

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Second Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)**



(Vol.III contains Nos. 1 to 10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA

Monday, July 22, 1996/Asadha 31, 1918 (Saka)
(The Lok Sabha met at One Minute Past
Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. SPEAKER : A missing man has come back!
(Interruptions)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Privatisation of Ports

*161. SHRI RAJU RANA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared guidelines on private sector investment in ports;

(b) if so, the main points of the guidelines so formulated;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 to accommodate the changes;

(d) if so, the time by which the said amendment is likely to be introduced;

(e) whether any of the ports in the country have been selected for privatisation of the port operations;

(f) if so, the details thereof, Statewise and the names of private firms interested for the job; and

(g) the role of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The guidelines mainly cover the objectives of private sector participation. The areas identified for private participation, legal framework, options for obtaining private sector participation and procedures to be followed for processing privatisation proposals.

(c) No, Sir, as the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 allows for private sector participation.

(d) Does not arise

(e) and (f). All major ports in the country have been advised to seek private sector participation in identified

areas. Private entrepreneurs can participate in the tenders as and when these are invited by the Ports.

(g) State Governments are not concerned with the development of Major Ports.

SHRI RAJU RANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not get the written answer. Please allow other Members.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, the hon. Minister in his answer had said that the guidelines cover the objectives of private sector participation. In the last Session the predecessor of the Minister has told the Press that privatisation had not taken place properly after the liberalisation policy and the press says that privatisation is making no headway.

The Standing Committee has also recommended a comprehensive legislation. A proposal of Rs. 21,000 crore from private participation has been pending with the Government of India. I want to know whether the Minister is going to clear it and if not, what are the difficulties.

Secondly, I want to know whether the Paradip Port Trust has already got a Rs. 7,500 crore loan sanctioned from A.D.B. for handling of more than 10 million tonnes of coal for port handling to be shifted to the South Coast. If it is so, what is the difficulty with the Government? Is there any bureaucratic wrangling?

Thirdly, the Standing Committee of the Department had repeatedly told that there was a necessity for a comprehensive legislation to make more room for private participation. But the previous Minister has not replied in his Press briefing about this. I want to know whether the file is cleared without any bureaucratic wrangling.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, we have already given the following norms for private sector participation.

1. The private sector would bring in a substantial part of the much-needed resources.
2. With private managerial expertise, efficiency, productivity and quality of service can be expected to be improved.
3. An element of competition would be introduced in port services.
4. Gestation period for setting up new facilities is likely to be reduced.
5. Latest technology from all over the world is likely to be introduced.

These are the things that we have brought in.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : What are the proposals pending with the Government of India?

MR. SPEAKER : Is there any proposal pending before the Government?

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : With regard to the Coal Handling Branch of Paradeep Port, I would like to know whether his Department is having a comprehensive or composite project so that the loan of Rs. 7,500 crore sanctioned by ADB for the last three years can be cleared.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, if you have information, please give. Otherwise give it in writing later.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : I do not have any information regarding this particular port.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, port people should be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER : I did not know that you were a port man.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister says that-

[English]

Major Port Trusts Act 1963 allows for private sector participation-

[Translation]

I have got a copy of that legislation with me here itself. I would like to know under which Section, the point of private sector participation has been mentioned. He should tell this to the House and secondly this matter relates to Ports and Airports but at present I am not talking about Airports. However, Ports and Airports are always treated as maximum security zones. In case anybody wants to go there, he has to obtain a pass for this purpose. Photography is prohibited there. As in the case of Airports what to talk of foreigners, even Indians are not allowed to do so. There is so much restriction there because we consider Ports and Airports very important for the security of our country. Even then efforts are being made to process this privatisations business clandestinely, we have not forgotten...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I would like to know as to why that land was allotted to Kargil? Under which Section of the law, it was done? Now they are going to do all these things and that also clandestinely. I have asked a simple question that in which area privatisation is being allowed but the answer is not to the point and deals with something else. Therefore kindly let us know what exactly are the plans with regard to privatisation and under which section of the legislation you can go in for it?

[English]

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, Section 42 of the Major Port Trusts Act allows private sector participation. The areas identified for privatisation are container terminals, various cargo handling terminals and berths, warehousing and storage facilities, tugs, pilotage, crange services and dry docking and ship repairing facilities.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It is contained in which Section of the Act?

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, Section 42 of the Act.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, regarding (e) and (f) parts of the question, we have not received a proper reply. The question is specific. The part (e) asks whether any of the ports in the country have been selected for privatisation of the port operation and part (f) asks, if so, the details thereof. The reply is :

"All major ports in the country have been advised to seek private sector participation in indentified areas."

This is not a correct reply. A specific question has been raised and we want a specific answer as to whether any proposal has been received by the Government of India.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, the answer is very clear. Perhaps, it is not clear to my learned friend. It says that all major ports in the country have been advised to seek private sector participation. There is no identification and specific mention of particular ports and all the eleven ports have been so advised.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I would like to know whether any port has been selected.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : There is no selection.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The specific question is whether any port has been selected or not. Why do you not answer this question?

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : There is no question of selection. It is for all the eleven ports. You have to give a proposal and we will approve it.

SHRI RAJU RANA : In addition to this, I want to know whether the Government is considering privatisation of medium and small size ports and if so, whether any consultation is being done with the State Governments.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : The minor ports are within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. They themselves have to decide about privatisation.

SHRI P SHANMUGAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can boast by saying that the public transport system in my State, Tamil Nadu is the best in the whole country. But I am very sorry to say that the public transport system

in the capital city of our country, New Delhi, has gone from bad to worse. There is no proper transport available for the common man in New Delhi. The Delhi Transport Corporation has already withdrawn many of its services.

MR. SPEAKER : Please come to the question.

SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : I am coming, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You come to the question. Do not speak in future tense.

SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : What are the steps that the Government propose to take to improve the public transport system in the capital city of New Delhi?

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, the question is about ports. My friend is asking about transport.

MR. SPEAKER : May I request the senior Members to give a chance to the new comers also.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in part (b) of his reply that the guidelines mainly cover the objectives of private sector participation, the areas identified for private participation, legal framework, options for obtaining private sector participation and procedures to be followed for processing privatisation proposals. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any time limit for processing these proposals.

In respect of Kandla Port, when IOC and IFFCO applied, even after 100 applications were made there was no reply. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is going to have any time-bound programme for processing these proposals.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Now, that a suggestion has been made by my hon. friend from the other side, I will consider that.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a very specific question to the hon. Minister about the areas that he has identified for privatisation. In view of the reservation of those areas for privatisation, the development from the Government side will be stopped in those areas. That is one thing.

