62 | |
| Chemical manures | 1993-94 | 1.72 | |
| | 1994-95 | 13.20 | |
| | 1995-96 | 27.88 | |

(e) More wagons are being procured on yearly basis. The Railways offer 5% rebate for transportation of the commodities in open wagons. Parties utilizing the open wagons cover it with Tarpauline and tie it up with ropes.

[English]

New Railway Line

4050. DR. ARUN KUMAR SHARMA :
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SHARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new railway line under construction between Jogighopa and Guwahati would be completed in 1996-97, as was assured in reply to the Unstarred Question No. 4042 answered on August 23, 1994 in the Lok Sabha;

(b) if so, the time by which its construction is likely to be completed and the same is to become operational;

(c) whether the work is progressing as per the schedule;

and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. There has been some delay due to unforeseen geological problems in the foundation of Piers 17 and 18 of the Brahmaputra bridge which has delayed the completion of this project. The Railways also not been able to meet the full requirement of funds for this work.

The Jogighopa bridge is now expected to be completed by March 1997 along with Jogighopa-Goalpara section. The line for Goalpara to Guwahati is now targeted for completion in 1997-98.

[Translation]

Involvement of Multinational Companies

4051. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to ban the entrance of multinational companies in the field of agricultural products so that the interest of the farmers is safeguarded;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration of the government at the moment to ban the entry of the multinational companies in the field of agricultural products.

[English]

IPS Officers Arrested

4052. SHRI DARBARA SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IPS officers arrested/suspended during each of the last three years for the corrupt practices, State-wise; and

(b) the steps/precautions taken by the Union Government to put more vigilance on the working of these officers to root out the corruption?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected.

Contract Catering Employees

4053. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from contract catering employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The General Secretary, Catering Contract Workers Union, Kerala, has submitted a memorandum to the Minister for Railways in regard to service conditions of the workers employed by catering contractors at Railway stations.

(c) The memorandum which was received in the third week of August, 1996 is being examined.

Task force to Check Pollution

4054. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has reiterated the need of setting up of a coordinated task force to check pollution and depletion of natural resources in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the assistance from voluntary organizations, State Pollution Control Boards and financial institutions has also been sought in this regard.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to set up the proposed task force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has reiterated the need for setting up a Task Force to check pollution in the country during a Conference of Chairmen and Member Secretaries of Pollution Control Boards/Committees held at Delhi in February 1996.

(c) and (d). CPCB has set up a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Cell to involve the people and NGOs for abatement of pollution. The State Pollution Control Boards have also been advised to set up similar cells in their respective States. The initiatives taken to encourage public participation to control pollution include the following :

- A Pollution Awareness and Assistance Centre has been set up for priority participatory programmes on prevention and control of pollution;

- Periodic interaction meetings between the pollution control authorities and NGOs are held at regional level;
- Water testing kits are distributed among various NGOs and science students to undertake water quality assessment;
- Quarterly Newsletter "PARIVESH" is published by the CPCB to provide information about various techniques of pollution abatement to the public.
- A concession is provided on the CPCB publications to those NGOs who are enlisted for pollution control activities.

(e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests have provided catalytic fund support for setting up of a coordinated task force to check pollution.

Combating of International Terrorism

4055 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the meeting of the major powers recently to chalk out the measures to combat terrorism in the world,

(b) if so, whether one day meeting of the foreign and Security Ministers of the Group 7 industrialized nations and Russia met in Paris and outlined 25 practical measures that included anti-terrorism resolution and restricted access to the internet to, defeat the terrorist activities,

(c) whether the Indian Government have reviewed the report of these major powers;

(d) if so, the main features thereof,

(e) whether the Government have also considered to take some of the measures from these proposals to combat terrorism in India; and

(f) if so, the measures likely to be undertaken by the Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main features of the statement issued by the G-7 Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, inter alia, includes the determination of the participants to give absolute priority to the fight against terrorism, a thorough review of new trends in terrorism, an invitation to all States to adopt the practical measures outlined following the Sharma-El-Sheikh Summit and a call to adopt a range of internal measures to prevent terrorism such as strengthening international cooperation among all Government agencies, deterrence, prosecution and punishment of terrorists, a call on all States to take strong measures to prevent the movements of terrorists individuals and groups, improved exchanged information on terrorism etc.

(e) and (f). The main features of the statement issued at the conclusion of the G-7 Ministerial Conference on Terrorism in Lyon (Paris) on July 30, 1996 is under examination in the Government of India.

Concessions to Handicapped Persons

4056 SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of handicapped persons to whom complimentary passes have been issued, till date at present,

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend travel concession to the handicapped persons in the A/C chair cars and Shatabdi Express trains, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No complimentary passes are issued to handicapped persons as a category.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Passenger Facilities

4057. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of railway stations in Karnataka where facilities of waiting rooms, restaurants, drinking water, toilets, retiring rooms and sheds on the platforms are not available;

(b) whether these facilities are proposed to be provided on these stations during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Facilities such as drinking water, waiting halls, seating arrangement and latrines are provided at all stations. Amenities such as refreshment rooms, retiring rooms, sheds on platforms etc., are provided based on the importance of the station, the volume of traffic handled at the station and the number of long distance trains stopping, originating or terminating at the station. Therefore, the availability of amenities at all stations will not be uniform. Important stations and stations with a large volume of traffic are provided with all amenities whereas smaller stations, with a relatively meagre volume of traffic, are not provided with the same quantum of amenities.

However, as a continuous process, the Railways conduct surveys to ascertain the adequacy of amenities at every station and the deficiencies, wherever noticed, are made good by including suitable works in the Railways Annual Works Programmes and subject to the availability of funds.

The Ministry of Railways, however, does not maintain this information State-wise.

[Translation]

Free Rail Passes

4058. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide free railway passes to the accredited journalists of Press Information Bureau, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Sugarcane Crop

4059. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the sugarcane crop in the South Gujarat was afflicted with the diseases, last year.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to provide relief and other assistance to the farmers of South Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sugarcane crops in South Gujarat was affected by wilt and red rot diseases during 1995-96. Out of total area of 90,953 ha under the crop, an area of 11,615 hectare was affected by these diseases

(c) Training of extension workers and farmers have been organized by the State Department of Agriculture in collaboration with the State Agriculture University to educate the farmers about various remedial measures, viz.

1. Use of healthy seed
2. Use of treated seed with fungicide.
3. Use of moist hot air treated seeds.
4. To grow wilt resistant varieties.
5. To adopt crop rotation with rice and green manure crops.
6. To avoid rationing if disease is observed in the planted crop.
7. Removal of disease affected plants in the initial stages of the disease.

8. To maintain proper drainage in the sugarcane fields.

Assistance has also been extended to strengthen the facilities for training, heat treatment units, tissue culture, seed multiplication programme etc., to combat the disease problems

Assistance for Pollution Control

4060. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any scheme to provide assistance to the Government of Gujarat for controlling Industrial and Environmental pollution,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the amount allocated by the Government for the said purpose during each of the last three years, plan-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) The Union Government has the following schemes for controlling industrial and environmental pollution under which the Government of Gujarat can avail of assistance :

- (i) Reimbursement of Water Cess to State Pollution Control Boards for pollution control measures and assisting industrial units in the adoption of clean process technologies and sewage treatment systems in Class II and Class III towns
- (ii) Assistance for abatement of pollution—Grants-in-aid to Pollution Control Boards, State Government and Institutions for specific pollution related projects and schemes and research studies;
- (iii) Common Effluent Treatment Plants,
- (iv) Externally aided pollution control schemes (World Bank projects);
- (v) Environmental Audit;
- (vi) Environmental Statistics and Mapping;
- (vii) Clean technologies by Small Scale Industries;
- (viii) National River Conservation Projects.

(c) No amount is allocated for any of the States under these schemes. However, the Government of Gujarat has availed of assistance under some of the schemes during the last three years.

Broad Gauge Railway Line

4061. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme for laying broad gauge railway line between Ajmer and Udaipur has been started;

(b) if so, the work included in the first phase of the scheme;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to convert the Udaipur-Ahmedabad via Dungarpur-Himmat Nagar Rail line into broad gauge in future under this scheme; and

(e) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) It has been decided to take up Gauge Conversion between Ajmer and Udaipur after obtaining the necessary clearances and approvals for which action has already been initiated.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Railway Hospital, Katni

4062 SHRI DADA BABURAO PRANJPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railway Hospital, Katni of Madhya Pradesh is without any basic amenities viz. No Heart specialist, Child specialist, Surgical Doctor, Medicine Doctor, Lady Doctor and even the patients of small illness are referred/sent to Jabalpur; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the condition of Hospital and to check the exploitation of patients by the Medical staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Allotment of Stalls

4063. SHRI SHHJTTUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of book stalls and refreshment stalls at present, Zone-wise; and

(b) the number out of them allotted to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

[English]

Extension of Railway Line

4064. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the Taranga railway line to Ambaji under the Western Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources.

Central Fishery Research Project

4065. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether efforts are being made to shift the Central Fishery Research Project at Burla in Orissa to Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether shifting of the institution is going against the interests of the people of Orissa; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to keep the Research centre at Burla only?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Burla Centre of the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) was established in 1963 for the development of fish harvesting techniques in Hirakud Reservoir. Having completed its mandate and as per the recommendations of the fourth Quinquennial Review Team (Q.R.T.) of CIFT for the period 1986-93, the Centre is being shifted to Madhya Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir. The Burla Centre of CIFT served the Orissa fisheries for a period of more than 32 years and has achieved its objectives in Orissa.

(c) The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Funds for Land Conservation

4066. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to each State by the Union Government for Land Conservation during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(b) the details of progress made in this regard in each State, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Soil Conservation and land development in various states :

(i) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects.

(ii) Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers

(iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soils.

(iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.

(v) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas.

A list of States/U.Ts. along with funds released during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given in statement-I attached. In addition to the States funds have been released directly to Damodar Valley Corporation for implementing the Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects.

In addition to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, the Department of Wastelands Development implements a scheme called Integrated Wastelands Development. The activities undertaken under this scheme include : (i) Natural re-generation (ii) afforestation and pasture development (iii) Horticulture (iv) distribution of fuelwood saving devices (v) soil and moisture conservation (vi) training and extension. The amount released to the States under this scheme during 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 53.00 crores and Rs. 51.00 crores respectively. Funds upto 20% of the outlay can be spent on soil conservation works.

(b) Physical achievement made during 1994-95 and 1995-96 in respect of three schemes namely RVP, FPR and RAS is given in statement-II attached. The scheme on Reclamation on Alkali Soils was initiated during last quarter of 1995-96 in the States of Rajasthan, Gujarat and M.P. where actual area treatment has not yet started. Under NWDPR and IWD programmes, there are a number of components and the area covered exclusively under soil conservation is not indicated.

Under the scheme of Watershed Development in Shifting Cultivation Areas, various activities like vegetative hedges, dry land, horticulture, agro-forestry and erosion control structures have been included. In Manipur, Meghalaya and Nagaland an area of 3513 ha., 1726 ha. and 7380 ha. has been covered. In case of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh field work has yet to start. Physical achievement in respect of Mizoram and Tripura where work has started has not been reported so far.

STATEMENT-I
Statewise Funds Released under Various Soil Conservation Schemes during 1994-95 and 1995-96

| Sl. No. | States | RVP | | FPR | | RAS | | WDPSCA | | NWDpra | |
|---------|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 329.00 | 525.00 | | | | | | | 636.55 | |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | | | | | | | | | 22.00 | 80.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 50.00 | 23.00 | | | | | 5.00 | 196.00 | 535.00 | 512.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | | | | | | | 200.00 | | 435.00 | |
| 5. | Gujarat | 259.00 | 299.00 | | | 200.80 | | | | 1073.94 | |
| 6. | Haryana | | | 90.00 | 138.00 | 170.00 | 157.00 | | | | 55.00 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 535.00 | 546.00 | 307.50 | 219.00 | | | | | 575.00 | 265.00 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 236.00 | 358.52 | | | | | | | | 118.00 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 604.00 | 767.00 | | | | | | | 1524.81 | 467.00 |
| 10. | Kerala | 55.00 | 211.00 | | | | | | | 180.00 | |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 1061.00 | 478.00 | 469.00 | 230.00 | 183.50 | | | | 500.00 | 1977.00 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 700.00 | 727.00 | | | | | | | 3100.00 | 3290.00 |
| 13. | Manipur | | | | | | | 309.17 | 500.00 | 80.00 | 75.00 |
| 14. | Meghalaya | | | | | | | 151.00 | | | 55.00 |
| 15. | Mizoram | | | | | | | 262.13 | 300.00 | 319.77 | |
| 16. | Nagaland | | | | | | | 346.20 | 470.00 | 250.00 | |
| 17. | Orissa | 326.00 | 140.00 | | | | | | | 1250.00 | 1580.00 |
| 18. | Punjab | 20.00 | | 50.00 | 50.00 | 225.00 | 249.00 | | | 115.00 | |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 660.00 | 694.00 | 719.00 | 957.00 | 26.60 | | | | 1900.00 | 2855.00 |
| 20. | Sikkim | | 240.00 | | | | | | | 110.00 | 10.00 |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 337.00 | 522.00 | | | | | | | 700.00 | 400.00 |
| 22. | Tripura | | | | | | | 50.31 | 134.00 | 95.00 | |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 437.00 | 453.48 | 1251.50 | 1445.00 | 393.00 | 183.07 | | | 2295.00 | 2215.00 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 200.00 | 264.00 | 103.00 | 101.00 | | | | | 400.00 | 1157.00 |
| 25. | Goa | | | | | | | | | | 46.00 |
| | Damodar Valley Corporation | 350.00 | 400.00 | | | | | | | | |

RVP = Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects.

FPR = Integrated Watershed Management in the catchment of Flood Prone Rivers

RAS = Reclamation of Alkali Soils.

WDPSCA = Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.

NWDpra = National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas

STATEMENT-II
Statewise Physical Achievement in Terms of Area Covered under Various Schemes during 1994-95 and 1995-96

(Area in '000' ha.)

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | RVP | | FPR | | RAS | |
|---------|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 8.25 | 13.84 | | | | |
| 2. | Assam | 0.67 | 0.61 | | | | |
| 3. | Gujarat | 9.62 | 8.53 | | | | NA |
| 4. | Haryana | | | 3.28 | 4.01 | 15.20 | 9.92 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 8.30 | 8.97 | 6.12 | 5.16 | | |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 4.77 | 3.84 | | | | |
| 7. | Karnataka | 27.50 | 27.65 | | | | |
| 8. | Kerala | 1.52 | 0.56 | | | | |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 14.53 | 5.19 | 6.45 | 3.54 | | NA |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 3.30 | 19.47 | | | | |
| 11. | Orissa | 5.50 | 1.02 | | | | |
| 12. | Punjab | NA | | 0.13 | 1.41 | 23.60 | 17.90 |
| 13. | Rajasthan | 16.47 | 14.92 | 20.40 | 23.19 | | NA |
| 14. | Sikkim | | 0.80 | | | | |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 7.82 | 7.01 | | | | |
| 16. | Uttar Pradesh | 6.54 | 5.54 | 42.97 | 46.57 | 10.18 | 18.66 |
| 17. | West Bengal | 10.90 | 1.20 | 1.47 | 0.63 | | |
| 18. | Damodar Valley Corporation | 17.49 | 12.20 | | | | |

RVP = Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects

FPR = Integrated Watershed Management in the catchment of Flood Prone Rivers

RAS = Reclamation of Alkali Soils.

*[English]***Cultivable Land**

4067. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large area of cultivable land in the country is lying vacant and unutilized,

(b) if so, the total area of such land;

(c) the details of various programmes launched by the Government to use such land for the agricultural purposes; and

(d) the funds provided by the Government to each State during 1995-96 for the implementation of such programmes, programme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) As per land use statistics, 1992-93 (latest available) there is about 28 million hectare cultivable area in the country (9.2% of the total reported area) which includes old fallows, cultivable waste and land under Miscellaneous Tree Crops and Groves. The cultivable waste land can be brought under cultivation by reclamation programmes.

(c) and (d) The details of reclamation of area and funds released by the Central Government to each state under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Alkali (USAR) soils during 1995-96 is as follows :

| State | Reclamation of Area (000 hect.) | Funds released during 1995-96 (Rs. in Laks) |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Haryana | 9.92 | 157.00 |
| Punjab | 17.90 | 249.00 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 18.66 | 183.07 |
| Gujarat | 2.20 (Targets) | 200.80 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 8.04 (Targets) | 183.50 |
| Rajasthan | 2.00 (Targets) | 26.60 |

Besides above, a World Bank assisted project on Sodic Land Reclamation in Uttar Pradesh and another EEC assisted project on Reclamation and Development of Alkali land in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are under implementation. The area reclaimed and money spent under these two project are as under :

| Project | State | Area reclaimed in hectares | Money spent in Rs. Crores |
|------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| E.E.C. | Uttar Pradesh | 3163 | 17.39 |
| | Bihar | 290 | 3.71 |
| World Bank | Uttar Pradesh | 10332 | 34.69 |

Railway Consumers' Consultative Committee

4068. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Board has dissolved Zonal and Divisional Railway Consumers, Consultative Committees, recently;

(b) whether the Board is taking steps to reconstitute the said committees immediately without any delay; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to reconstitute these committees for two years with effect from 1. 10. 1996

*[Translation]***Rent Charges for Waiting Rooms**

4069. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the rules framed for staying of passengers in waiting rooms on the main railway stations;

(b) whether without making any additions in the facilities provided, the rent charges of waiting rooms at Shimla Railway Station have been increased by more than double, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Waiting rooms at the stations are for short duration use by bonafide passengers either waiting for the outgoing trains or arriving by the incoming trains and required to wait for catching the next train.

(b) and (c) No charges are collected for waiting in waiting room. However, the retiring-room charges have been increased at Shimla after renovating the same and providing additional facilities.

*[English]***Price of Captopril**

4070. DR. BALIRAM : Will the MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Wockhardt is selling 10 tablets of captopril for Rs. Twenty six and if so, the price recommended for this pack by the BICP in 1995;

(b) the date on which the recommendations was made by the BICP and the reasons for not acting upon the same;

(c) whether the price control order announced to protect consumer interests was used to protect the interests of producers;

(d) the details of the recommendations of BICP sent during 1994-95 and 1995-96 and not acted upon within four months along with the names of products and companies involved therein and whether all of them involved reduction in prices; and

(e) whether the Ministry had identified the officers responsible for the delay and if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Recommendations in regard to prices of formulations based on Captopril, one of the drugs brought under price control under DPCO, 95 were first received from the DPRC Sub-Committee on 26.10.95. These prices were worked out on *suo moto* basis, on the basis of available DGHS data available to the Committee, in the absence of the notified price of the bulk drug Captopril. In the meanwhile steps were initiated for the price study of Captopril. Since normally the notified price forms the basis of the price fixation the recommendations based on DGHS data were not acted upon. The prices of these formulations were reworked on the basis of bulk drug price notified subsequently on 3.4.96. The formulation prices have been issued on 23.8.96.

(c) and (d) On the same grounds, prices of formulations based on other bulk drugs like Ciprofloxacin, Cephadroxyll, Pentoxyphylline, Lynestrol, were not announced. This was a conscious decision and there was no delay.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Excavation of Stones

4071. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several acres of land has been given on lease for the excavation of stones in Madhya Pradesh particularly in the Shivpuri district without environmental and forestry clearance from the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether several green trees have also been cut down due to the same; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh had forwarded a proposal for 15 stone mines in district Shivpuri involving 930.734 ha. of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The formal approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, has not been accorded to above mentioned proposal. However, on the request of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, this Ministry had allowed temporary permission from time to time for mining over forest area which had already been broken up. Breaking up of fresh forest area had not been permitted by the Ministry during this temporary permission, which has already expired on 30.6.96.

Wild Animals

4072. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the wild animals whose killing has been banned under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972;

(b) the other steps taken by the Government to preserve and protect these animals;

(c) whether the Government have received requests from the various State Governments that wild animals like neelgai, monkey, elephant etc., should be excluded from this list of check damage to the lives and crops caused by the such wild animals; and

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

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Killing of all wild animals covered under the Schedule I, II, III & IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is banned, except for special purposes which are specified under Section 11 & 12 of the said act.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to preserved and protect these animals are given in the statement attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Governments have been advised to take action under Section 11 (i) (a) and (b) of the Act to deal with the problem causing animals to safeguard the lives and crops of the people.

STATEMENT**THE MAJOR STEPS TAKEN TO PROTECT WILDLIFE INCLUDE**

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Scheduled I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) Special measures for protection and conservation of tiger, elephants and rhinos and their habitat are being implemented.
- (iii) A network of 441 wildlife sanctuaries and 80 National Parks covering 1,48,000 sq. km. has been set up for conservation of wild flora and fauna. Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for development of national parks and sanctuaries on request from the State Governments.
- (iv) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife animals reaches them.
- (v) International Trade in Endangered Species of animals and articles made thereof is regulated under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- (vi) Regional and Sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mostly at the main export centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wildlife products
- (vii) Interdepartmental coordination has been enhanced with other enforcement organizations like Police, BSF, Customs, ITBP, Coast Guards etc. Training programmes on wildlife enforcement and implementation were also conducted for all these organizations at New Delhi and Dehradun during, 1995.

[English]

Cancellation of Bogie

4073 SHRI K.S. RAYADU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a passenger bogie which comes from Narsapur to Vijayawada and then joined to Hyderabad-Madras Express at Vijayawada has been cancelled;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to restore it, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Population of Wild Animals

4074. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
SHRI SOHAN BEER :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the population of each of the major species of the wild animals in the country including in National Parks and Sanctuaries as per the last three census, State-wise.

(b) whether despite the stringent law, the number of these animals is gradually declining.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to protect these animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Census of some major endangered species are conducted by the states once in four years and in some important protected areas once in two years. The figures for some such major wild animals are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The population of Tiger and Rhino has marginally declined. This decline is due to habitat destruction and poaching for illegal trade.

(d) A number of steps are being taken to safeguard wild animal populations. These include : Providing assistance to the States for development of national parks and sanctuaries; implementing special projects for endangered species such as Tiger, Elephants, Rhino etc; controlling poaching and illegal trade of wildlife through interdepartmental co-ordination and providing antipoaching infrastructure in specified National Parks and sanctuaries within the resources available.

STATEMENT

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | Tiger 1989-1993 | Elephant 1989-1993 | Lion 1990-1995 | Rhinoceros 1989-1993 | Leopard 1989-1993 | Brow Antlered Deer 1992-1995 | | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|------|------|------|----|
| | | | Min. | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Max | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Southern States | 632 | 656 | 632 | 656 | 6750 to 8850 | 12,300 to 15,500 | — | — | 706 | 761 | — |
| 2. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 15 | — |
| 3. | Goa | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 18 | 31 | — |
| 4. | Bihar | 157 | 137 | — | — | 335 | 500 to 600 | — | — | 134 | 203 | — |
| 5. | Mizoram | 18 | 28 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 38 | 49 | — |
| 6. | Uttar Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 199 | 821 | — |
| 7. | Orissa | 243 | 226 | — | — | 1300 to 2000 | 1500 to 2000 | — | — | 279 | 378 | — |
| 8. | Rajasthan | 99 | 64 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 461 | 475 | — |
| 9. | Gujarat | 9 | 5 | — | — | — | — | 284 to 304 | — | 702 | 772 | — |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 417 | 276 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 580 | 417 | — |
| 11. | Haryana | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 19 | 25 | — |
| 12. | Meghalaya | 34 | 53 | — | — | 2750 to 3825 | 2500 to 3000 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 13. | Uttar Pradesh | 735 | 465 | — | — | 725 to 975 | 750 to 1000 | — | 9 | 1095 | 711 | — |
| 14. | Arunachal Pradesh | 135 | 180 | — | — | 2000 to 4300 | 2000 to 3600 | — | — | 121 | 98 | — |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 985 | 912 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2036 | 1700 | — |
| 16. | West Bengal | 353 | 335 | — | — | 155 | 155 to 200 | — | 39 | 108 | 108 | — |
| 17. | Assam | 376 | 325 | — | — | *3500 | 5000 to 6000 | — | 1543 | 123 | 246 | — |
| 18. | Tripura | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 37 | 18 | — |
| 19. | Nagaland | 104 | 83 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 72 | — | — |
| 20. | Sikkim | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 21. | Manipur | 31 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 62 |
| 22. | Jammu & Kashmir | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | — |

* Includes Nagaland Population also.

[Translation]

Coastal Zones Management Plans

4075. DR. B.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry have asked all the State Governments for formulating Coastal Zone Management Plans,

(b) if so, the names of such States which have formulated such plans and sent them to the Union Government for clearance;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Union Government have constituted any sub-committee for the scrutiny of the said plans, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS : (CAPT. JAI NARYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) All the coastal State Governments and Union Territory Administrations were asked to prepare Coastal Zone Management Plans as required by the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification.

(b) Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands, Daman and Diu, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal.

(c) to (e) The Government has set up a Task Force consisting of representatives from the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Urban Development, Department of Ocean Development, National Institute of Oceanography, Central Ground Water Board, Environment Secretary of the concerned coastal State/Union Territory, other experts from various organizations, individuals and

representatives of some NGOs to scrutinize the Coastal Regulation Zone Management Plans.

The Government is now processing the plans in accordance with the requirements and conditions of the Coastal Zone Regulation Notification S.O. 114 (E) dated 19th February, 1991. The plan of the Union Territory of Pondicherry has already been notified by the Union Territory Administration.

[English]

Funds for Pollution Control

4076. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount earmarked and the actual expenditure incurred for the pollution control on each of the schemes during 1995-96, State-wise;

(b) the schemes under which amount was provided during 1996-97;

(c) whether the funds earmarked for the pollution control has remained unutilized;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) There is no specific state-wise funds allocation for pollution control under the various schemes. However, funds earmarked and actual expenditure incurred for the prevention and control of pollution under various schemes during 1995-96 are as under : (Rupees in lakhs)

| Sl. No | Name of the Scheme | 1995-96 | | | |
|--------|--|-----------------|----------|--------------------|----------|
| | | Budget Estimate | | Actual Expenditure | |
| | | Plan | Non-Plan | Plan | Non-Plan |
| 1. | Grants in-aid to Central Pollution Control Board | 373.00 | 460.00 | 373.00 | 465.00 |
| 2. | Reimbursement of water Cess to concerned State Pollution Control Boards/UT Pollution Control Committees. | — | 2500.00 | — | 3500.00 |
| 3. | Assistance for abatement of pollution-Grants-in-Aid to State Pollution Control Boards/UT Pollution Control Committees/States/Institutions for specific schemes, etc. | 182.00 | — | 137.00 | — |
| 4. | Continuation of environmental Monitoring unit (Head Quarters) and Agra Observatory under Agency Scheme. | 5.43 | — | 6.81 | — |
| 5. | Promotion of Common Effluent Treatment Plants Externally Aided Schemes-Grants-in-Aid. | 300.00 | — | 3.55 | — |
| 6. | Pollution Control Projects Externally Aided Schemes (World Bank)-Grants-in-Aid | 135.00 | — | 100.01 | — |
| 7. | Environmental Audit | 10.00 | — | 10.00 | — |
| 8. | Environmental Statistics & Mapping | 10.00 | — | 10.00 | — |
| 9. | Clean Technologies by Small Scale Industries | 10.00 | — | 10.00 | — |
| 10. | Ganga Action Plan Phase-I | 3500.00 | — | 1228.15 | — |
| 11. | Ganga Action Plan Ph-II | 3200.00 | — | 1441.67 | — |
| 12. | National River Conservation Projects (NRCP) | 1200.00 | — | 1570.40 | — |

(b) The funds provided under various schemes for pollution control during the current financial year 1996-97 are as under :

| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme | Budget Estimate 1996-97 | |
|---------|--|-------------------------|----------|
| | | Plan | Non-Plan |
| 1 | Grants-in-Aid to Central Pollution Control Board | 475 00 | 488 00 |
| 2 | Reimbursement of Water Cess to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards/UT Pollution Control Committees | — | 3825 00 |
| 3 | Assistance for abatement of pollution—Grants-in-Aid to State Pollution Control Boards/UT Pollution Control Committees/Stales/Institutions for specific studies, etc. | 130 00 | — |
| 4 | Continuation of Environmental Monitoring unit (Head Quarters and Agra Observatory under Agency Scheme | 6 50 | — |
| 5 | Promotion of Common Effluent Treatment Plants Externally Aided Schemes—Grants-in-Aid | 300 00 | — |
| 6 | Pollution Control Projects Externally Aided Schemes (World Bank)– Grants-in-Aid | 1400 00 | — |
| 7 | Environmental Audit | 10 00 | — |
| 8 | Environmental Statistics and Mapping | 10 00 | — |
| 9 | Clean Technologies by Small Scale Industries | 10 00 | — |
| 10 | Ganga Action Plan Phase-I | 2200 00 | — |
| 11 | Ganga Action Plan Ph-II | 7000 00 | — |
| 12 | National River Conservation Projects (NRCP) | 1400 00 | — |

(c) (d) and (e) In some schemes, funds have remained under utilized. The reasons mainly are due to slow release of matching share by State Governments concerned, delay in clearance of projects by external funding agencies, delay in procurement of equipment by procuring agents, encroachment/non-availability of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) sites, litigations and delay in receipt of proposals from benefitting agencies.

The Central Government is monitoring the performance closely. Interaction with the State Governments and the implementing agencies has been intensified.