Secondly, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the State Governments are not concerned with the development of major ports. Since the Union Territories like Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are under the domain of the Central Government, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these Union Territories will be looked after by the Union Territories Administration and whether they will do the needful in respect of budgetary allocation and the development of these ports.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Sir, I want a separate notice. I will reply after getting the notice.

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 162, Shri Pinaki Mishra. He is absent.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is very important. Please allow it.

MR. SPEAKER : No, the hon. Member is not here. What can I do?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know that it is important. But the hon. Member is absent and he has not even authorised anybody to put this question. So, I cannot help it.

Indira Gandhi Nahar Project

*163. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojna is the largest and most important irrigation project of Rajasthan;

(b) whether the fate of Churu, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Barmer is fully dependent on this project;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government to save these districts of Rajasthan;

(d) whether the Government of Rajasthan have temporarily given its share of 0.6MAF to Punjab under this project;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be restored to Rajasthan as it is facing acute water shortage?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (f). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Substantial areas of these districts are covered by Indira Gandhi Nahar Project for irrigation and drinking water.

(c) The details of areas for irrigation covered under these districts are as below :

S.No.	Name of District	Area covered (lakh ha.)
1.	Sriganganagar	1.76
2.	Hanumangarh	2.65
3.	Churu	0.67
4.	Bikaner	5.84
5.	Jodhpur	0.67
6.	Jaisalmer	6.48
7.	Barmer	0.62
Total		18.69

In addition 0.87 MAF of water is also earmarked for drinking purpose for these districts from Indira Gandhi Nahar Project.

The main canal 649 in length has been completed. The distribution system upto 5635 km has also been completed by the end of March 1996. The project, on completion, will cover culturable command area of 18.69 lakh ha. and irrigate 15.17 lakh ha. Irrigation potential created in Indira Gandhi Nahar Project Stage I and II upto March 1996 is 9.38 lakh ha. while the actual irrigation during 1995-96 has been 7.90 lakh ha.

(d) to (f). Rajasthan's share in surplus Ravi-Beas waters has been fixed in the 1981 agreement as 10.62 BCM (8.6 MAF). According to the agreement, will such time as Rajasthan is in a position to utilise its full share, Punjab shall be free to utilise the waters surplus to Rajasthan's requirement which was identified as 0.74 BCM (0.6 MAF). Rajasthan's full share of 10.62 BCM (8.6 MAF) will be restored as soon as full irrigation potential is developed in Indira Gandhi Nahar Project Stage-II.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has been a Minister earlier also. Indira Gandhi Canal is the oldest Canal of India. It belongs to the period when Indira Gandhi used to be the Prime Minister of India and she was very prompt in taking a decision. The canal has been named after her. Irrigation of Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Barmer i.e. entire western desert area of Rajasthan depends on this canal. As a result of this canal, all these areas would be irrigated and people of these areas would get drinking water as well. The Government of Rajasthan is doing all this inspite of lack of resources. In 1993-94, the State Government has contributed Rs. 80 crore and the Central Government gave Rs. 52 crore in 1994-95, they contributed Rs. 93 crore and the Central Government gave Rs. 60 crore, similarly in 1995-96, we contributed Rs. 93 crore and Central Government Contributed Rs. 60 crore. What I want to say is that the Government of Rajasthan have spent Rs. 331 crore in all during the eighth Five Year Plan period, whereas Rajasthan is a desert as well as hilly region and has shortage of funds. Sir, previous Government had given Rs. 224 crore only against this, in the current year viz 1996-97 Rs. 86 crore have been allocated and Rs. 60 crore have been given. I want to say that this is United Front Government. At present, you are sitting on treasury benches and it is quite possible that you may have to sit on the opposition benches in the near future. It is question of time only in view of this you should adopt a sympathetic attitude towards this issue. So my point is that you should provide more funds to the Government of Rajasthan to enable them to complete the Indira Gandhi Canal. My second point is that... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may ask your second question later on, let them give reply to your first question.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, it is (b) part of my first question itself... (Interruptions) My second point is whether Eradi Commission had stated that they would provide 52.7 percent water to Rajasthan. Eradi Commission had given their verdict but meeting of the Tribunal has not taken place for the last three years. Shall we not get water which was to be made available to Rajasthan. Kindly let me know your reply to my these points and then we shall talk about other points. You are veteran. I expect, you will rise above party level and take care of the interest of Rajasthan.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one should not expect wrong or right answer by praising or alluring. I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that the Central assistance is not provided by the Ministry of water Resources but by the Planning Commission. The amount has been sanctioned as per allocation made by the Planning Commission this year. The Ministry of Water Resources cannot make any commitment to enhance the amount on its own. In so far as the Eradi Commission is concerned, Indira Gandhi Canal has not been able to utilise its full potential of water so far. The second phase is not operational at all, first phase is operational and it has been decided that a part of the remaining water can be utilised by Punjab till Rajasthan is in a position to utilise full potential of water.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, it means they will not provide water to us and we shall not be able to complete one of the largest canal of India. Punjab will continue to use water, therefore, I request you to provide sufficient funds for Rajasthan in the budget and also convene a meeting of Eradi Commission, which has not taken place since long. Sir, I request your honour to pay special attention as I do not find any one else who could take care of our interests. Therefore, I look forward for year help so long as you are our hon'ble Speaker. I shall very much appreciate if you become an M.P. from Rajasthan quota because I feel that only then we can be benefitted. Kindly concede to what I say otherwise we cannot be benefitted. Indira Gandhi Canal is after the name of a Prime Minister of our country. At present Today flood is causing havoc last time We had demanded Rs. 326 crore for Hanumangarh but we were and provided even a sum of Rs. 21 crore which was allocated to us and Rajasthan Government has demand Rs. 300 crore this time but no amount has been received by them so far. Sir, we have to deal with famine like starvation and now Sambar Lake has also been reeling under flood. 15 thousand workers have been rendered jobless. As a result of this, people may not get salt and many people may suffer from T.B. and blood pressure... (Interruptions) So their plight is miserable. So, I seek your protection. Since you are occupying the Chair, I treat you an M.P. from Rajasthan quota and Shri

Janeshwar Mishra has also been a Minister for long, so I request you to get in ?? funds so that Rajasthan may get sufficient water. This is what I want to say. The hon'ble Minister should give sympathetic consideration to this problem. In can they word us to resert to same sort of agricultural path, then we are prepared for than also if the same is in the interent of our country. If our porty will alow us, our M.L.As and M.Ps of Rajasthan to support me on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your submission.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : In case we have to resort to *Dharna* or demonstration we shall do that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think it is an important project.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : The hon'ble Member has given suggestions and that suggestion has been recorded in the proceedings. The Ministry will forward his suggestion to the Planning Commission Eradi Commission has prepared their interian Report and our Ministry is awaiting the same.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH WOKE : Sir, I would like to say some thing about. Eradi commission maentioned here. The Government of Punjab have never accpted the report of Eradi Commission. It has death with water problem, border areas as well as Abotion and Fazilka. It has also death with the question of exchange of certain areas. The Government has never accepted the report of Erdi Commission. At present Punjab is not getting water. We need coal and rail wagons in ordere to run our Thermal Plants. The thermal plant of Ropar in not being commissioned for want of coal. Coal is not available in Bhatinda also. The Punjab will never accept the report of Eradi Commission. There are many rivers in Punjab and should provide water to them but case we do not have any surplus water have can we provide the same to them.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your question. This is regarding Indira Gandhi Project.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE : The Punjab is not having sufficient quantity of water, the will be supplied by the rivers, by Harike and Bhorkron. But there is death of water is Punjab, the crops are being faded, ever tube-wells aare not functioning.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your question.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE : Have can we provide water to them in these circumstances? No Government of Punjab would accept. The report of Eradi Commission.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : An agreement has already been reached about Indira Gandhi Canal. The question of water distribution has also been settled. The Government of Punjab has also agreed to it.

Therefore, I feel that it will not be proper to raise this controverry now.

[English]

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent Jaisalmer and Barmer. I would like to talk about the Indira Gandhi Canal Project at Rajasthan. The work on this Canal started almost 40 years back, and the work is going on in Jaisalmer and Barmer districts. My B.J.P. friend, Shri Bhargava, has said that adequate funds are not available. That is one point. This year, there were floods only in Eastern Rajasthan and Nagaur side: but in Jaisalmer and Barmer districts, there is famine and there is no rain this year. This is the same place where the work on the Canal is in progress. The people have no drinking water.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question. You do not have to give a speech here.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, I request the Minister that he should prevail upon the Yojana Bhawan to get additional funds. Secondly, there is a B.J.P. Government in Rajasthan and though they have got funds, I am sorry to say that the work is not going on properly and there is a lot of delay... (Interruptions)

Whatever funds are given should be utilised properly and judiciously. That is not being done. There are lot of contract litigations with the result that the progress of works is held up and because of these defaulting contractors, there is lot of loss and wastage of funds. You should give additional funds and tell the Ministry that funds are given and there should be progress of work which should be monitored by a high level committee in which there should be a Member of Parliament and a representative on water resources from Yojana Bhavan. It should be obtained in writing that the funds have been utilised properly.

MR. SPEAKER : You are arly giving suggestions. Please ask the question.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Barmer District is to be caused under the phase II of Indian Gandhi Canal project. There is no habitation to utilise the water in Phase II. It can be termed as strange gameplan of destiny. A place for which people are struggling to have water there is no habitation but a desert. The State Government have made repeated requests to the Centre guidelines have also been issued in this respect that something should be done to arrange habitation of people in that area. There should have been both the things simultaneously. In case water is not made available and people start living there, the remet waved be that people will desert that place. If people start living there, their fields cannot be irrigated without water. So both the things should be done simultaneously. Exervation of canal has been alone but

habitation could not be arranged. Hence we are facing difficulties.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Allotment has been made there...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, allotment has been made but people are not prepared to live there. The Government of Rajasthan have put several technical obstacles in this respect as a result of which the people who come there to stay, also go back. I think you are also aware of this fact.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the slogan of Green Revolution had gained a lot of popularity among the people. After Nehru, Indira Gandhi Centemplated that first of all desert areas of Rajasthan should be covered under Green Revolution. There is no question of any allurements. I would request you to forward the note of Shri Bhargava to the Planning Commission. You may discuss this matter with the Planning Commission and let us know as to how much money they are allocating for this project. You have commitment to give practical shape to the concept of Indira Gandhi because her party has supported you. I, therefore request the hon'ble Minister to let us know the outcome of his discussion with the Planning Commission, so that the people living in the desert area may hope that the canal is being completed soon.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the work on the canal is almost complete. In so far as the question of Green Revolution is concerned, it has been materialised in the areas covered in the first phase of the project. In the second phase, the earth contains sand which...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Kindly discuss this matter with the Planning Commission or send them a note.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : We are facing many obstacles including the question of habitation of people. The hon'ble Member has suggested that I myself should discuss the matter with the Planning Commission. I would like to point out that generally the problem of irrigation has to be tackled by the State Government itself. In case they do not adopt progressive methods then development of these areas will lag behind. The Central Government cannot arrange habitation of people. If the State Government will not act, the difficulties would further increase and the points raised how to be clarified repeatedly...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have not allowed me to ask a question. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister as to when this project would be completed?

MR. SPEAKER : You have already asked a question the same has been replied. Question No. 164 is also there.

[English]

Flood Control

+
*164. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rivers originating in Himalayas and flowing through the different parts of the country, particularly in Bihar, U.P., Rajasthan, Haryana and Assam are causing devastating floods;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal/scheme for control of such floods;

(d) whether Government have also received any scheme in this regard from Uttar Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details of the proposal received and scheme chalked out by Union Government and the action taken in this regard; and

(f) the details of schemes formulated for this purpose with the help of World Bank or other agencies. State-wise?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Rivers originating in Himalayas and flowing through Assam, Bihar, U.P. and Haryana are causing severe floods

(b) The main reasons for floods in these rivers are heavy rainfall, flat topography, lack of easy outfall, inadequate drainage and in some cases backing up waters in tributaries from the main rivers at their outfalls.

(c) Rashtriya Barh Ayog constituted by the Government of India, in its report (1980) has made 207 recommendations for implementation by State Governments. For the severe flood prone basins of Ganga and Brahmaputra, the Central Organisations of the Ganga Flood Control Commission and the Brahmaputra Board have prepared comprehensive master plans for flood management for formulating detailed schemes and implementation by State Governments

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Flood Control and anti-erosion schemes received from the Government of U.P., from time to time, costing more than Rs. 1 crore have been examined in Ganga Flood Control Commission and approved after studying techno economic feasibility. Implementation of these schemes is the responsibility of the State Government.

(f) No flood management schemes are under consideration for World Bank Assistance.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have gone through the answer given by the hon'ble Minister carefully and trying to comprehend the same. In my question I had asked the names of rivers originating from Himalayas. The hon'ble Minister has got the answer prepared. I am unable to follow one thing that although most of the rivers originate from Himalayas but from which parts of the Himalayas, they originate. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the front page news of newspapers published from Bihar for the past two days in which it has been stated that entire Bihar, particularly North Bihar has been flooded. This question has been raised and discussed repeatedly in the House.