Sri Lankan Refugees

4077. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Tamil speaking refugees from Sri Lanka who have arrived in India since the early part of this year,

(b) whether the Government have provided any special funds for the Tamil Nadu Government to look after the refugees,

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to the State Government to verify the antecedents of these refugees,

(d) if not, the reasons therefor,

(e) whether the matter has been taken up with the Sri Lankan Government for deporting these refugees, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) As per information furnished by the Government of Tamil Nadu, a total of 963 Sri Lankan Tamils have arrived in the State since February, 1996.

(b) Sanctions have already been issued to the Government of Tamil Nadu for incurring expenditure on providing relief assistance to Sri Lankan refugees accommodated in refugee camps. The actual expenditure incurred by the State Government is being reimbursed by the Government of India.

(c) and (d) Instructions have already been issued to the Government of Tamil Nadu for interrogating and screening the Sri Lankan refugees before they are admitted to the refugee camps.

(e) and (f) As per the policy followed by Government of India, bonafide Sri Lankan refugees are repatriated to their home country on voluntary basis, without using any force, in consultation with the Government of Sri Lanka.

Combating International Crimes

4078. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have signed any agreement with Egypt to combat the international crimes during October, 95, and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) During PM's visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt in October '95, an Agreement to combat all forms of criminal acts particularly those relating to terrorists, transnational and organized crime was signed. This agreement is aimed to achieve better coordination and cooperation between the two countries so as to effectively deal with the menace of terrorism and organized crime.

The agreement aims at exchange of information about activities and crimes of terrorist groups, their membership, leadership, locations and means of finance and arms they use. Also, it is proposed to exchange information on various methods of anti-terrorist organizations and information pertaining to scientific and technological experience in the field of protection and security of sea, air and rail transportation. In addition, both countries shall be in position to exchange information relating to modern methods and techniques about transnational organized crime combating agencies. The data regarding joint measures to ensure combating of crimes and offences such as money smuggling, smuggling of antiques and art-objects and illegal marketing of vehicles shall be also exchanged.

Travelling Concessions for Senior Citizens

4079 SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to bring down the cut off age for eligibility of senior citizens for travelling in trains to sixty years,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Due to increasing cost of operations and resource constraints, Railways do not propose to extend the scope of concessions, by bringing down the cut off age from 65 years to 60 years.

Railway Recruitment Board

4080 SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Recruitment Board, Patna had invited applications for the posts of Commercial Clerks, Office Clerks, Ticket Collectors etc., vide advertisement number RRB PAT-2-90-91,

(b) whether majority of the selected candidates have not been issued joining letters since the year 1992;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to issue joining letters to the selected candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Due to shrinkage of work in various railway units, surrender of posts and a number of staff being rendered surplus, involving their re-deployment in alternative categories including those for which the selection was held. In view of this it is not possible to fix a target date for issue of offers of appointment.

Computerized Close Circuits

4081 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways propose to instal computerized close circuits at various railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose of installing these computerized close circuits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Railways are contemplating the proposal to instal computerized close circuit TVs at Railway Stations, Yards, Good-Sheds, Parcel Offices and Workshops which are vulnerable to crimes with a view to preventing pilferage of parcels and goods booked by Rail Users as well as other Railway property. The feasibility of the proposal is under examination keeping in view the financial implications and the effectiveness of the system.

[Translation]

Stoppage of Local Trains

4082 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stoppage of local trains at Kochagarah Station (between Telo and Chandrapura) of the Eastern Railway has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons for depriving the people of this area of the rail service;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore the stoppage of local trains at the said station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kochagarah Station was closed to traffic from 28.01.1970 due to meagre traffic offering

(c) and (d) No such proposal at present

[English]

Stop Line Operation

4083 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a campaign 'operation stop line' was launched by the Traffic Police in the capital recently;

(b) if so, the number of vehicles found violating the stop line at various points in the capital;

(c) the action taken against the erring drivers of the vehicles, and

(d) the assessment of the Government about the impact of the campaign on the general traffic?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) (a) Yes, Sir. The campaign was launched with effect from 1.4.1996

(b) 13056 vehicles were found violating the stop line during the period 1.4.1996 to 22.8.1996

(c) The erring drivers have been prosecuted under rule 113(1)/177 of the Delhi Motor Vehicle Rules.

(d) The drive was not only punitive but also educative. Such drives are useful for promoting better traffic sense among the road users.

Indian Supply and Inspection Cadre Services

4084 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the objective for which Indian Supply and Inspection Cadre services have been created in Railways;

(b) whether services of the officers of the said cadre are not being utilized by the Railways;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether these services were created to man the contract management and quality control function and if so, the reasons for entrusting the officers of other cadre services to perform same duties in the Ministry;

(e) whether any purchase policy has been formed by the Ministry of Railways;

(f) if so, the manner in which Government's interest is safeguarded in case firms fail to perform contract in the absence of purchase policy guidelines;

(g) whether there is any case in which Railways have been able to recover risk purchase loss from the defaulter firm; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Sir, such a Cadre does not exist.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The mechanisms through which Government's interest is safeguarded in case the firm fails to perform contractual obligation, are as follows

(i) Imposition of penal clauses, for example, Liquidated damages, Denial Clauses

(ii) Recovery of financial loss due to Risk Purchase action

(iii) Forfeiture of Security Deposit/Bank Guarantee

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Daily Train from Ranchi to Calcutta

4085 SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to run daily train from Ranchi to Calcutta which at present runs thrice-a-week, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 8015/8016 Hatia/Ranchi-Howrah Express already runs as a daily service.

(b) Does not arise

Funds for National Bureau Genetic Centres

4086 SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the allocation made by the Union Government to the various States during the last year for setting up of Collection Centres/Regional Centres of the various National Bureaus of ICAR, State-wise;

(b) whether the amount provided to Uttar Pradesh for the purpose has been utilized;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government further propose to provide the funds to U.P. for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the time by which and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The allocation made by Union Government to the various States during 1995-96 for setting-up of Collection Centers/Regional Centres of the various National Bureaus of ICAR was Rs. 11.42 crores. The detailed break-up is given in statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) Funds are provided Annually after their approval by Parliament

STATEMENT

Statewise details of Allevations made by Union Government/Expenditure incurred during 1995-96

| Name of National Bureaux | Location | State | Plan Allocation/Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|--|-----------|------------------|--|
| National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources | Lucknow | Uttar Pradesh | 401.38 |
| Centre of National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources | Bhowali | Uttar Pradesh | 23.21 |
| --DO-- | Hyderabad | Andhra Pradesh | 18.53 |
| --DO-- | Akola | Maharashtra | 24.19 |
| --DO-- | Cuttack | Orissa | 67.04 |
| --DO-- | Jodhpur | Rajasthan | 14.17 |
| --DO-- | Shillong | N.E.H. Region | 34.46 |
| --DO-- | Shimla | Himachal Pradesh | 20.12 |
| --DO-- | Ranchi | Bihar | 11.78 |
| --DO-- | Trissure | Kerala | 22.42 |
| National Bureau of Soil Survey and land use planning | Nagpur | Maharashtra | 304.21 |
| National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources integrated with National Institute of Animal Genetic | Karnal | Haryana | 200.00 |
| Total : | | | 1141.51 |

[English]

Signalling Services

4087. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have launched a programme to beef up signalling services on the major routes by going in for 'solid state interlocking';

(b) if so, the details of the functioning of this system; and

(c) the extent to which the system would provide fool-proof safety of the trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Solid State Interlocking is a micro-processor based interlocking system. This new system has already been installed at 7 stations on the Railways and procurement action for 43 more stations is in progress.

(c) Solid State Interlocking sub-system is based on proven technology and is fail-safe. In its functioning it provides fool proof safety of trains

Dairy Farming Cooperatives

4088. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any programme to set up the Dairy Farming Cooperatives Societies in the urban areas where these are non-existent for supplying pure milk and dairy products in these areas at reasonable prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds set apart for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) Government has aimed to set up dairy cooperatives in rural areas for production of milk and to link them with urban consumption centres. Under Operation Flood approximately 73,000 village level cooperatives have been established and linked to approximately 700 urban marketing centres throughout the country as at the end of March, 1996.

Reservation of Tickets

4089. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints of irregularities in the reservation of tickets at Bangalore and other Railway Stations in Karnataka have come to the notice of the Government; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to constitute a Special Squad of the Railway Board to monitor the reservation system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Some complaints have come to notice

(b) Central Ticket Checking Squad and Vigilance Special Squad are already functioning in the Ministry of Railways who conduct checks at the stations and in trains to, inter-alia, detect the cases of malpractices in reservations. Besides, checks are also conducted by both Commercial and Vigilance Organizations at the Zonal Railways level also to detect the malpractices in reservations Offices. These arrangements are considered adequate.

Teesta Torsha Express

4090. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demands were received by his Ministry from different sector for providing of AC Sleeper Coach in Teesta Torsha Express and increasing its speed,

(b) if so, the action taken thereon, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some demands have been received in this regard

(b) and (c) It is proposed to provide an A.C. 2nd Sleeper coach on 3141/3142 Teesta Torsha Express during 1996-97. However, speeding up of this train is not feasible at present due to operational constraints.

Occupation of Railway Quarters by Other than the Allotees

4091. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Railway quarters in cities and metropolis are under the occupation of persons other than the allottees;

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

(c) whether any punitive action was taken against the offenders during each of the last three years by the North East Frontier Railway;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*Translation*]

Noise Pollution

4092. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether the noise pollution results in the increase in deafness, heart beat, fluctuation in blood pressure, disorder in digestive system, muscles pull and loss of physical efficiency, and

(b) if so, the measures being taken to control the rising noise pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Excessive noise may cause temporary or permanent hearing loss and physiological disorders depending upon the intensity and duration of exposure.

(b) The steps taken by the Government to reduce noise pollution include the following :

— Noise pollution has been included in the Air (prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Ambient Standards in respect of noise for different categories of areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment at the manufacturing stage.

— A code of practice for controlling noise at source, other than industries and automobiles, has been evolved by the Central Pollution Control Board.

— Steps have been taken for regulating the movement of heavy vehicles and segregating industries from residential areas.

— Environmental awareness campaigns have been launched through governmental and non-governmental organizations.

[*English*]

Boggles of the Trains

4093. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please to state :

(a) whether most of the boggles of the trains running in the country particularly under the Western Railway are in an obsolete condition,

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to replace them with new and good conditioned boggles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) No Sir. No obsolete coaches are running on trains in the country including on Western Railway. The useful economical life of a passenger carrying coach is about 25 years. Therefore, at any given time, coaches of various age profile are running safely on trains. As and when coach becomes uneconomical to maintain, they are withdrawn from service and are replaced by new coaches.

Laying of Railway Line

4094. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey to lay a railway line between Chitradurga and Rayadurga in Karnataka has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the construction work of this long pending railway line would start; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) The construction of Chitradurga-Rayadurga new line has already been completed and opened to traffic on 31.8.94.

Rail Link from Raughat to Jagdalpur

4095. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to connect Raughat to Jagdalpur for extending this railway line for transport of iron-ore from Bailadila to Bhilai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time frame in which this railway line is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of Dallirajahara-Rowghat-Jogdalpur new broad gauge line (235 kms.) has been included in Railway Budget of 1995-96 at an estimated cost of Rs. 369 crores. SAIL will bear the actual cost of construction between Dallirajahara and Rowghat (95 kms.). Work can be taken up after the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and deposit of money by SAIL and other parties. Ministry of Steel are awaiting final clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests to use of Bailadila Mines, and have indicated that they would sign the MOU and release the amount only after the clearance from MOEF is received. The target for completion of the line would be fixed once the work is started.

Construction of Railway Bridge on Ganga

4096. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for construction of Railway bridge over Ganga, connecting Patna and Sonepur is pending for a long time with the Union Government;

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

(c) the reasons for delay in the implementation of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The final location survey and detailed investigations for the bridge has been taken up.

Arms Dropping in Purulia

4097. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the accused involved in the arms dropping case in Purulia have been apprehended;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the objectives of arms dropping have been ascertained;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation, who are investigating the matter relating to arms dropping in Purulia have intimated that the CBI have filed charge sheet against 13 accused persons. Of these 13 persons, 6 are in judicial custody and the remaining 7 persons are absconding. CBI have also arrested one more person from Bihar in June, 1996. He is also in judicial custody.

(c) and (d) The investigation conducted by the CBI so far has revealed that the fire arms etc. were meant for a section of Anand Margis, who are having allegiance to Proutist Universal, which is an Anand Marg Organization. Proutist Universal is having political objectives and has offices in many countries in the world.

(e) Government is alive to the situation and are taking all steps in this regard which include gearing up of intelligence machinery, stricter enforcement of existing regulations by the concerned Departments/Organizations and a closer coordination between the concerned Central and State agencies.

Inferior Quality Rifles

4098. SHRI RAMSAGR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Army Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur has supplied inferior quality rifles to the Border Security Force;

(b) if so, whether Border Security Force has accepted the same without any testing their quality;

(c) the number of rifles supplied to B.S.F. and other security forces and police found to be non-working;

(d) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has adversely remarked against the Home Ministry in this regard, and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Army Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur had supplied 10,000 Nos. of AK-47 rifles each to BSF and CRPF, out of which 196 Nos. and 20 Nos. were found to be defective respectively. As per the directions of the Ministry of Defence, normal inspection procedure of the weapons was dispensed with

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The matter has been taken up with Ministry of Defence to get the defective rifles replaced by the supplier

Development of Coastal Rail Line

4099. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of the coastal railway line between Ernakulam and Kayamkulam via. Alleppey, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) A survey for the proposed coastal line has been taken up. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Parcel Porters

4100. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parcel Porters working under the Labour Cooperative Societies on the Northern Railway have filed cases in High Court/Supreme Court for their absorption as Class IV employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to abolish the contract system totally in Northern and South Eastern Railway to give social justice by way of giving permanent status to the parcel porters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The following cases have been filed in the Supreme Court of India,

(i) Shri Raghavendra Gumastha V/s Union of India and Others—One Petition

(ii) National Federation of Railway Porters, Vendors and Bearers V/s Union of India—Four Petitions.

(iii) The National Federation of Railway Parcel Porters V/s Union of India and Others—One Petition.

(iv) National Federation of Railway Porters through its General Secretary and Others V/s Union of India—Three Petitions

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise.