I want to tell the hon'ble Minister that the rivers originating from the Himalayas in Nepal such as Gandak, Bardi Gandak, Kosi, Bagmati, Mahananda, Kamla in Bihar, and Saryu and Gomati in Uttar Pradesh are the major features relating to this problem. As a result of continuous cutting of trees for the last 40-50 years in Nepal, the water of rivers, consequent upon rains in the hilly region, which was retained in the natural catchment areas previously, now entire Bihar from Nepal without any hindrance as the areas of Nepal have been denuded. Alongwith water huge amount of sand also enters Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The root of the problem lies in Nepal. For example, Barrage of Kosi was constructed on the border of Nepal. The life of this barrage was 30 years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a national problem I am coming to that point and this issue must be comprehended but the barrage area

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You are teaching geography here.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, that sand is coming in our area. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether in order to prevent in coming of sand, he would constitute an India-Nepal Water and Environmental Control Commission so that this problem is solved?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in order to constitute India-Nepal water and Environment Control Commission. The Ministry of Environment and Forests would be consulted and a reply could be given there after negotiations are taking place with Nepal in the respect and efforts are being made to solve the problem being faced by the people in Kosi area of Bihar. Many a time talks are deadlocked but at present they are being held in the right direction.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask a particular question from the hon'ble

Minister about Valmiki Nagar Barrage on the Gandak river. This is situated in Tarai area of Nepal and quite adjacent to Nepal, there was a major Gandak Irrigation Project involving Rs. 2000 crore approximately. It was prepared at the instance of Nehruji after independence and it was interested to the State Government at that time. This Gandak Project provides irrigational facilities. To Tirhut Commissionry Saran Commissionary - Chhapra, Sewan, Gopalganj and Muzaffarpur District. At present there is a lot of silt collected in Valmiki Nagar Barrage and it has further spread in Gandak region with the result that all major and minor distributaries are full of silt. Consequently the project involving thousands of crores of rupees, which was meant to irrigate entire North Bihar has become useless. So I want to know whether hon'ble Minister would consider formulation of same scheme to revive this Gandak Project and the Central Government would provide assistance to the State Government in sympathetic manner through the Planning Commission for this purpose?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : In case the State Government would submit any plan about the silt accumulated in the Gandak river and consequently in the canals as well then Central Government would examine the same.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : I am talking about canals of Gandak.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : I have already told about canals. Canals come through rivers

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not permitted you to ask questions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Would you agree to the proposals submitted by the State Government?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : In case State Government submit the proposal, efforts would be made to implement the same with the concurrence of Planning Commission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sriballav Panigrahi.

[Translation]

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : This question relates to Nepal. What Orissa has got to do with it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is listed in his name also.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : The people of Orissa have good relations with the people of Nepal.

This is a national problem and a national crisis. Every year a colossal loss is caused by flash floods and severe floods in different parts of the country.

particularly in the Ggetic belt. Even right now when this question is being answered in the Parliament, several areas are reeling under the severity of floods in different States, particularly in Bihar and Assam. The details have been studied. A comprehensive study has been conducted by the Government of India through different organisation like the Rashtriya Barh Ayog, the Ganga Flood Control Commission and the Brahmaputra Board. These are the organisations which are going into the details and are finding out the solutions. They have submitted their comprehensive reports. The Rashtriya Bad Ayog, according to the reply given by the hon. Minister, has made 207 recommendations.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I am coming to it. 207 recommendations have been given by the Rashtriya Barh Ayog. In addition, the Ganga Flood Control Commission and the Brahmaputra Board have also prepared comprehensive national plans. What are the common features among these reports and plans; how many of them have been put to implementation? If not, why?

Probably, the constraint of fund is the main reason. Therefore why is the Government hesitant to bring all these things for consideration of the World Bank, if we have constraint of funds? There is no denying that we have to go in for flood control measures. These are the recommendations, but what are the reasons for not implementing the comprehensive recommendations of these commissions? Where from do you propose to arrange funds? What is the reason for not taking it up with the World Bank?

MR. SPEAKER : You are repeating it again and again.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : This Commission was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Jai Sukhlal Hathi and they had put forth 207 recommendations. Guidelines were issued to the State Governments on the basis of these recommendations. It is true that we have not taken foreign aid for Control of floods. But keeping in view lack of resources, the State Governments have been asked to furnish their opinion on the question of seeking foreign aid for this purpose. After receipt of their opinion, action would be taken with regard to these projects which may fulfil the conditions.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, he has not given answer to my question. He has answered only one part.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the the question raised by Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy and the reply given by the hon'ble Minister. Monsoon is still to come and North Bihar has already been in the grip of floods twice. Our Sitamarhi area is

still reeling under water and the hon'ble Minister has said that talks are being held with Nepal. I would like to know, through you Sir, whether after identifying the place around Nunthan Daman Bagmati, Sheesh pani of Kamla Balan and Ram Nagar Ramayya of Adhwara group and Kosi of Kosi Dam in Nepal, a big dam would be constructed with the cooperation of India and Nepal, as suggested by the State Government and the problems of North Bihar would be solved by taking flood control measures and storing water. According to hon'ble Minister, negotiations are being held with Nepal. So I want to ask him (a) upto what time there talks would continue between Nepal and India, is there any time - limit and how much time will be taken to control the water of rivers originating from Himalaya, and (b) the Government of Bihar have forwarded a three phased plan to control the water of rivers of Adhwara Group and I was informed by the Government of India in reply to my question in tenth Lok Sabha that that plan was under consideration of Planning Commission and a part of the same plan has been approved but the work has not been started to execute the same. Therefore I want to ask is to when three phased plan to control the water of rivers of Adhwara Group, submitted by Bihar, would be approved and the time by which the required amount would be sanctioned?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the question of negotiations between India and Nepal is concerned, they are to be held between two countries, it is not one sided affairs. Therefore we cannot fix any time limit secondly, the plan in question is being examined in the Planning Commission and as soon as the same is received from them, the Ministry of Water Resources would inform the State Government to execute the same.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : The Government of India can express its inclination to execute the Plan.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the hon Minister has, in his answer, referred to the Brahmaputra Board. I would like to know how many schemes have been given by the Brahmaputra Board for controlling the river waters of Assam, because every year, there are perennial floods in Assam. This year the floods have been very heavy in Arunachal Pradesh also. I would like to know the stage in which these schemes now are. Is it a fact that there are certain disputes between some States like Assam and Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh and Assam? If so, what steps are taken by the Government to sort out these problems and to provide funds so that the perennial flood problem is controlled?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very comprehensive question that he has asked.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Brahmaputra Board and some other agencies of Assam

have submitted projects to construct some dams but Arunachal Pradesh have some objections to these projects because its large area would be submerged and their Assembly has also proposed that no negotiations would be held and therefore no progress has been made so far. The Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh never comes forward to hold talks, that is the difficulty.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the hon'ble Minister to let us know whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent any project to the Central Government keeping in view the devastating floods in U.P., and if so, whether State Government and Central Government have formulated any time bound programme to control the floods?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, owing to devastating floods in Ghaghra river, large scale erosion is taking place in Dohrihat area and there is every possibility of the entire town being washed away by the river. Large scale erosion is taking place in Saroj village also. Therefore I want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether Government propose to hold talks between representatives of State as well as Central Government and whether the hon'ble Minister proposes to visit that area and formulate some Schemes so that people of that region may have some relief?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : The Government of Uttar Pradesh have not submitted any such scheme to control floods which may be considered by the Central Government certain schemes to prevent erosion were received and they are under consideration, some of them have already been approved and some others are still being examined. Some schemes have been sent back to the State Government as they have not replied to our comments for the last one year.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yesterday I was in Gauhati. Flood situation in Assam is very serious which have caused colossal losses of life and property. Gauhati - Silchar national highway has been cut-off owing to floods, the traffic has come to standstill and essential commodities are not reaching Silchar the State Government told me that they have asked assistance of Rs. 300 crore from the Central Government but the Central Government have not disbursed any amount to them. I want to know whether Central Government have not received any report about the situation prevailing in Assam or in spite of having received the correct report, Government is not responding to the extent it should have done?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, relief work and financial assistance for the flood affected people is given through Ministry of Agriculture. I think there has been detailed discussion on this subject in this House during past four days and Minister of Agriculture has replied to it as well. However if any question of Shri Vajpayeeji still remains Un-answered We would consult the Agriculture Ministry for that. *..(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : As rightly pointed out by Shri Vajpayee, it is under DG BRTP. I have written a letter to Shri Mulayam Singh also. There, the conditions is very serious. You kindly send the DG (BRTP) and look into it. This is our life line. I am grateful that Shri Vajpayee has raised this point. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We have discussed this subject last week

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, you please give me one minute. These are multi-purpose projects aimed at controlling the flood and generating power. We are all drawing the attention of the Government to this problem only. The potential of hydro-electricity is so much that it can flood the entire country with light. There is one problem of conflict between the States. But there is another problem also. I am surprised to see this kind of a statement. I have visited those areas several times. The size of the projects were between Rs. 25,000-40,000 crore. Leaving all these to the State Government is an absurd proposition. Therefore, would the hon. Minister kindly, in association with the Ministry of Power try to do this? I am only emphasising the other aspect, i.e. the potential of it. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, anything to answer? I think it is only a suggestion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We cannot spend the whole time of the House on one question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : About Bihar sufficient questions have been raised.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The next Question is very important. I am personally interested in it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No more question on this subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Next Question, I think, is very important. I am personally interested in it.

[Translation]

Shortage of Teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas

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*165 SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country, especially in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to fill up the vacant posts; and

(c) if so, the time by which the posts are likely to be filled up.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). As per information furnished by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, approximately 9% of the sanctioned posts of teachers are vacant as on March 31, 1996. The vacancy position in Bihar is comparable to the All-India percentage. Action has already been initiated to fill up the vacant posts expeditiously; advertisement for filling the vacancies by direct recruitment was issued in June, 1996.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer given to my question is confusing. The situation prevailing in Central Schools of our country is full of contradictions on the one hand, there has been continuous shortage of teachers in most of the Central Schools. Particularly in seven States of North East, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are on the top while the other hand, Central Schools in Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh have surplus teachers. There are 1500 surplus teachers in these areas on which an expenditure of Rs. 10 crore is being incurred. I want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether Government is planning to transfer these surplus teachers to North-East State, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in order to fill in the vacant posts there?

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the present position of vacancies against the sanctioned posts is like this: In the case of Principal, the total number of sanctioned posts is 769; the present position of strength is 706; and the total number of vacancies is 63. In Bihar alone, the total number of sanctioned posts is 51; the position at present is 48; and the total number of vacancies is 03.

In the case of Vice-Principal, the corresponding figures are 378, 235 and 143 respectively. In Bihar alone, the corresponding figures are 20, 15 and five respectively... (Interruptions)

Then in the case of the PGT the corresponding figures are 5892, 5631 and 261 respectively. ... (Interruptions)

Regarding the North-Eastern Region, the number of posts is... (Interruptions) I am explaining this.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : The reply being given by the hon'ble Minister is altogether different to the question.

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : I am explaining this.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is that there are 1500 surplus teachers in these areas. I have got a News-paper, 800 such teachers have been transferred recently to such schools where no vacancy existed for them.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is this: If surplus teachers are available in other States, would you like to deploy them in other areas where there are vacancies or shortage?

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : There is a problem in North Eastern Region. In some cases, what we find is that they are not available in remote areas. The problem in the North Eastern Region is that qualified teachers, through direct recruitment, are not so adequately available. Therefore, teachers are appointed or recruited from other parts of India. They go there and join; but they are always trying to go back to their own States. This is about the North Eastern States.

The second question was regarding the surplus

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a maiden answer!

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. No.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, he is admitting that the teachers are going and coming back. What is this? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KARIA MUNDA : The teachers go there and comeback... (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : In Central Schools, teachers are appointed on the basis of recommendations... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is answering. The senior Minister is answering. Please sit down, Shri Bommai please.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : The hon. Minister gave the vacancy position. In Bihar, the vacancy position is 203, in all. The hon. Member said that there are surplus teachers in places like Delhi. If there are surplus teachers in any part of the country, we will immediately take action.