New Stoppages

4101. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new stoppages of express and other important trains provided at various stations in Kerala during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have received further representations for providing more stoppages of important/Express trains in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) During 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, 6, 6 and 16 additional stoppage of express trains have been provided in Kerala

(b) and (c) A number of representations for stoppages are received at different levels of Railways administrations which are duly examined and action as found feasible and justified is taken

Air Brake System

4102. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of trains running with air brake system, zone-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide air-brake system to some more trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

List Of Mail/Express Air Brake Trains

CENTRAL RAILWAY

1. 1005/1006 Vidharbha Express
2. 1007/1008 Deccan Express
3. 1009/1010 Sinhadgad Express
4. 1021/1022 Indrayani Express
5. 1023/1024 Siddeshwar Express
6. 1025/1026 Pragati Express
7. 1033/1034 Pushpak Express
8. 1063/1064 Chhennai Express
9. 1093/1094 Mahanagari Express
10. 2123/2124 Deccan Queen
11. 2179/2180 Taj Express
12. 1401/1402 Panchvati Express

EASTERN RAILWAY

1. 2303/2304 Poorva Express
2. 2381/2382 Poorva Express
3. 2311/2312 Kalka Mail
4. 2391/2392 Magadh Express
5. 3029/3030 Coalfield Express
6. 3035/3036 Howrah-Asansol Express
7. 3133/3134 Sealdah-Mughalsarai Express
8. 3467/3468 Vikramshila Express
9. 3317/3318 Black Diamond Express
10. 3419/3420 Jansewa Express

NORTHERN RAILWAY

1. 2401/2402 Sharmjeevi Express
2. 2403/2404 Puja Express
3. 2413/2414 Delhi-Jaipur Express
4. 2417/2418 Prayagraj Express

5. 2419/2420 Gomti Express
6. 2471/2472 Jammu Tawi-Bombay
7. 2473/2474 Jammu Tawi-Ahmadabad Express
8. 2475/2476 Jammu Tawi-Rajkot Express
9. 2477/2478 Jammu Tawi-Hapa Express
10. 2497/2498 Shan-E-Punjab Express
11. 4001/4002 Delhi-Attari Express
12. 4003/4004 Nizamuddin-Agra Express
13. 4057/4058 Kashi Vishwanath Express
14. 4085/4086 Haryana Express
15. 4227/4228 Varuna Express
16. 4659/4660 New Delhi-Amritsar Express
17. 4229/4230 Lucknow Mail

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

1. 2553/2554 Vaishali Express
2. 5207/5208 Amritsar-Barauni Express

NORTH EAST-FRONTIER RAILWAY

1. 5621/5622 North East Express

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

1. 2615/2616 G.T. Express
2. 2621/2622 Tamil Nadu Express
3. 2639/2640 Brindavan Express
4. 2675/2676 Kovai Express
5. 6303/6304 Vanchinad Express
6. 6089/6090 Yelagiri Express
7. 6341/6342 Ernakulam-Trivandrum Express
8. 6307/6308 Ernakulam-Cannanore Express
9. 6673/6674 Cheran Express
10. 6053/6054 Madras-Tirupati Express
11. 6057/6058 Saphthagiri Express

S.C. RAILWAY

1. 7001/7002 Hussainsagar Express
2. 7007/7008 Godavari Express
3. 7031/7032 Hyderabad-Mumbai Express

4. 7059/7060 Charminar Express
5. 2723/2724 Andhra Pradesh Express
6. 7405/7406 Krishna Express

S. E. RAILWAY

1. 2841/2842 Coromandal Express
2. 2859/2860 Geetanjali Express
3. 2821/2822 Bhauli Express
4. 8007/8008 Howrah-Puri Express
5. 8013/8014 Steel Express

WESTERN RAILWAY

1. 2903/2904 Golden Temple Mail
2. 2925/2926 Paschim Express
3. 2955/2956 Jaipur-Mumbai Express
4. 2961/2962 Avantika Express
5. 9101/9102 Gujarat Mail

(c) Following Mail/Express trains are proposed to be converted into air-brake during 1996-97 depending upon availability of coaches from Production Units

1. 2307/2308 Howrah-Jodhpur Express
2. 2801/2802 Purushottam Express
3. 5659/5660 Kamrup Express
4. 6519/6520 Bangalore-Guwahati Express
5. 6045/6046 Navjeevan Express
6. 5645/5646 Dadar-Guwahati Express
7. 4055/4056 Brahmaputra Mail
8. 9055/9056 Sayaji Nagari Express
9. 2927/2928 Vadodara-Mumbai Express
10. 9031/9032 Kutch Express
11. 9005/9006 Mumbai-Okha Mail
12. 9107/9108 Mumbai-Ahmadabad Janta Express
13. 9129/9130 Vadodara-Ahmadabad Express
14. 3143/3144 Darjeeling Mail
15. 2625/2626 Kerala Express
16. 7015/7016 Vishakha Express
17. 6525/6526 Bangalore-Kanniyakumari Express
18. 2607/2608 Lalbagh Express
19. 2933/2934 Karnavati Express

Own Your Wagon Scheme

4103. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have planned to adopt a new marketing strategy which would include revision of the 'Own Your Wagon Scheme' to make it more customer-oriented;

(b) if so, the broad features of this new marketing strategy; and

(c) the rationale behind leasing out of brake van space to customers, leasing of wagons under Own-Your-Wagon-Scheme on the long-distance special parcel services between Mumbai-Delhi, Delhi-Howrah and other sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) This is a continuing exercise and interactive meetings are being held with existing and potential users at regular intervals to make the Own Your Wagon Scheme more "customer oriented"

(c) With a view to augment railway revenues and provide reliable and efficient service as well as better customer satisfaction, Railways have introduced a scheme of leasing of brake van space and parcel vans selectively on various sections. There is no scheme to lease-out the wagons under 'Own Your Wagon Scheme' for parcel traffic.

[Translation]

Automatic Machines for Tickets

4104. KUMARI UMA BHARATI
SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install automatic machines for issuing platform tickets at Railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of the places where such machines are likely to be installed;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on their installation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) There is proposal to provide 20 automatic coin operated Self Printing Ticket Machines for issue of platform tickets by Northern Railway at New Delhi, Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin stations. The cost of each machine is about Rs. 54,000/-

Daily Running of Mahamaya Superfast

4105. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representation has been received by the Government to run the Mahamaya superfast train between Nizamuddin and Bilaspur daily; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found feasible or desirable due to operational and resource constraints besides adverse public reaction at Nagpur.

Railway Quarters in Delhi

4106. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is lack of basic amenities in the railway quarters of Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of amount allotted for maintenance of railway quarters in Delhi till date during the last three years and the works on which the amount has been spent; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government for providing basic amenities such as electricity, water, roads as well as their maintenance in the railway quarters of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Out of about 10,000 quarters in Delhi, 486 quarters lack in basic amenities.

(b) These are old and non-standard quarters.

(c) An amount of Rs. 13.70 crore have been spent during the last 3 years on various works relating to white washing, re-flooring, re-plastering, repairs to leaky roofs and roads, maintenance of lawns and parks; improvement to water supply and drainage system; and provision of basic amenities in the quarters.

(d) Electricity, water and roads have already been provided and periodically maintained in the railway colonies of Delhi. Besides this, works of provision of basic amenities in 379 non-standard quarters have been included in the Works Programme, 1996-97.

[English]

Pilferage of Foodgrains

4107. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :
DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of pilferage of foodgrains and other commodities from the railway wagons at New Guwahati station during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any investigation has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the number of persons arrested in this connection; and

(d) the corrective measures being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) A statement giving the number of cases registered by RPF, the value of stolen and recovered property as well as the number of arrests made in connection with thefts/pilferages of foodgrains and other commodities from wagons at New Guwahati Railway Station during the last three financial years, that is, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 is enclosed.

The arrested persons were prosecuted under the provisions of the RP (UP) Act and out of them, 8 persons were convicted in the court of law and others are facing trial.

(d) The following corrective measures are being taken to prevent such pilferages :

(i) The New Guwahati Yard is guarded by the RPF round the clock.

(ii) Surprise raids and ambush checks are conducted to apprehend the miscreants.

(iii) Patrolling by dog squad is undertaken.

(iv) Collection of criminal intelligence by CIB is done with a view to track down the criminals and receivers.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the number of cases registered by RPF, value of stolen and recovered property as well as the number of arrests made in connection with thefts/pilferage of foodgrains and other commodities from wagons at new Guwahati Railway Station for the last three Financial Years.

| Year | Commodities | No. of Cases | Value of Property (Rs.) | | No. of arrests |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | | Stolen | Reco- -vered | |
| 1993-94 | Food grains | 5 | 6465 | 6400 | 9 |
| | Other commodities | 2 | 3800 | 3800 | 7 |
| 1994-95 | Food grains | 1 | 200 | 200 | 1 |
| | Other commodities | 5 | 41300 | 8000 | 9 |
| 1995-96 | Food grains | 6 | 1717 | 1710 | 14 |
| | Other commodities | 1 | 4500 | — | — |
| Total for 3 Fin. years | Food grains | 12 | 8375 | 8350 | 24 |
| | other commodities | 8 | 49600 | 11800 | 16 |

[Translation]

Loss to Crops Due to Locust

4108. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI O P. JINDAL :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the locust and worms have caused heavy loss to the standing crops of the farmers in Delhi and its surrounding areas of the Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the extent of loss caused to the standing crops;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action to check the attack of locust worms;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have provided any compensation to the farmers for the loss caused to the crops; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) There is no incidence of locust attack on the crops in Delhi and its surrounding areas of Uttar Pradesh. However, recently 3119 ha. area under fodder crops has been attacked by grasshopper in Meerut Division of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Department of Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh has undertaken plant protection measures over the grasshopper affected areas of Meerut Division. These measures were preceded by an awareness campaign launched by the State Government to educate the farmers about effective remedial measures. Suitable steps had also been taken to ensure adequate availability of pesticides.

(e) and (f) In view of reply to part (c) and (d) above, question does not arise.

[English]

Demand of Agricultural Produce

4109. SHRI DARBARA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is great demand of the Indian Agricultural Produce/fruits;

(b) if so, the details thereof item-wise and commodities exported during each of the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to produce and export more such products; and

(d) the details of incentives the Government propose to give to farmers for the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The commodities namely basmati rice, spices, horticulture produce, vegetables and fruits have shown considerable increase in exports. The details may kindly be seen in the enclosed statement.

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of Fruits a Centrally sponsored scheme on integrated development of tropical, arid zone and temperate fruits is being implemented.

Under this scheme incentives are provided for small nurseries, tissue culture units, training of farmers and area expansion.

(d) To boost exports the simplification of inspection procedures, removal of quantity restrictions on some items, concessional credit, product development to meet international needs, extension of benefits under the scheme of 100% export oriented units/export processing zones to agricultural sector, air freight subsidy on selected floricultural and fresh vegetables to specified destinations, provision of cold stores at airports, financial assistance to eligible exporters under various plan schemes etc. are the important steps taken by Government. In addition, participation in international trade fairs, arranging buyers-sellers meetings, organizing market development campaigns, assisting in product development and improving packaging and quality certification are the other steps taken by the Government to boost the exports.

Further the National Horticulture Board Provides assistance for marketing, handling, processing infrastructure facilities for domestic and export markets.

STATEMENT*Quantity & Value of Exports of Principal Agricultural Commodities Including Marine Products*

| Sl No. | Items | 1990-91 | | 1991-92 | | 1992-93 | | 1993-94 | |
|--------|--|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| | | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value |
| 1. | Pulses | — | — | — | — | 34.31 | 53.44 | 43.60 | 73.59 |
| 2. | Rice Basmati | 505.03 | 461.57 | 266.53 | 499.18 | 324.79 | 800.64 | 527.23 | 1061.26 |
| 3. | Rice (other than Basmati) | — | — | 411.93 | 256.41 | 255.62 | 174.96 | 565.19 | 225.46 |
| 4. | Wheat | 139.47 | 31.13 | — | — | 36.75 | 10.21 | 0.39 | 0.21 |
| 5. | Other cereals | 7.31 | 2.77 | 0.90 | 0.46 | 17.06 | 10.16 | 148.32 | 34.02 |
| | Sub-Total (2-5) | | 495.47 | | 756.05 | | 995.97 | | 1320.95 |
| 6. | Tobacco Unmfg | 69.96 | 193.43 | 68.77 | 314.11 | 70.61 | 355.57 | 90.49 | 368.26 |
| 7. | Tobacco Mfg. | 17.13 | 69.96 | 15.47 | 62.92 | 17.65 | 118.47 | 14.18 | 92.95 |
| | Sub-Total (6-7) | | 263.39 | | 377.03 | | 474.04 | | 461.21 |
| 8. | Spices | 103.00 | 233.94 | 141.85 | 372.13 | 128.71 | 393.42 | 182.33 | 568.91 |
| 9. | Cashew | 49.82 | 446.95 | 70.05 | 675.53 | 62.66 | 748.66 | 78.47 | 1048.20 |
| 10. | Sesame & Niger Seeds | 62.52 | 91.34 | 59.59 | 102.48 | 67.70 | 116.22 | 39.05 | 73.51 |
| 11. | Groundnut | 49.57 | 56.06 | 3.61 | 7.34 | 4.34 | 7.72 | 254.21 | 170.63 |
| 12. | Oilmeals | 2447.77 | 608.50 | 2958.06 | 921.38 | 3678.84 | 1545.29 | 4837.28 | 2323.92 |
| 13. | Castor oil | 42.66 | 66.14 | 90.84 | 139.70 | 68.23 | 117.39 | 138.91 | 289.30 |
| 14. | Shellac | 6.96 | 17.55 | 5.68 | 25.70 | 5.01 | 41.07 | 5.97 | 65.47 |
| 15. | Sugar & Molasses | 191.04 | 37.56 | 445.71 | 157.25 | 485.10 | 353.51 | 204.53 | 178.08 |
| 16. | Horticulture/Floriculture | — | 7.87 | — | 14.80 | — | 14.91 | — | 18.84 |
| 17. | Fruits & Vegetables | — | 213.25 | — | 348.98 | — | 312.42 | — | 414.34 |
| 18. | Processed fruits and juices | — | 60.39 | — | 88.34 | — | 119.76 | — | 155.60 |
| 19. | Misc. processed items | — | 152.30 | — | 102.19 | — | 108.44 | — | 128.42 |
| 20. | Meat & preparations | — | 139.84 | — | 230.74 | — | 257.11 | — | 344.52 |
| 21. | Marine Products | 158.88 | 960.01 | 190.19 | 1442.72 | 210.49 | 1743.15 | 257.98 | 2551.89 |
| 22. | Cotton raw & waste | 374.36 | 845.85 | 160.34 | 305.94 | 63.74 | 181.78 | 312.56 | 653.59 |
| | Total : | | 4696.41 | | 6068.30 | | 7884.29 | | 10810.97 |
| | Country's Total Exports | | 32553.34 | | 44041.81 | | 5388.26 | | 69748.85 |
| | % Share of agricultural exports in Country's Total Exports | | 14.43 | | 13.78 | | 14.69 | | 15.54 |