We will see that they are transferred to those places where there are vacancies... (Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : They go and come back... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dev, I think, you can ask your supplementary a little later. Now, there will be second supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second supplementary question is that maximum number of posts are lying vacant in the Central Schools in seven States of North East and its main reason is that facilities given to the employees of Central Government working in those States are not being provided to them in the real terms. That is why teachers are not anxious to go there. They are discriminated. Special Duty Allowance which is 20 percent of the pay is also not paid to the employees of Central Schools. The employees belonging to these states are not transferred there and teachers of those States are transferred to these three or four States. 700-800 teachers were transferred last year. There were no vacancies, even then 700-800 teachers were transferred to these States. Again the teachers who wish to go to North East, are not transferred there. The facilities agree to by the Department are not provided to them. Therefore, I want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether he would consider removal of such disparities and fill the vacant posts in those States by transfer?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : The vacancy position throughout the country is nine percent. In Bihar, it is 8.9 per cent. It is approximately identical throughout the country... (Interruptions) You said that vacancies were more in Bihar. But it is not so.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has already admitted that teachers do not want to go to the States of North East. I want to ask whether these disparities would be removed on account of which the teachers do not want to go there and action will be taken to affect transfers to these States in order to fill in the vacancies and if so, by when it would be done.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think, it is enough.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : The question is not about posting the teachers from an area to that very area. Preference should be given. I would see that teachers who have been selected from Bihar are posted in Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue concerns these States.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not interrupt the Minister when he is answering.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : It cannot be a compulsory one. Sometimes teachers from Bihar will have to go to Assam. Sometimes teachers from Uttar Pradesh will have to go to other countries. As far as possible, we will try to post teachers belonging to that area and fill up the vacancies... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : In reply to the earlier question, he has said that he would look into that.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : As far as my information is concerned, there are no surplus teachers in any school. ... (Interruptions) If you can find out, I will transfer them.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask the hon'ble Minister that whether it is a fact that the provision of making appointments in the Central Schools on *ad-hoc* basis has been struck off during the last year and no part time teachers are being appointed and teachers are being treated as daily wage workers and if so, whether Government would consider making appointments on *ad-hoc* basis so that studies of children could go on smoothly and their future becomes bright?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, we have stopped *ad hoc* appointment because these are not in interests of the students as well as the teachers. We have already advertised and recruitment will take place within a month. We have also advertised for special recruitment. Interviews are going on. We will fill up all the vacancies as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has just now stated that there are vacancies of teachers in Central Schools throughout the country but it is in very sorry state of affairs that backlog of SC and ST in the month of March has not been covered in spite of the orders of Central Government.

12.00 hrs.

To fill up those vacancies. The Assistant Commissioner had drawn a complete list to fill up the backlog and sent to Delhi for approval. Only four persons have been appointed... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You may kindly ask the question. Otherwise, you will not get the answer.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : When a person for Bihar comes forward (Interruptions), he is not allowed to present himself. I, therefore, want to ask the hon'ble Minister whether the list drawn to fill up the backlog of SC and ST would be completed immediately ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, so far as the recruitment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is concerned a special recruitment has taken place. Both in the year 1993... (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Indian Children in Pak Custody

*162. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Edhi', a social organisation of Pakistan, has drawn the attention of the Government to the pathetic condition of 38 Indian children who were rounded up by Pak Security forces for illegal fishing in Pak-waters;

(b) if so, whether 'Edhi' had requested the Government to repatriate these children from Pakistan's custody; and

(c) if so, the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). On 18th May, 1996, the Pakistani newspaper 'Dawn' carried a report which stated that 34 Indian children were lodged in the Edhi Welfare Centre, Karachi. The report further stated that these children had been arrested by the Pakistani authorities in September 1994.

The matter was immediately taken up with the Government of Pakistan who was requested to provide personal details/documents of these children. Permission was also sought for officials of the High Commission of India, Islamabad to visit Karachi so as to obtain access to these children to determine their antecedents for taking further necessary action to bring them to India.

Maulana Edhi of the Welfare Centre was also contacted to determine their background and ascertain their welfare. Maulana Edhi informed the High Commission in writing that formal permission of the Government of Pakistan would be required by his organisation for interacting with our Mission regarding these children.

Government of Pakistan has as yet neither provided details nor has it allowed our Mission officials to have access to these children. In the present situation we are unable to make any authoritative assessment regarding these children. There have, however, been indications that these children are from Gujarat and Daman and Diu and may have been in the fishing boats which were apprehended by Pakistani agencies for allegedly fishing in Pakistani waters.

We are actively pursuing this matter with Pakistan.

[Translation]

Sale of Arms and Ammunitions

*166. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to sell arms and ammunitions made in

Indian ordnance factories in the international markets; and

(b) if so, the action being taken in this regard and our position in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) Ordnance factories and defence public sector undertakings have already been exporting their products.

(b) The steps taken to enhance exports include policy and procedural liberalisation, utilisation of our Missions abroad, interaction with foreign delegations, participation in selected defence exhibitions abroad, undertaking publicity measures and the use of marketing skills and infrastructure of non-defence public sector undertakings and trading houses.

A beginning has been made in this field. Given the production capability (backed by R and D and quality assurance support) in India and our comparative advantages (such as lower man hour costs the potential for export of conventional arms and ammunition as well as for undertaking repair and overhaul work is substantial; but the problems of making entry of securing orders in a shrinking world market have to be contended with.

Cement and Power Plants in Bhutan

*167. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bhutan has made any proposal to set up cement and power plants in Bhutan with Indian collaboration;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the said plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. During the visit of king of Bhutan from 4-7th March, 1996, the Agreements on setting up of Tala Hydro-electric Project and the Dungsom Cement Plant in Bhutan were signed on 5th March, 1996.

(b) Tala Hydro-electric Project is a run-of-the river project on river Wangchu in Bhutan. The project is expected to cost around Rs. 1891.18 crores (December'95 estimates) and to generate 1020 MW of power. Government would be providing necessary finance in terms of an outright grant of 60% of the project cost and 40% of the cost as a soft loan. All the surplus power from the project is to be purchased by India at rates to be mutually agreed upon at the time of commissioning of the Project.

The Dungsom Cement Plant is a dry process cement plant with a capacity of 0.5 million tonnes per year. This is envisaged as a joint venture between Royal Government of Bhutan and an Indian company to be selected. Government would be providing necessary funds as grant for this project estimated at Rs. 300

crores and another Rs. 100 crores for the infrastructural facilities at the Indian side.

(c) As per the present estimates, construction of Tata Hydro-electric Project is likely to be completed in 8 years and Dungsum Cement Plan in 5 years.

Financial Assistance to Minority Institutions

*168. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Minority Institutions (Technical and Non-Technical) functioning in the country, State-wise:

(b) whether financial assistance and other facilities are provided to the Minority Institutions by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c). It is the State Governments which accord recognition for the minority character of an educational institution. Details of minorities education institutions which got such recognition are not maintained nationally. However, details of madarasas which were provided financial assistance by the Government for Modernisation are furnished in the attached Statement.

STATEMENT

S. No.	State's Name	No. of Madarasas	1993-94	No. of Madarasas	1994-95	No. of Madarasas	1995-96
1.	Uttar Pradesh	10	Rs. 3,04,000/-	40	Rs. 11,69,600/-	120	Rs. 34,88,000/-
2.	Madhya Pradesh			19	Rs. 5,77,600/-	39	Rs. 11,09,600/-
3.	Haryana			5	Rs. 1,52,000/-	5	Rs. 1,32,000/-
4.	Karnataka					9	Rs. 2,73,600/-
5.	Kerala					42	Rs. 12,76,800/-
6.	Tripura					24	Rs. 7,29,600/-
7.	West Bengal					80	Rs. 24,32,000/-
8.	Assam					64	Rs. 19,45,600/-
9.	Tamil Nadu					1	Rs. 30,400/-
10.	Sikkim					1	Rs. 30,400/-
11.	Delhi					5	Rs. 1,52,000/-
Total			Rs. 3,04,000/-		Rs. 18,99,200/-		Rs. 1,16,00,000/-

Grants to Fake Colleges

*169. DR. SAHEBRAM SUKRAM BAGUL :
SHRI SOHAN BEER :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether crores of rupees have been given away as grants by the University Grants Commission to the Colleges.