(p) Provisional

STATEMENT*Quantity & Value of Exports of Principal Agricultural Commodities Including Marine Products*

| Sl No | Items | 1994-95 April-March | | 1994-95 April-March | |
|----------|---|------------------------|----------|------------------------|-----------|
| | | Qty. | Value | Qty | Value |
| 1 | Pulses | 50.51 | 90.41 | 61.20 | 131.79 |
| 2 | Rice Basmati | 442.13 | 865.32 | 392.26 | 851.16 |
| 3 | Rice (Other than Basmati) | 448.50 | 340.47 | 5120.34 | 3701.85 |
| 4 | Wheat | 86.63 | 42.34 | 617.21 | 360.90 |
| 5 | Other Cereals | 84.24 | 28.03 | 28.05 | 17.15 |
| | (Sub total 2-5) | | 1276.16 | | 4931.06 |
| 6 | Tobacco Unmfg. | 42.91 | 184.13 | 61.52 | 297.31 |
| 7 | Tobacco Mfg. | 10.82 | 70.62 | 9.91 | 68.51 |
| | (Sub total 6-7) | | 254.75 | | 365.82 |
| 8 | Poultry and Dairy Products | | 48.83 | | 54.53 |
| 9 | Floriculture Products | | 30.84 | | 57.80 |
| 10 | Spices | 154.95 | 612.24 | 211.52 | 785.89 |
| 11 | Cashew (incl. CNSL) | 80.25 | 1247.09 | 98.30 | 1232.18 |
| 12 | Sesame and Niger seed | 59.57 | 141.73 | 82.66 | 258.15 |
| 13 | Ground Nut | 51.12 | 101.32 | 100.95 | 224.35 |
| 14 | Oil Meals | 4150.05 | 1797.84 | 4327.82 | 2350.55 |
| 15 | Castor Oil | 184.64 | 441.28 | 264.28 | 733.77 |
| 16 | Shellac | 4.58 | 46.86 | 6.08 | 63.32 |
| 17 | Sugar and Mollases | 51.08 | 62.16 | 731.46 | 503.55 |
| 18 | Fruits/Vegetable seeds | 3.54 | 22.98 | 6.66 | 40.26 |
| 19 | Fresh Fruits | | 188.75 | | 230.47 |
| 20 | Fresh Vegetables | | 247.98 | | 312.04 |
| 21 | Processed Vegetables | | 79.14 | | 134.11 |
| 22 | Process Fruit Juices | | 169.44 | | 212.95 |
| 23 | Misc. Processed items | | 112.60 | | 544.20 |
| 24 | Meat and Preparations | | 402.73 | | 627.00 |
| 25 | Marine Products | 320.91 | 3536.64 | 311.54 | 3384.25 |
| 26 | Cotton Raw including waste | 70.75 | 139.76 | 37.02 | 206.10 |
| | Total : | | 11051.53 | | 17384.09 |
| | Country's Total Exports | | 82673.40 | | 106464.86 |
| | % Share of Agricultural exports in National Exports | | 13.37% | | 16.33% |

Source : DGC & S Report—March 1996

Setting Up of New Unit of CRPF

4110. SHRI SURESH KODIKUNNIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a new unit of CRPF in Kerala near Calicut;

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

(c) whether the land has been transferred for the purpose;

(d) whether there is any difficulty in transferring the proposed place; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Government of Kerala has allotted 96.5 acres of land free of cost, at Calicut, in which there are some encroachment by private parties. The State Government is trying to clear these encroachments.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960

4111. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had decided about 5 years back to bring amendments/revision to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960;

(b) if so, the reasons for not making revision in the said Act till now; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be revised and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes Sir, a proposal for amendment to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 was mooted by this Ministry in 1990.

(b) and (c) The draft proposal prepared by Animal Welfare Board of India after detailed discussion with various Non Governmental Organizations and others, was circulated to State Governments/UTs for their comments/concurrence. While several states provided their concurrence/views, comments from others could not be received.

To expedite the matter, a meeting of the concerned Secretaries from State/UTs was called on 6.8.1996. The draft is under revision in the light of the said discussion. After legal vetting of the document, the proposal will be referred to Inter State Council for subsequently moving a cabinet note. In completing the formalities, 6-12 months of time period is likely to be required.

Investigation of Purulia Arms Drops

4112. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether three teams of the CBI headed by Joint Director Visited eight countries to investigate the Purulia arms drops case;

(b) if so, whether all the teams have submitted their reports; and

(c) if so, the main points of the inquiry reports and the action taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) Central Bureau of Investigation have intimated that only one officer of the rank of Joint Director had visited two countries i.e., United Kingdom and Denmark in connection with investigation of the case relating to Purulia Arms Drops. The visit to United Kingdom was at their official request received through the Indian High Commission on U.K.

(b) As per Central Bureau of Investigation, the report on the visit to United Kingdom and Denmark has been submitted.

(c) The Central Bureau of Investigation have intimated that the visit has expedited the execution of Letters Rogatory issued by the Calcutta Court in the United Kingdom and Denmark, clarifications sought by the Foreign Authorities were furnished on the spot. Information of interest relating to the case has been collected by examined, with the concerned Interpols. All Co-operation, assistance and follow up actions were assured by the concerned authorities. After the execution of the Letters Rogatory in full, the concerned countries will report their findings to the issuing Court, i.e., Calcutta Court about the results of such investigation in the respective countries.

Trains between Madras and Mysore

4113. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to connect Madras and Mysore by direct ordinary trains with first class/AC coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the same are likely to be implemented; and

(d) the likely cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Introduction of train services is a continuous process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, resource availability and traffic justification. The passengers travelling between Madras and Mysore have to avail changeover at Bangalore where convenient connections are available. There is no plan at

present to introduce a direct ordinary train between Madras and Mysore due to operational and resource constraints besides lack of traffic justification.

(d) Does not arise.

Modernization of Railway Stations

4114. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated layout for the expansion/modernization of the Railway Stations in Hubli and Bangalore and the total expenditure incurred thereon upto 30th March, 1996;

(b) the estimated amount likely to be spent for the purpose during the year 1996-97; and

(c) the details of the proposed expansion and modernization of the Railway Stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Expansion/modernization of railway stations is a continuous process and is undertaken, as and when so warranted, by the increase in the volume of passenger traffic subject to the availability of funds and relative priorities.

Hubli and Bangalore stations have already been provided with the facilities commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic handled at these stations.

At Bangalore City railway station, a work of provision of escalators for subway on platform no. 1, 5 and 6 is in progress. The expenditure on this work upto March, 1996 was Rs. 50 lakh and the outlay for 1996-97 is Rs. 106 lakh.

At Hubli, no work is proposed to be undertaken at present.

[Translation]

Theft by Smack Drug-Addicts

4115. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an increase in the incidents of theft by the smack drug-addicts in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) According to the Delhi Police, 101 cases of theft by the drug addicts were reported in Delhi during the current year (upto 31.7.1996) as against 74 such cases during the corresponding period of last year.

(c) The steps taken by the Delhi Police to prevent such incidents include, inter-alia, strict surveillance at the airport, ISBTs and railway stations, strict vigil in other vulnerable areas, a close watch over suspected drug traffickers/peddlers in various colonies, patrolling, laying of traps, introduction of Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, etc.

Prawn Culture

4116. DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the places where prawn culture has been started in Orissa by the Central Government, State Government and the private parties;

(b) whether external assistance has been availed by the Government as well as the private parties to promote prawn culture in the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Prawn culture activities have been undertaken by private entrepreneurs in potential brackishwater areas available all along the Orissa Coast. No commercial prawn culture is undertaken by the Central or State Governments.

(b) and (c) A World Bank assisted Shrimp and Fish Culture Project is being implemented in five States including Orissa from May, 1992. 90% of the project cost has been provided as soft loan by the World Bank. A net brackishwater area of 871 hectares has been included under this project at Jagajore-Banapada, Bideipur and Narendrapur sites along with support services at an estimated cost of Rs. 62.41 crores. The support services for which assistance is given to private entrepreneurs include shrimp hatcheries, feed mills, IQF Plants, etc.

Subsidy to the Farmers

4117. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the subsidy being extended to the farmers in the country as compared to the farmers in USA and other developed countries;

(b) whether subsidy extended to our farmers has declined gradually;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken for providing subsidy at par with the other developed countries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The estimates of producer subsidy equivalent (net of input subsidies and out

put taxes) as percentage of value of agricultural production as worked out by Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for 1990 and that in an article published in Economic and Political Weekly (EPW) September 26, 1992 are given below :

| Country | Producer subsidy equivalent as percentage of value of Agricultural Production | |
|---------|---|------|
| | OECD | EPW |
| Japan | 68 | 72.5 |

| | OECD | EPW |
|-----------|------|------|
| EC | 48 | 37.0 |
| USA | 30 | 26.2 |
| Canada | 41 | 33.5 |
| Australia | 11 | 10.3 |
| India | — | -2.3 |

(b) and (d) The subsidies on fertiliser, irrigation and electricity have exhibited a rising trend as is evident from the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Details of Subsidies to Agricultural Sector

(Rs. in crore)

| Sl. No | Item | 1992-93 (Actuals) | 1993-94 (Actuals) | 1994-95 (Actuals) | 1995-96 (RE) | 1996-97 (B.E.) |
|---|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Subsidy to Agricultural Sector through inputs | | | | | | |
| 1. | Fertilizer (Total) | 5796 | 4562 | 5772 | 6735 | 8372 |
| | 1.1 Indegenous Fertilizer | 4800 | 3800 | 4075 | 4300 | 4500 |
| | 1.2 Imported Fertilizer | 996 | 762 | 1166 | 1935 | 1648 |
| | 1.3 Sale of decontrolled fertilizer with concession to farmers | — | — | 531 | 500 | 2224 |
| 2. | Electricity ** | 1927 | 2408 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 3. | Irrigations*** | 5235 | 5945 | 6828+ | N.A. | N.A. |

Note :

N.A. Not Available as these are provided in the State budgets.

** Electricity includes all subsidies to electricity boards and corporations. Seperate estimates of electricity subsidy accountable exclusively to agricultural sector is not available.

*** The rates for supply of water to farmers are kept low as a matter of policy, resulting in losses to the Government irrigation system. The excess of operating costs over the gross revenue is treated as imputed irrigation subsidy.

+ Quick Estimates

(b) Be proposed in the Central budget.

Price of Pentoxypylline

4118 DR BALIRAM : Will the Minister OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which BICP recommend price of Pentoxypylline and Lynestrenol formulations to the Ministry and the prices recommended;

(b) the prices fixed by the Ministry; and

(c) the prices charged for the formulation packs by the leading companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) The prices of the formulations based on the bulk drug Pentoxypylline were recommended in the 40th Meeting of the DPRC Sub-Committee held on 12.4.96 and prices were fixed for these formulations on 30.8.96 as under :

| Sl. No. | Name of the formulation and Strength | pack size | Price fixed (Rs.) |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Pantoxypylline 400mg SR. Tabs. | 10's Strip | 24.14* |
| 2. | Pentoxphyllin Inj/20 mg. | 15 ml Amp. | 5.22* |

* (SO No. 598 (E) dactet 30-8-1996)

The prices of formulations based on the bulk drug Lynestrenol were recommended in the 28th Meeting of the DPRC Sub-Committee held on 23.11.1995 as non ceiling-price in respect of M/s. Infar (Formerly M/s. Organon India Ltd.). The prices recommended were as follow :

| Sl. No. | Name of the Formulation | Pack size | Price recommended |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. | Lyndiol Tabs. | 22's | 7.40 |
| 2. | Lyndiol Tabs. | 21's | 7.04 |
| 3. | Orgalutin Tabs. | 10's | 7.12 |
| 4. | Orgametril Tab. | 10's | 13.20 |

(b) The recommendations were not approved as they were based on the available data in the absence of the notified price for the bulk drug. The BICP Report recommending the price of the bulk drug Lynestrenol has been received on 25.7.1996. Notifications of bulk drug price and consequently of formulations based thereon will follow.

(c) The market price of the formulations based on the bulk drugs Pentoxiphylline and Lynestrenol charged by the leading manufacturers are available in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Penoxphylline

| Sl No | Name of the Formulation/Strenght | Pack Size | Name of the Company | Price as per Drugs Today (Jan-March) |
|----------------------|---|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <i>Penoxphylline</i> | | | | |
| 1. | Erytal/400 mg Tabs. | 10's | Recon | 58.50 |
| 2. | Flexital/400 mg Tabs. | 10's | Sun Pharma | 58.86 |
| 3. | Flexital Inj./20 mg/ml | 15ml | —do— | 11.09 |
| 4. | Flopent/400 Inj./20 mg/ml | 10's | knoll | 59.84 |
| 5. | Flopent Inj./20 mg Tabs. | 5 × 15m/Amp | —do— | 72.00 |
| 6. | KnietaI 400/400 mg | 10's | Protec/Cipla | 58.00 |
| 7. | KnietaI Inj./20 mg per ml | 15ml | —do— | 14.39 |
| 8. | R B Flex /400 mg Tab. SR | 10's | Tide | 53.30 |
| 9. | RB Flex Inj/20mg/ml | 15ml/Amp | —do— | 11.70 |
| 10. | Trental/400 mg Tabs | 10's | Hoechst | 59.84 |
| 11. | Trental Inj./100+35mg Sod. Chloride per 5ml. | 15ml | —do— | 14.40 |
| <i>Lynestrenol</i> | | | | |
| 1. | Lyndiol Lirnenol Ethinlostradiol/0.5 mg Tabs. | 22's | INFAR | 13.50 |
| 2. | Orgametril Lynestrenol Inj./0.5 mg. | 10's | —do— | 26.30 |

[Translation]

Pilferage of Iron

4119. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a large scale pilferage of iron from locomotive engine repair shed at Kota;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the pilferage to iron;

(c) whether tonnes of iron was seized from the shops of the junk dealers during the police raids; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, RPF staff is deployed for patrolling round the clock.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that on 12.6.96, a raid was conducted by RPF/Kota when iron scrap materials worth Rs. 85,000/- were recovered with the arrest of one junk dealer and two of his associates. A case in crime No. 26/96 dated 12.6.96 under the provisions of the RP(UP) Act has been registered by RPF/Kota against the accused.

[English]

Investment on Gauge Conversion

4120. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investment on gauge conversion has exceeded the Eighth Plan provision;

(b) if so, the amount of plan provision and the amount actually spent; and

(c) the plan heads from which the funds were diverted and the impact of such diversion on such essential operating requirements like track renewal repairs and maintenance of rolling stock, wagon procurement etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The plan provision was Rs. 3900 crores which was increased to Rs. 4300 crores in consultation with the Planning Commission, by adding the credit obtained from the sale of scrap amounting to Rs. 400 crores. Against this the expenditure in the first four years and the outlay for the current year including credits is Rs. 4713.92 crores.

(c) The additional funds requirement have been met out of savings in other plan heads as per the actual expenditure and not by diversion of funds at the cost of other essential operating requirements.

[Translation]

Expansion of Rail Network

4121. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts in Bihar not yet connected with adequate rail service,

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the expansion of rail lines in Bihar;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Godda, District of Bihar has not yet been connected with rail line.

(b) to (d) Construction of a new line between Sakri and Hassanpur has been taken up. Besides the following surveys for new lines have been or are proposed to be taken up in Bihar :

1. Ranchi-Gaya via Hazaribagh
2. Rajgir to Hisua
3. Giridih and Koderma
4. Hazipur to Sagauli via Vaishali
5. Muzaffarpur-Sitamardi
6. Khagaria to Kusheshwarasthan
7. Darbhanga to Saharsa
8. Bhaptiai to Nirmali
9. Kursela to Seharsa via Bihariganj
10. Banmankhi to Kishanganj
11. Nirmali to Saharsa
12. Madhepura to Jogbhani via Trivaniganj
13. Dehri-on-Sone Barwadih
14. Chunar-Sasaram
15. Barwadih-Chirmiri

[English]

4122. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the painful and fatal tests being carried out on the animals in the country to test the effects of chemicals used in the manufacture of cosmetics;

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

(c) whether during the test large doses of a specific chemicals are forced into the stomach of the animals leading to their deaths;

(d) if so, the utility of such tests;

(e) whether Government are considering to issue directions to all manufacturers of cosmetics operating in India to carry the message on each packet of their product as 'Not used on Animals';

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Drugs and Cosmetics rules formulated by the Bureau of Indian Standards, provide for mandatory testing of cosmetics on animals under Schedule 'S'. A list of such tests is placed in the enclosed statement.

(c) The tests are required to be performed as per the specific norms prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards;

(d) These tests are performed to evaluate the effects of chemicals in the cosmetic items for ascertaining possible harmful effects on human beings;

(e) to (g) The issue is under examination by the Committee for the Purpose of Controlling and Supervising Experiments on Animals.

STATEMENT

Table—1

Tests to be carried out on particular types of cosmetics

| Sl. No. | Test | Type of Products |
|---------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 2. | 3. |
| 1. | Primary skin irritation test | Skin and hair products |
| 2. | Skin sensitization test | Skin, hair production, dentifrice, mouth wash |
| 3. | Oral toxicity limit test | Dentifrice, mouth wash |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|--|--|
| 4 | mucous membrane irritancy test (a) Eye irritancy test (b) oral mucous irritancy test | Shampoos and eye area cosmetics Dentifrice, lipsticks, and mouth wash |
| 5 | Systemic dermal toxicity test | Skin cream only |

Additional test for novel speciality chemicals :

- A. Phototoxicity (Photo-irritancy, photo-allergy) tests
- B. Mutagenicity tests
- C. Teratogenicity tests

Tests B & C (carcinogenicity test) may not be necessary

Human carcinogens identified by IARC monograph 1992 *must* be strictly kept out of all cosmetic formulations

Funds for Flood Relief

4123 SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the fund sanctioned by the National Relief Committee for heavy rains and floods in October, 1995 has been released to all the States.

(b) if so, the time by which and the amount provided to the State Governments, State-wise.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken for the early release of funds?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Funds aggregating Rs. 104.00 crores approved by the National Calamity Relief Committee as assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) to the six States in the wake of floods of September-October, 1995 have been released on 23rd August, 1996. The State-wise details are as under :

| Sl No | State | Funds Released from NFCR (Rs. in Crores) |
|---------|-------------------|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 21.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 10.00 |
| 3. | Bihar | 21.00 |
| 4. | Meghalaya | 10.00 |
| 5. | Rajasthan | 21.00 |
| 6. | West Bengal | 21.00 |
| Total : | | 104.00 |

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

Derailment of Train

4124 SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Gorakhpur 5078 Dn Hatia Express has derailed on 20.5.96 at the Dumari-Juara halt and its 13 compartments slipped away from the track;

(b) whether any inquiry was conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the defaulters; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) This accident is being enquired into by a committee of officers, and the report of enquiry committee is awaited

[Translation]

Survey in Chhota Udaipur Region

4125 SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether any survey was conducted for laying the Dabhai-Miyagam railway line under the Western Railway

(b) whether the work approval has been given in this regard so as to start the work,

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which laying work of this railway line is likely to be completed,

(e) whether allocation has been made for the purpose, and

(f) if not, the time by which the allocation is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) A survey for conversion of the line has been included in the budget 96-97.

(b) to (f) Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

[English]

Insurgency in North East

4126 SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commanding officer of the 16th Maratha Light Infantry and some other officers were killed by the N.E. insurgents during 1994;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry to identify the chinks in the armour was conducted;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(d) the measures taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) The Acting Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. K.B. Poonacha, of the 16th Maratha Light Infantry and a Jawan were killed on December 27, 1994 at Mokokchung by Naga insurgents.

(b) to (d) There are no chinks in the armour as such. However, the insurgents take advantage of the difficult hilly terrain, jungles and other factors to launch attacks on security forces/police. The insurgency situation is under constant watch and close review. The whole area of Nagaland was declared as 'disturbed area' in April 1995 to deal with the situation.

[Translation]

Special Employment Scheme for Fishermen

4127 SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided to the States under Special Employment Scheme during 1989-90 and 1990-91 in the country, state-wise ;

(b) whether fish ponds were constructed to promote fishery under the Special Employment Scheme ;

(c) if so, the total amount provided to Uttar Pradesh for the purpose ;

(d) whether the works were done according to the standard of the scheme and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether any inquiry is proposed to be conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Funds were provided to the States by the Central Government under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) but no funds were provided for Special Employment Scheme. Pisciculture was one of the activities for which funds under the JRY could be utilised by the states. However, funds were not separately released for this activity. It is also learnt from the Government of Uttar Pradesh that the state Government had provided Rs. 319.41 Lakh for establishment of 12 Fisheries Estates in 11 districts of Uttar Pradesh in 1991-92 under Din Dayal Development Scheme, now renamed as Ambedkar Vishesh Rozgar Yojna.

(d) The works were done in general according to the plans and 256 fish ponds were constructed with 128 hectares of water area. 221 borings have been done of which 212 are shallow borings. 8 are deep borings and one is a deep tubewell.

(e) Question does not arise.

[English]

Metro Railway Calcutta

4128 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Metro Railways has started functioning in Calcutta;

(b) the number of occasions on which the Metro Railway caught fire till date, and whether after fire the routes were closed for hours together;

(c) the reasons for repeated occurrence of the fire incidents;

(d) the reasons for not trying to detect the fault behind these fire incidents;

(e) steps taken by Government to get the fault rectified once for all; and

(f) the time by which the fault would be got rectified permanently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) I.

(i) One case of fire in the Metro train.

(ii) Two cases of fire in the undergear of empty coaches, and one incident of fire in the cable joint in the tunnel.

II. Interruption to through services varied between one hour 30 minutes to six hours 35 minutes. Truncated services were, however, maintained.

(c) Failure of equipment and sabotage.

(d) Coaches are regularly inspected as per schedule

(e) and (f) The fires which have occurred so far could not be attributed to any single type of fault. Inspection and maintenance of coaches has been improved to avoid recurrence.

Gauge Conversion

4129. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of Ahmedabad-Delhi Metre Gauge Rail link converted into Broad Gauge;

(b) whether some conversion work is still to be executed;

(c) if so, the details thereof and

(d) the time by which the complete gauge conversion of the said route would be done and the same would become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 444 Kms between Delhi-Ajmer and 52 kms between Ahmedabad-Mahesana sections have been converted into broad-gauge.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 423 Kms of Ajmer-Mahesana section is yet to be converted into broad gauge.

(d) By February, 1997.

[Translation]

Payment to Cotton Growers

4130. SHRI DATA MEGHE :
SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the outstanding dues of the cotton growers have not been paid till date in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for immediate payment of the dues to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As of date the entire payment of the dues to the cotton growers has been made in Maharashtra by the Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) did not procure cotton under price support operation during the last three years in rest of the country. There is no outstanding dues to the CCI for the earlier period.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Conversion of Rail Line

4131. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conversion work for the Bangalore-Meeraj rail line is going at a very slow pace;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the conversion work is likely to be completed by the end of 1997; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) Gauge Conversion work between Bangalore-Miraj has already been completed and the constructed BG line has been opened to traffic on 29.05.95.

Freedom Fighter Pension

4132. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the benefits the Government propose to provide to Freedom Fighters' children besides the ones they are presently getting,

(b) whether the Government propose to provide free medical care service to them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the schemes formulated or likely to be formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to provide other benefits to the Children of the Freedom Fighters besides the ones they are getting.

(b) and (c) Freedom Fighter Pensioners and their dependants are already provided free medical facilities in all Central Government Hospitals and Hospitals under the Control of Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE). C.G.H.S. facilities have also been extended to them. As such, there appears to be no need to formulate separate scheme for their medical care and expenses to be borne by the Government.

Amendments in CRZ Notification

4133 SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by Kerala as a result of the Coastal Management Plan of his Ministry imposing severe restrictions on the construction works in the coastal area;

(b) whether the Government are considering to take necessary steps to amend the provisions of the CRZ Notification issued by Ministry on August 16, 1994 in this regard and formulate guidelines to suit Kerala's interests; and

(c) if so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c) The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests imposed restrictions on setting up and expansion of

industries, operations or processes etc., in the Coastal Regulation Zone. Some activities are declared as prohibited and for regulating permissible activities the coastal stretches within 500 m of high tide line are classified into four categories namely CRZ-I, CRZ-II, CRZ-III and CRZ-IV. Construction activities in different categories of CRZ areas shall be regulated as per norms of notification. Structural adjustment in developmental planning may be required accordingly. During discussions held, Kerala Government has expressed some difficulties in implementing the provisions of notification. At this stage no proposal is under consideration of Government for amending the notification with specific reference to Kerala.

Postponement of Out Agency

4134 SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the opening of an Out Agency at Bijanbari in Darjeeling district has been postponed;

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

(c) the measures taken by the Government to compensate the delay in the opening of an Out Agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). An Out Agency was slated to be opened at Bijanbari on 9.8.96. But the same had to be postponed in view of complaints from leading citizens of the locality against the proposed out agent. Further action will be taken by the Railways on the basis of the report submitted by the joint investigating team nominated for the same. Compensation for the delay does not therefore arise at this stage.

Pollution by Thermal Power Stations

4235 SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has recently been conducted by an independent agency to assess the pollution impact of thermal power stations in the major metropolitan cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which this pollution is caused by the defective quality of coal with high fly-ash content supplied by the Coal India limited and its subsidiary companies; and

(d) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c) According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, coal based thermal power stations are among the major polluting sources in metropolitan cities. The Indian coal presently supplied to all

thermal power plants has an ash content varying from approximately 35 to 45 per cent. The process of utilizing such a high ash coal would affect the ambient air and water quality due to emission of fly-ash and its disposal on land if adequate preventive and control measures are not adopted. Further, use of such poor quality coal affects the efficiency of boilers as also increases the coal consumption as also auxiliary power consumption.

(d) The corrective measures taken by the Government include the following :

(i) All thermal power plants have been directed to comply with the prescribed standards on a time-bound basis. Besides, while issuing clearance to new plants, the Government stipulates a number of pollution control measures and environmental safeguards. Further, the power plants are required to utilize fly-ash to the maximum extent possible.

(ii) The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to a number of thermal power plants which have not yet provided adequate pollution control measures.

(iii) Government has sanctioned two projects for setting up of non-coking coal washeries at Bina (Singrauli Coalfields, Piparwar (North Karanpura Coal fields).

(iv) Coal India have called for promotion of private entrepreneurs, both Indian as well as foreign, through global tenders for setting up of non-coking coal washeries under Build-Own Operate Scheme.

(v) Steps have been initiated for checking quality control of coal despatches.

Fish Culture

4136. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any restrictions have been imposed on the inland fish culturing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of brackish water fish culturing now being carried on in Kerala and their annual fish production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) An area of 14,657 ha. is reported to have been brought under brackish water culture in Kerala in 1995-96. 9,000 metric tonnes of shrimp was produced in Kerala in 1995-96.

Printing of Reservation Slips

4137 DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are considering to print reservation/cancellation slips in all the regional languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Instructions already exist for Zonal Railways that each Reservation/Cancellation forms/slips for public use should invariably be printed bilingually in Hindi and English in Hindi speaking areas and also in the concerned regional language in non-Hindi speaking areas on the same sheet or reverse.

[Translation]

Over bridge

4138 SHRI KACHARU BHADRAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether people have demanded for construction of an over bridge on Lasalgaon Railway Station (Nasik) in Maharashtra, and

(b) the details of the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Railway consider construction of Road Over Bridges in replacement of busy level crossings for which the proposals are sponsored by State Government giving the priority. There is no proposal for construction of a Road Over Bridge at Lasalgaon.

[English]

Foreign Contribution to Voluntary Organizations

4139 SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the foreign contribution received by the voluntary organizations is misused by them;

(b) if so, the machinery that exist to check such misuse; and

(c) the amount of contribution and the name of countries from which the funds were received during each of the last three years by these organizations?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The associations permitted to receive foreign contribution are required to submit annual returns in the prescribed form giving the details of receipt and utilization

for specific purposes/programmes. A Monitoring Unit set up by the Government monitors the receipt of foreign contribution, submission of returns by Associations and undertakes inspections, wherever required. If any complaints of violation of the provisions of the Act came to notice or any such violation is noticed during scrutiny of accounts or inspection, action is taken wherever required, under the provisions of the Act against defaulting associations.

(c) The amount of foreign contribution and the name of countries from which the funds were received as reported by associations/organizations under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are contained in the copies of annual reports for these years regarding 'Receipt of foreign contribution by voluntary associations' which are available in the Parliament Library.

Rail Coach Factory in Kerala

4140 SHRI KODIKUNNI SURESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have received any memorandum from Chief Minister of Kerala for setting up of a coach factory in Kerala, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are two coach manufacturing units with Indian Railways, one at Madras and one at Kapurthala. Each factory can manufacture about 1000 coaches per year. In addition, there are two factories in the Public Sector that are capable of manufacturing coaches.

With the available coach manufacturing capacity in the country, there is no justification to set up another coach manufacturing unit.

Misutilization/Diversion of Central Funds

4141 SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any machinery to oversee the proper utilization of Central funds provided to the State Governments for the implementation of Centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have noticed some cases of misutilization and diversion of these funds given for the implementation of soil conservation scheme by the States during the last two years till date;

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

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Utilization of funds in respect of Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is done by the implementing agencies of the States. The State Governments have their own mechanism for overseeing utilization of funds.

There is no direct supervision by the Central Government for utilization of funds. The supervisory mechanisms of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation include :

(i) Asking for utilization certificate before more funds are released.

(ii) Asking for physical achievements periodically.

(iii) Discussion with State Government representative during Kharif/Rabi Conference and Zonal Inputs Conferences.

(iv) System of Area officers meetings where one senior officer of the Department is allotted a particular State and he has in depth discussion with the representative of that State regarding implementation of schemes at regular intervals.

(v) Visit of officers of the Department to the States wherein discussion are held with representative of States and at time site visits are also undertaken

(c) to (e) During the last two years no cases of misutilisation/diversion of funds in respect of Soil Conservation Schemes has come to the notice of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation

[Translation]

Dairy Development in Rajasthan

4142 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the purpose for which National Dairy Development Board took over the management of the Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation and the date of its taking over,

(b) whether the purpose for which it was taken over has been fulfilled.