(b) if so, the particulars of the colleges existent on papers only, State-wise to which such grants were made by the University Grants Commission alongwith the amounts allocated to each of them; and

(c) the number of officers/employees held responsible for this and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c). According to the information received from the University Grants Commission (UGC), Development Grant is provided to recognised Colleges as per rules/regulations framed under the UGC Act according to prescribed norms. The UGC maintains lists of colleges which are

eligible to receive grants. It has informed the Government that, in October, 1988, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, Bihar had forwarded to UGC a proposal of Abdul Qayum Ansari College, Jehanabad, Bihar for financial assistance. The UGC after examination approved Rs. 6.95 lakhs in July, 1994 for the Seventh Plan period. Subsequently, DIG (CID), Bihar informed the Commission that the papers submitted by the College for recognition were in fact forged. The college has been blacklisted by the UGC. The Bihar Police have also registered a criminal case under IPC 467/468/471/420.

No other case of this nature has come to the notice of the commission so far.

New Education Policy

*170. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government intend to modify and bring about uniformity in the New Education Policy announced in 1986;

(b) if so, the action plan thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to make the primary, secondary and university level education as well as vocational education more practical, employment oriented and human value based;

(d) the results achieved so far with regard to various campaigns, such as, achieving the target of cent-percent literacy, adult education, non-formal education, etc:

(e) whether the Government propose to increase the budget on education; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (f). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (f). The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 and its Programme of Action (POA) were updated and placed before the Parliament in 1992. Aspects of uniformity in education, Employment-oriented education and value education are built into it. As of now, emphasis would be on toning up the implementation and stepping up resources for education so that there is a better linkage between education and the world of work and improvement of access, retention and quality at all stages of education, particularly, elementary education.

About 53.19 million persons have been made literate till 31-03-1996 under Total Literacy Campaigns (TLCs) and other adult literacy programmes. 70 lakhs out of schools children are benefiting from 2.79 lakhs Non-Formal Education Centres (NFE).

The Government is committed to increase allocation on education and on primary education in particular.

[English]

Traffic Handled by Major Ports

*171. DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the capacity of each major port in the country and the extent of traffic handled by each of them during

last three years, yearwise and the first ten months of 1995-96:

(b) whether the Government propose to expand further the capacity of major ports;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to improve the performance of each major ports; and

(d) the plans prepared in this regard for 1996-97;

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The aggregate capacity of all the major ports as on 31.3.92 was 169.23 million tonnes which increased to 177.21 million tonnes by 31.3.1996. As against this, the major ports handled a total traffic as under :

Year	Traffic handled (in million tonnes)
1992-93	166.58
1993-94	179.26
1994-95	197.26
1995-96 (Apr-Jan)	175.39
1995-96 (full yr.)	215.26 (provisional)

Portwise details of capacity and traffic are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir 30 new Projects have been sanctioned in 8th Plan so far which will enhance the aggregate port capacity of the 11 Major Ports to 216 million tonnes. Of this aggregate capacity, 190 million tonnes is likely to be achieved by end of 8th Plan, and the balance in the 9th Plan. The steps taken to improve the performance of major ports include in addition to creation of additional capacity, the replacement and modernisation of the old and obsolete equipment and floating crafts and creation of additional port facilities to meet the growth of traffic.

(d) In the Annual Plan 1996-97, an outlay of Rs 576 60 crores has been provided for the development of Major Ports. During 1996-97, the major projects likely to be commissioned are Replacement of Pir Pau Oil Pier at Mumbai, Third Oil Jetty at Kandla, Crude and POL products handling facilities at New Mangalore and Approach Bridge to Service Berth at JL Nehru Port.

STATEMENT

Details of capacity and traffic handled by Major Ports during the lasts 5 years

Name of the port	Capacity as on		Traffic handled				
	31.3.92	31.3.96	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96 (April-Jan)	1995-96 (Full year)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. (a) Calcutta	5.95	6.75	5.16	5.17	5.60	6.03	6.12
(b) Haldia	16.76	17.03	13.18	13.35	14.78	12.88	15.31
2. Paradip	7.65	8.55	7.61	6.33	10.12	9.46	11.26

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3. Vizag	22.45	23.65	22.77	25.60	30.03	27.09	32.82
4. Madras	22.07	22.07	25.33	26.54	29.46	24.71	30.72
5. Tuticorin	5.10	6.10	3.22	6.70	8.04	7.54	9.29
6. Cochin	10.60	13.26	7.98	7.62	8.69	9.43	11.48
7. N. Mangalore	9.55	10.00	7.09	8.60	8.01	7.09	8.88
8. Mormugao	15.92	16.30	16.31	18.72	18.88	13.93	18.11
9. J.L. Nehru	5.90	5.90	3.01	3.30	5.01	5.67	6.87
10. Mumbai	26.80	26.80	29.02	30.75	32.05	27.56	34.05
11. Kandla	20.40	20.80	22.91	24.50	26.50	25.00	30.34
Total	169.23	177.21	166.58	179.26	197.26	175.39	215.26

[Translation]

Leprosy

*172. KUMARI UMA BHARATI

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether the number of Leprosy patients in India is largest in the world.

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard.

(c) if so, the findings thereof.

(d) whether the Government have chalked out any programme for the eradication of leprosy, and

(e) if so, the time by which this programme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The surveys conducted have revealed that there were 0.54 million registered cases in the country as on March, 1996

(d) and (e) The Government of India launched a National Leprosy Eradication Programme in 1983. The strategy of the Programme is based on effective Multi Drug Treatment (MDT) therapy. Under the programme, drugs are supplied free of cost to all the States/UTs to meet their full requirements. The Programme is being implemented as 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The objective of the Programme is to achieve elimination of Leprosy by 2000 A.D. thereby reducing the case load to less than one case per 10,000 population.

[English]

Inter-State Water Dispute

*173. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the water resources in the country are being utilised fully.

(b) if not, reasons therefor.

(c) whether the irrigation projects of Maharashtra and other inter-State water disputes are hampering the optimum utilisation of water resources; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Full utilisation of available water resources is not possible due to evaporation and vegetative (transpiration) losses and due to allowing certain amount of water to flow in the river for maintaining the river regime. Out of a total available utilisable water of 1142 billion cubic metres in the country, the present (1994) utilisation of water (surface and ground) is about 606 billion cubic metres i.e. 53% leaving 536 billion cubic metres of utilisable water as unutilised.