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

(d) the names of the Dairies being operated in the State under the National Dairy Development Board and the profit earned and loss incurred by them separately during the last three years;

(e) whether the liabilities of the Dairy Federation have increased after its taking over by the NDDB;

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

(g) whether the Dairy Development programme and the interests of Milk Producers have suffered a set-back due to present management of NDDB; and

(h) if not, the future schemes of NDDB in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) On the request of the Government of Rajasthan, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) took over the management of the Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF) and its affiliated unions on 14 1992 with a view to improve its overall physical and financial working.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) A Statement indicating status of key activities of Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF) from 1992-93 to 1995-96 is enclosed statement-I.

(d) All the dairies which were earlier working under the RCDF and its affiliated unions are now working under the control of the NDDB. The details of provisional profit and loss during the last three years is enclosed statement-II.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Various unions and the RCDF had been granted loans under Operation Flood Project by the NDDB since 1979-80. As per the terms of the loan these are re-payable in 30 half yearly instalments over a period of 15 years after an initial moratorium of 5 years. Since the RCDF and the unions have been facing a liquidity crunch, it has not been possible to repay the loan in instalments since March 1991. RCDF had to take further short term loan from NDDB after March, 1991 for its day to day business. Since RCDF was not able to repay the loan, the interest on the loan increased, thereby increasing the liability of the federation.

(g) and (h). No, Sir. The Dairy Development Programme and the interest of the milk producers have not suffered any set back. On the contrary milk procurement from the farmers has been going up. NDDB proposes to rehabilitate the unions with major emphasis on milk procurement and marketing of liquid milk and milk products thereby increasing the turn over and decreasing the over head expenses through rationalization of manpower and through human resources and skill development.

STATMENT—I
Statement Indicating Status of Key Activities of Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation

| Sl. No. | Status Summary | | 95-96 | 94-95 | 93-94 | 92-93 | |
|---------|--|---------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| | Milk Unions : | | | | | | |
| | | | Status of Key Activities | | | | |
| 1. | Milk Procurement | | | | | | |
| | Average/Day | TLPD | 420 | 302 | 372 | 332 | |
| | Total | Lac LT | 1536 | 1102 | 1358 | 1213 | |
| | Dairy Plants : | | | | | | |
| | | | Milk Handling & Disposal | | | | |
| 1. | Total Milk Handled | T Kg | | | | | |
| | Unions owing D. Plants | | 156898 | 114678 | 139096 | 129789 | |
| | with CHLG. Facility | | 21131 | 14905 | 20278 | 18820 | |
| | Cap. UTIL (DPs) | | 48% | 35% | 42% | 40% | |
| | | | Milk Sales & Bulk Supplies | | | | |
| 2. | Local City Sales | T Kg | 84869 | 72299 | 62433 | 60371 | |
| | Average/Day | TLPD | 232 | 198 | 171 | 165 | |
| 3. | Milk Supplies to NMG | T Kg | 43989 | 35712 | 42947 | 25705 | |
| | Average/Day | TLPD | 120 | 98 | 118 | 70 | |
| | Total Liquid Sales | TKG | 128858 | 108011 | 105380 | 86076 | |
| | Average/Day | TKPD | 352 | 296 | 289 | 235 | |
| | | | Milk Products Prod & Sale | | | | |
| 4. | Production | | | | | | |
| | Ghee | MT | 2906 | 1832 | 2685 | 2654 | |
| | SMP/WMP | MT | 2081 | 1120 | 2511 | 3217 | |
| | Butter | MT | 128 | 88 | 222 | 68 | |
| | APS (Tetrapack) | T Lt | 2135 | 1725 | 2130 | 1251 | |
| 5. | Sales | * | | | | | |
| | Ghee | MT | 2093 | 1913 | 3891 | 2722 | |
| | SMP/WMP | MT | 1258 | 1567 | 2392 | 1658 | |
| | Butter | MT | 105 | 87 | 292 | 60 | |
| | APS (Tetrapack) | T Lt | 2155 | 1775 | 1935 | 1168 | |
| | Cattlefield Plants | | Feed Production & Sales | | | | |
| 1. | C F Production | MT | 46299 | 51863 | 40725 | 33991 | |
| | Cap Util | (%) | 39% | 43% | 34% | 28% | |
| | C F Sales | MT | 46518 | 52255 | 40585 | 33355 | |
| | Dairy Co-operative Society (DCS) | | | | | | |
| | Registered | DCS | Nos. | 4926 | 4764 | 4659 | 4568 |
| | Pouner | DCS | Nos. | 2967 | 2959 | 2910 | 2949 |
| | PDCS/CC | | Nos. | 820 | 684 | 518 | 535 |
| | Milk Procurement : | | | | | | |
| | Average/Day | TLPD | 420 | 302 | 372 | 332 | |
| | Total | LAC LT. | 1536 | 1102 | 1359 | 1213 | |
| | Average Per Func. DCS | LPD | 142 | 102 | 128 | 113 | |
| | Amt Paid to Producers | LAC Rs | 10854 | 6259 | 6876 | 6215 | |
| | Membership : | | | | | | |
| | Membership Registered | Nos. | 370150 | 362780 | 360572 | 354170 | |
| | Members Supplying Milk | Nos. | 137105 | 141989 | 154987 | 151617 | |
| | AV. Milk Procured/Func. MEM | LPD | 3.06 | 2.13 | 2.40 | 2.19 | |
| | Input Activity : | | | | | | |
| | DCS Covered Under AI (Single/Clusters) | Nos. | 752 | 824 | 711 | 823 | |
| | AI Done (Total) | Nos. | 83649 | 87531 | 101784 | 121412 | |
| | of Distribution | MT | 36753 | 45347 | 35627 | 31254 | |
| | Av. Feed Per Kg/Milk | GMS | 239 | 411 | 262 | 258 | |

STATEMENT-II

Statement indicating provisional net profit/loss for Unions and Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation

(Amount in Rs. '000)

| Union | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Alwar | -17389 | -10559 | 5660 |
| Bikaner | 7408 | 6442 | 4526 |
| Ganganagar | -7478 | -4254 | 53 |
| Churu | -3257 | 1982 | -501 |
| Tonk/SWM | 2300 | 2659 | 1673 |
| Ajmer | -17400 | -4494 | 1969 |
| Bhilwara | 1078 | 2770 | 5218 |
| Jaipur | -3578 | 1052 | 64 |
| Jodhpur | -9447 | -8852 | -8660 |
| Pali | 1095 | 1272 | 1426 |
| Bharatpur | -4522 | -4563 | - |
| Kota | -4756 | -5057 | -3234 |
| Jalore | -9764 | -2115 | -3460 |
| Udaipur | 919 | 67 | 369 |
| Sikar | 1082 | 1318 | 1719 |
| Banswara | -1305 | 1132 | -664 |
| Total | -88784 | 40164 | 12074 |
| RCDF | -34179 | 64798 | -62024 |
| Grand Total | 122963 | -104962 | -74098 |

[English]

Electrification of Rail Lines

4143. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to electrify the Kota-Nimach and Kota-Bina rail sectors in Rajasthan,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is, no proposal at present to electrify Kota-Nimach and Kota-Bina sections in Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Electrification projects are capital intensive, as such, only those broad gauge routes over which the traffic density is high and the return on investment is not less than the minimum prescribed are considered for electrifications. Kota-Nimach and Kota-Bina sections do not qualify for electrification at present.

External Commercial Borrowings

4144. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railways had decided to go in for External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) worth hundred million dollars in June, 1995,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the achievement likely to be derived from such external borrowings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) The Government had approved of US\$ 70 million to be raised by Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. through External Commercial Borrowings during 1995-96 for the purpose of import of capital goods by the Ministry of Railways.

(c) External Commercial Borrowings helped Indian Railway Finance Corporation in mobilizing borrowings which were otherwise not becoming available in the domestic bonds market.

Rehabilitation of BOX wagons

4145. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Box Wagons required to be rehabilitated by the Indian Railways,

(b) the action being taken for their rehabilitation

(c) whether there is any scarcity of Box wagons, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Box wagons on Indian Railways carry bulk commodities. Loading of corrosive commodities, mishandling of these wagons on tippers and mechanical loaders and also concentrated impact loading on steel mills cause them to suffer higher corrosion and damages. Some of the Box wagons, therefore, need extensive repairs around their mid-life. Such repairs commonly known as rehabilitation are undertaken based on their condition, arisings and residual life in the nominated workshops of Railways. This activity started in the year 1992-93 and a total of 2789 wagons have been rehabilitated upto 1995-96.

(b) The activity of rehabilitation of Box wagons is continuing during 1996-97. Provision for rehabilitation of 900 wagons has been made in the Railway Budget 1996-97.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Maintenance of Electric Locos

4146. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any plan to start maintenance of all type of electric locos including high power locos at Asansol Electric Loco Shed;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Asansol is not the main origination/terminating point for Mail/Express trains and is, therefore, not a suitable place for maintenance of all types of electric locomotives including high horse power locos

Vacant Railway Land

4147. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the projects proposed by the Ministry to utilize vacant railway land in Rayagada, Municipal area of the South-East railway;

(b) the total land available for use of the Railways

(c) whether the Rayagada Municipal Authority, some individual and the evicted shop owners had approached for granting some vacant land on lease, due to the construction of over bridge, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) None, Sir.

(b) About 94 acres.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The request was not agreed to as the land is required for Railway's future expansion and developmental works. Moreover, as per extant policy, leasing/licensing of land for purposes not connected with the Railway working is banned

Looting by Anti-Social Elements in Ratlam-Dahod Section

4148. SHRI SOMJI BHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are instance that the Guards are bitten/looted by the antisocial elements in Ratlam-Dahod section of the Western Railway;

(b) if so, the action has been taken by the G.R.P. and R.P.F. to provide them safety; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) The registration, investigation and prevention of crime in the trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (G.R.P.), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. Information relating to Section-wise or Zone-wise figures of Crimes is not maintained by the Central Government. The Central Government, however, provides guidance and financial assistance to States for strengthening their enforcement machinery.

[*Translation*]

Naxalites Terrorism

4149. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the naxalites terrorism affected districts in the country, State-wise,

(b) the names of the districts of those States where the FIR in the incidents of the murders, abduction and burning of houses and farms have been lodged during the last three years,

(c) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Bihar Government for the modernization of the Bihar Military Police and police forces,

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government propose to grant sanction to the said proposal; and

(f) if so, the time by which the same it is likely to be accorded; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The information is being obtained from State/Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House

(c) to (g) During December, 1994, a proposal seeking financial assistance of Rs. 12.86 crores was received from the Government of Bihar. The assistance was sought to procure vehicles, arms, ammunition etc. Due to non-availability of any approved funds, no special assistance could be released to the Government of Bihar. However, under the scheme for modernization of police forces, the following funds have been released to the State:

| Year | Amount released (in lakhs) |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 1992-93 | 233.120 |
| 1993-94 | 284.000 |
| 1994-95 | 116.560 |
| 1995-96 | 308.120 |
| 1996-97 | 116.560 |

Construction of Over-Bridge

4150. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for the construction of an over-bridge on the Dharamshala railway bridge in Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any survey had been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in construction through.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Export of Forest Wealth

4151. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of forest wealth exported from Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years; and

(b) the foreign exchange earned by the Government thereby during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Forest produce is sold through public auction to highest bidder. Once the material is handed over to the purchaser, no record is maintained as to where and how the produce is utilized. Therefore it cannot be said with certainty the quantity of forest wealth which is exported from Uttar Pradesh. However, as per EXIM Policy 1992-97 the export of wood and wood products in the form of logs, timber, stumps, roots, bark, chips, powder, flakes, dust, pulp and charcoal is prohibited as per the entry at S.No. 7 of the negative list of exports, Part I, Para 158.

[English]

M/s Span Motels

4152. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has recommended de-leasing of forest land acquired by M/s Span Motels Private Limited on the banks of river beas in the Himachal Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Pursuant to the directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Central Pollution

Control Board constituted a Committee. The Committee has submitted its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 12-6-1996. One of the recommendations made by the Committee in its report refers to the de-leasing of forest land acquired by M/s Span Motels Private Limited. The matter is sub-judice.

World Bank Assistance for Railways

4153. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approached World Bank to provide assistance for the development of Railways;

(b) if so, the amount received from World Bank during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 till date, and

(c) the details of the works for which the amount thus received would be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Railways received assistance from the World Bank as under :

1994-95—US \$ 25 620 million

1995-96—US \$ 7 500 million

1996-97—US \$ 2 324 million

(c) Railways received assistance for the Third Rail Modernization Project for rehabilitation, modernization of track on heavy density routes of Indian Railways and procurement of track machines like Tie Tamper, Ballast cleaner, Track stabilizer and Points-Crossing layer.

Railways have also received an advance from Project Preparatory Facility of the World Bank to meet the cost of Project Preparatory Studies for rail components of Mumbai Urban Transport Project II. These studies are (i) Financial and Institutional study for combined suburban rail operation in Mumbai; (ii) System Planning study and development of Simulation Model for Mumbai suburban system; (iii) Study to develop specification for Re-manufacture of existing EMUs of Mumbai suburban system; (iv) Study for conversion of DC to AC traction in Mumbai suburban services, respectively.

Model Railway Stations

4154. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for developing some railway stations as Model railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such stations declared and converted into Model Railway Stations so far, State-wise;

(c) whether any such station has been converted in Gujarat State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which any of the station declared in the State is proposed to be converted into a model railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e) In the year 1986, a scheme was introduced to develop some railway stations as model stations. Under the scheme, 67 stations were selected. Works at 3 stations were dropped due to gauge conversion and only 64 stations were developed as such on the Indian Railways.

This scheme has since been discontinued

Railways do not maintain the information State-wise.

Railway Projects in Vidarbha Region

4155. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of new projects were announced as package for the people of Vidarbha Region in Maharashtra during 1995-96, and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the development projects being launched in Vidarbha region and actual provision of funds made therefor during the current year, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. No such package was announced

(b) Does not arise.

Rakes for Coal Movement

4156. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal based industries in the country especially Thermal Power Stations are experiencing great difficulty for want of adequate allotment of rakes for the coal movement from the pit-heads;

(b) whether there has been an unmanageable backlog at pit-heads due to non-availability/non-allotment of rakes for the coal movement; and

(c) if so, the additional steps being taken by the Railway authorities to clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Travelling Zoos

4157. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of travelling zoos in the country;

(b) whether these travelling zoos have been found congenial for the conservation of wild life;

(c) whether these travelling zoos are legal and have the requisite permission from the Central Zoo Authority; and

(d) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The total number of travelling zoos in the country as per the record held in the Central Zoo Authority is 23.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The 23 travelling zoos which had applied for recognition to the Central Zoo Authority, 19 zoos have been evaluated by the Central Zoo Authority. Out of these, 17 zoos have been refused recognition and have been directed to deposit scheduled animals being held by them to recognized zoos. 1 zoo has been asked to show cause as to why its recognition should not be refused. 1 zoo has been evaluated recently and is also being issued a show cause notice. The remaining 4 zoos have already stopped operation.

Konkan Railway Project

4158. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Konkan Railway Corporation has approached some foreign banks for the funds needed for completion of Konkan Railway, and

(b) if so, the details and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. Konkan Railway Corporation has obtained Ministry of Finance sanction for raising a loan of 30 million US \$ through external commercial borrowings. The same is being syndicated by the Bank of America.

(b) The syndication is under process and is yet to be finalized.

Electrification of Broad Gauge Line

4159. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for electrification of broad gauge line upto Rohtak,

(b) whether there is any proposal to start any new DMU train on this line from Delhi to Rohtak;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the time by which such train is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no proposal for electrification of Broad Gauge line upto Rohtak, however the line from Delhi to Shakurbasti which is a part of Delhi-Rohtak section is already electrified.

(b) to (d) Diesel Push-Pull services have been started on Delhi-Rohtak (one pair) and Delhi-Rohtak-Jind (one pair) sections w.e.f. 15.8.96.

[Translation]

"Mess" Employees

4160. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry propose to regularise the services of mess employees working in the Regional Training Schemes, Muzaffarpur and other places,

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Pakistanis in Indian Jails

4161. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Pakistani in Indian Jails and the number out of them arrested in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the number of arrested Pakistanis who have completed their term of imprisonment and are waiting for their repatriation;

(c) whether some Pakistani women have been arrested on the charges of being spies and agents of ISI of Pakistan;

(d) the number of women out of them arrested in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Broad Gauge Conversion

4162. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have included the conversion work of Ajmer-Mahesana and Marwar Junction-Jodhpur railway lines and also Bandi Kui-Agra Fort metre gauge railway lines into broad gauge lines in the new rail budget of 1996-97.

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating by the total amount sanctioned for the said purpose,

(c) the time by which the said conversion work is proposed to be commenced and expected to be completed; and

(d) the reasons for which conversion work of these lines has not yet been started and targets not yet achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) The works are already in progress. The sanctioned cost and outlay in the budget 96-97 is as under :

| Name of the Project | Cost | Outlay | Target Date |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | (In thousands of Rs.) | |
| Ajmer-Mahesana | 447,08 00 | 178,00,00 | Feb '97 |
| Jodhpur-Marwar | 58,00 00 | 50,00,00 | Feb '97 |
| Agra Fort | 88,73,00 | 60,10,00 | Dec '97 |
| Bandi Kui | (87,00,00 under bolt) | (60,00,00 under Bolt) | |

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Construction of Foot Over Bridge

4163. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a foot-over-bridge on the railway lines near Railway station on Bombay sub-line in view of the public demand; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Following works of construction of Foot Over Bridges for passengers/public are in hand/under planning in Bombay suburban section :

1. Charni Road Station : Construction of Foot Over Bridge in replacement of existing Foot Over Bridge. Work in progress.

2. Dadar : Construction of Foot Over Bridge in replacement of existing central Foot Over Bridge. Work in progress.

3. Andheri : Foot Over Bridge in replacement of existing Foot Over Bridge on North side. Work in progress.

4. Bhayandar : Construction of a new Foot Over Bridge to connect platforms at the centre. Work in progress.

5. Bhayandar : Construction of a Foot Over Bridge South of Bhayandar station for use of public on request of Mira-Bhayandar Municipality. Work in planning stage.

6. Mira Road Station : Construction of a new Foot Over Bridge to connect platforms. Work in hand.

7. Dadar Station : Construction of an additional Foot Over Bridge. Work under progress.

8. Kurla Station : Construction of a new Foot Over Bridge. Work in progress.

9. Kalwa Station : Construction of a Foot Over Bridge for use of public on request of Thane Municipal Corporation. Work is in planning stage.

10. Parsik Tunnel : Construction of 2 metre wide Foot Over Bridge for use of public on request of Thane Municipal Corporation. Design of the Foot Over Bridge is in hand.

11. Nerul Station : Construction of Foot Over Bridge on Mankhurd-Belapur Railway line on the request of CIDCO. CIDCO yet to submit detailed drawings and estimate.

Renovation of Overbridges

4164. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether overbridges of Barrackpore Railway Station are to be renovated during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. The foot over bridges are structurally sound and do not need renovation.

(b) Does not arise.

Development Plan for NAVI-Mumbai

4165. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Development Plan for NAVI-Mumbai has been launched;

(b) if so, details thereof, project-wise;

(c) the funds allocated therefor and present status of each of the project;

(d) the time likely to be taken for their completion, project-wise, and

(e) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to expedite early clearance of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

| Sl No | Name of the Project | Year of W.P. | Sanctioned Anticipated cost | Expd Upto 31-3-96 | Outlay for 96-97 | Remarks and Target date |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Extension of railway line from Mankhurd to Belapur with a bridge across Thane Creek and ancillary facilities on the Harbour Branch. | 1983-84 Rly. Share = CIDCO's | 440.86 145.48 295.38 | 377.66 144.48 233.18 | 47.11 1.00 46.11 | Section commissioned on 16-6-93 and residual works in progress. Target : Mar. 1997. |
| Works Sanctioned During 1995-96 | | | | | | |
| 1. | Thane-Turbhe-Nerulvashi part of corridor No. 2 in Bomaby | 1995-96 (Rly. CIDCO) | 403.39 131.47 271.92 | 3.00 3.00 — | 25.00 25.00 — | Work under progress. Target : March 1999. |
| 2. | Belapur-Panvel Commuter double line as a part of West-East Corridor. | 1995-96 (Rly. CIDCO) | 279.83 92.34 187.49 | 8.00 8.00 — | 24.12 24.12 — | Work under progress. Target : March 1999. |
| Works Sanctioned During 1996-97 | | | | | | |
| 3. | Seawood-Uran double line | 1996-97 (Rly. CIDCO) | 401.81 129.87 271.94 | — — — | 1.00 1.00 — | Estimate is yet to be sanctioned. Target : March 2000. |

Construction of Fly Over

4166 SHRI K S RAYADU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a fly over at P P Road Railway Level Crossing in Palakollu town, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh,

(b) if so, the contribution of the Union Government in this regard, and

(c) the time by which the funds are going to be released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 2.20 crore approx.

(c) On Andhra Pradesh Government claiming reimbursement as per extant rules.

[Translation]

Unloading of Wheat and Rice at Burhanpur

4167 SHRI NANDKUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the year-wise quantity of wheat and rice of FCI unloaded at Burhanpur station in Madhya Pradesh during the period from 1 April, 1991 to 31 March, 1996,

(b) whether the quantity of the unloaded wheat and rice was found less than the original weight at the station during the said period,

(c) if so, the total loss suffered by the railways as a result thereof,

(d) whether any officials were found responsible for the loss, and

(e) if so, the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) year wise wheat and rice of FCI unloaded at Burhanpur :

In Tonnes

| Year | Quantity Unloaded | | Quantity Short | |
|---------|-------------------|--------|----------------|------|
| | Wheat | Rice | Wheat | Rice |
| 1991-92 | 5825 | 414.24 | Nil | 1.13 |
| 1992-93 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 1993-94 | 42384 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 1994-95 | 19858 | 1962 | 276.86 | Nil |
| 1995-96 | 54787 | Nil | Nil | Nil |

In 1991-92, one claim was registered for shortage of 1.13 tones Rice and this was repudiated on the ground that 'Said to Contain' Railway Receipt was issued and Forwarding Station Seals intact, wagon received at destination. In 1994-95, one claim was registered for 0.86 tones wheat and this was also repudiated on the ground that 'said to contain' Railway Receipt was issued and forwarding station seals intact wagon received at destination.

(c) Nil

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise

Rail Linkages for Port Towns

4168 SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) name of the States who have submitted proposals to the Union Government regarding "Rail linkages for Port Towns" as on 30th September, 1995.

(b) whether any proposal has also been received from Gujarat in this regard.

(c) if so, the progress made so far in this regard especially with regard to Gujarat, and

(d) the reasons for the delay in this regard, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Gujarat, Karnataka, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Based on the demand from the Gujarat Government, a survey for providing rail links to Alang and Pipavav ports has been taken up.

(d) Does not arise.

Construction of Over bridge

4169. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether people have demanded for the construction of an over bridge at Nandgaon Railway Station in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action is being taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) Construction of Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 114-A at Km. 285/2-4 at Nandgaon has been included in the Railway's Works Programme of 96-97 at a cost of Rs. 167.79 lakhs (Railway's share—Rs. 97.71 lakhs and State Government's share—Rs. 70.08 lakhs).

11.14 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till twelve of the clock.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock

(Mr Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) . Please speak one by one. Let Shri Jaswant Singh speak... (Interruptions) Please sit down. Please speak one by one. (Interruptions)

[English]

12.03 hrs

At this stage, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatia and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER . Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

12.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad for 1992-93 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-404/96]

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 1993-94, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Allahabad Museum Society, Allahabad, for the year 1993-94
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-405/96]

Annual Accounts, Audit Report thereon and Review by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust for 1994-95 along with statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) On behalf of Shri T.G. Venkataraman : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table .

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963 :

(i) Annual Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon;

(ii) Review by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust for the year 1994-95.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No LT-406/96]

Notification under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 and Notification under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy of the National Human Rights Commission (Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts) Recruitment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 175 in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1996, under sub-section (3) of section 40 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, together with a corrigendum thereto (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 352(E) dated the 5th August, 1996

[Placed in Library, See No LT-407/96]

(2) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Inspector (Hindi and English versions) Recruitment Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 800(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1995 under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-408/96]

Notification under sub-section (2) of section 43 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table .

(1) A copy of the Notification No. VC/CAU/14 (Establish)/93 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 1996 approving the first Ordinance regarding the establishment and management of the College of fisheries at Lembuchera in Tripura made by the Vice-Chancellor of Central Agricultural University, Imphal under sub-section (2) of section 43 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-409/96]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Smith Stainstreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta for 1994-95 alongwith statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : On behalf of Shri Sis Ram Oia : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Smith Stainstreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95

(ii) Annual Report of the Smith Stainstreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, See No LT-410/96]

Annual Reports and Review by the Government of the workings of the Bal Bhavan Society India, New Delhi, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi and Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi for 1994-95 etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : On behalf of Shri Muhi Ram Saikia : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bal Bhavan Society India, New Delhi for the year 1994-95.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Bal Bhavan Society India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bal Bhavan Society India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, See No LT-411/96]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library, See No LT-412/96]

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-413/96]

(7) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 18 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 :

(a) (i) Annual Report of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the period from 1988 to 1991

(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the period from 1988 to 1991.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-414/96]

(b) (i) Annual Report of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the period from 1991 to 1993.

(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the period from 1991 to 1993.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-415/96]

(c) (i) Annual Report of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

(ii) Review by the Government of the working of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-416/96]

(8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub section (4) of section 19 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act 1987 :

(i) Annual Accounts of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the period from 1988 to 1991 together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-417/96]

(ii) Annual Accounts of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the period from 1991-1993, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Annual Accounts of the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-418/96]

(9) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) and (8) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-419/96]

(10) (a) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1994-95

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-420/96]

(b) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Karagpur, for the year 1994-95

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kaharagpur, for the year 1994-95

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-421/96]

(c) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1994-95

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1994-95

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-422/96]

(11) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Indian Institute of Technology Act 1961 :

(i) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-423/96]

(ii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-424/96]

(iii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Khanpur for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-425/96]

(12) Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) and (11) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-426/96]

(13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1994-95

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundations, Auroville, for the year 1994-95, together with Audit Report thereon

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 1994-95.

(14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-427/96]

(15) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Tibetan Schools Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.

(16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-428/96]

(17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Bhopal, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Bhopal, for the year 1994-95

(18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-429/96]

(19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) Technical Teachers Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Chandigarh, for the year 1994-95.

(20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-430/96]

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95

(22) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (21) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-431/96]

Notification under section 199 of the Railways Act 1989.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

a copy of the Railways Red Tariff (54th Amendment) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 267(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th July 1996, under section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-432/96]

14.04 hrs.

[English]

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha

'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on Friday, the 12th July, 1996 adopted the following motion in regard to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit :

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted for the purposes set out in the motion adopted by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th July, 1996 and resolves that this House do join in the said Joint Committee and proceed to elect, in accordance with the systems of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, five members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Joint Committee'

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee

1. Shri Gaya Singh
2. Shri Bhagaban Majhi
3. Shri Sitaram Kesri
4. Dr. Naunihal Singh
5. Shri Virendra Kataria

14.04 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS
FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD REPORTS

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Communications :

- (1) First Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of Department of Post (Ministry of Communications)
- (2) Second Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of Department of Telecommunications (Ministry of Communications).
- (3) Third Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

(Interruptions)

14.05 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
FIRST, SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH REPORTS

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (DEOGARH) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy

- (1) First Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Atomic Energy.
- (2) Second Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Coal.
- (3) Third Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
- (4) Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Power.

14.5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT

[English]

PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK (MATHURAPUR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the

Thirty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on the Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Ocean Development

14.06 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER
Modvat Scheme

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, as part of my Budget proposals I had announced the introduction of modvat scheme for textile fabrics. I am convinced that this step would bring the textiles in the mainstream of a tax systematic which tends to reduce, if not eliminate altogether, the cascading affect of the input taxes. This would also enable the composite mills and the processing houses the modernize and to produce high quality fabrics which would have a positive impact on exports of textiles and garments ... (Interruptions)

14.07 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Ram Nagina Mishra and some other Hon. Members came and Stood on the Floor near the Table

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM : In the Budget proposals, I had proposed the independent processors would be required to pay basic excise duty at the rate of five per cent for cotton fabrics upto Rs. 25/- per sq meter and at the rate of 10 per cent on all other fabrics. I had also proposed that they would get modvat credit on the basis of 50 per cent of the duty paid

While the introduction of modvat scheme has been widely welcomed, I have received a number of suggestions from many Hon. Members of Parliament as also from trade and industry. I have given my earnest consideration to these suggestions and I propose to announce some changes in deference to their wishes.

Composite mills who undertake the process of spinning, weaving and processing all under one roof shall now be eligible to avail of actual duty paid on all their inputs, including bought out fibres and yarns.

I propose to raise the cut off point for cotton fabrics from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 30/- per sq meter. Cotton fabrics upto a value of Rs. 30/- per sq meter will be charged to basic excise duty at the rate of five per cent and the additional excise duty in lieu of sales tax also at the rate of five per cent. Cotton fabrics of a value exceeding Rs. 30/- per sq meter will be charged to basic excise duty at the rate of 12 per cent and additional excise duty at the rate of eight per cent.

All other fabrics would be subject to basic excise duty at the rate of 12 per cent and the additional excise duty in lieu of sales tax at the rate of eight per cent.

I also propose to retain the modvat credit in respect of cotton fabrics at the rate of 50 per cent of the duty paid. However, I propose to increase this percentage to 70 per cent in the case of all other fabrics. The notional credit at these percentages would also include the notional credit on account of dyes, chemicals, packaging materials and consumables, apart from yarn.

These changes would come into force with effect from 4th September, 1996.

Copies of the notifications issued to give affect to these

changes will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. ...*(interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.A.M.

14.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, September 4, 1996/Bhadra 13, 1918 (Saka).