(c) In so far as Maharashtra is concerned, utilisation of available utilisable water resources has been planned to be achieved by 2005 A.D. and no irrigation project of the State is pending clearance because of inter-State Water Dispute. Generally, implementation of projects planned for utilisation of water resources having inter-State aspects are delayed due to inter-State Water Disputes.

(d) As per the existing practice, efforts are made to solve the water dispute through negotiations with the basin States. In case the efforts do not fructify and if any one of the basin States approaches the Central Government to set up a Tribunal, the same is set up under Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 to adjudicate. For resolving such disputes, a Standing Committee on inter-State issues in water resources was set up in April, 1990 under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Water Resources. There is also a proposal for devising National Policy Guidelines for water sharing.

National Highways

*174. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to strengthen the National Highways Nos. 31, 37 and 52 during the current year;

(b) if so, details of the schemes prepared and scheme-wise allocation of funds made therefor; and

(c) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). There is no proposal to strengthen NH 31 and 37 during the year 1996-97. However, a provision of Rs. 4.97 crore has been made to strengthen kms. 68, 69, 71 and 76 in Assam in NH 52.

Removal of Blindness at Pre-Natal Stage

*175. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems of babies who are born blind;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate the disease causing blindness in children during pre-natal stage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Very few persons are blind by birth. Some of the factors responsible for congenital blindness are maternal infections like Rubella, Toxoplasmosis, Syphilis during pregnancy, maternal malnutrition and lack of health education of the pregnant mothers.

(c) It is not possible to detect blindness at the pre-natal stage. However, proper ante natal care under Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme is provided to all pregnant women to prevent blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency in new born children.

Science Education in Schools

*176. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the main objectives of the Centrally sponsored scheme for improvement of Science Education in Schools;

(b) the funds released and utilised under the scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the extent to which the objectives of the schemes have since been achieved;

(d) whether some States have diversified the funds on items not envisaged in the Scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the quality of science education.

(b) to (e). A statement indicating the statewise release of funds under the scheme during the last three years i.e. 1993-94 to 1995-96, is enclosed. The Scheme is under implementation since 1987-88. All the States have been given assistance under the Scheme. An evaluation of the Scheme was got conducted by NCERT in 1995. The evaluation report indicates that there has been considerable improvement in inculcating scientific abilities and values in students and improving teaching of Science and Mathematics. The schools in which the Scheme was implemented have also shown a better pass percentage. The study also shows that the Scheme is extremely useful and has enormous potential to generate scientific climate in the schools. No instance of diversion/misuse of the funds has come to the notice of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

STATEMENT

State-wise position of the release of funds by the Government to the states under the Scheme of Improvement of Science Education during the years 1993-94 to 1995-96 and utilization position thereof.

S No	Name of States	Funds released (Rs in lakhs)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	536.40	-	56.72
2.	Assam	-	904.30	-
3.	Goa	-	6.69	-
4.	Haryana	473.29	-	-
5.	Himachal Pradesh	42.14	56.95	-

1	2	3	4	5
6. Kerala	-	-	-	426.17
7. Karnataka	-	-	-	662.62
8. Madhya Pradesh	17.56	-	-	560.00
9. Mizoram	28.29	-	-	27.72
10. Meghalaya	-	170.40	-	-
11. Maharashtra	-	707.68	-	-
12. Nagaland	-	156.81	-	83.86
13. Orissa	198.99	-	-	-
14. Punjab	165.99	137.02	-	92.44
15. Rajasthan	412.17	-	-	-
16. Sikkim	0.53	-	-	-
17. Tamil Nadu	0.71	-	-	-
18. Tripura	-	-	-	407.10
19. Uttar Pradesh	188.48	-	-	-
Total	2064.55	2139.85	-	2316.63

[Translation]

Cargo and Passenger Ships

*177. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cargo and passenger ships in the country;

(b) whether these are enough to meet the requirements of out-going and in-coming passenger and cargo services of the country.

(c) whether the Government are manufacturing or purchasing more ships, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) There are 333 cargo ships, 3 passenger ships and 13 passenger-cum-cargo ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 as on 31.3.1996.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The Government is acquiring ships for the Andaman and Nicobar Administration as detailed below :

S No.	Types of vessels	No of vessels	Name of the shipyard
1	2	3	4
1.	1200 Passenger cum 1500 Tonne Cargo Vessel.	1	Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

1	2	3	4
2.	Vehicle Ferries	4	Damodar Engineers, Port Blair, Andaman Nicobar Islands.
3.	400 Passenger cum 100 Tonne Cargo Vessel	1	Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Calcutta, West Bengal.
4.	50-60 Passenger Vessel	2	Alcock Ashdown (Gujarat) Limited, Gujarat.
5.	35-45 Passenger Vessel	1	Alcock Ashdown (Gujarat) Limited, Gujarat.
6.	Touring Vessel	1	Bristol Boat Builders Cochin, Kerala.
7.	100 Passenger-cum-Vehicle Ferry	2	Shalimar works Limited, Calcutta (West Bengal).
Total		12	

[English]

Dawki Amabil Transborder Trade Route

*178. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dawki Amabil transborder trade route between Bangladesh and India has been closed since January, 1996.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether the Union Government have received requests from traders for reopening the trade route; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for reopening the trade route?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Trade with Bangladesh through Dawki Tamabil route came to a halt in January, 1996 due to firing by Bangladesh Rifles on 16.1.1996 at the site of construction of a new Indian Customs building. The Bangladesh authorities had earlier protested against the construction on the grounds that it amounted to erection of defensive works within 150 metres of the boundary line.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A meeting/joint inspection of site by Government officials from both sides was held on 24.6.96 at Dawki Tamabil border to resolve this issue. It is proposed to recommence work at the Dawki station as soon as the formal response of the Bangladesh Government is received.

Venereal Diseases

*179. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Alarming rise in venereal diseases" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated June 13, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the factors responsible for increase in cases of venereal diseases have been ascertained;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to enhance general awareness about venereal diseases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The various factors found responsible for increase in the incidence of Venereal Diseases, now better known as Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) are :

(a) Urbanisation and industrialisation leading to social disruption.

(b) Migration

(c) Work related to travel and tourism.

(d) Change in social values

(e) Change in health seeking behaviour as a result of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Campaign under AIDS Control Programme, because of which more cases are being reported

(d) and (e). All media of communication including inter-personal communication are being used to create awareness among the people. An IEC package

consisting of 4 posters, one folder and a flip book has been prepared specifically for the persons attending STD clinics for wide display and distribution.

ICDS Projects

*180. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Integrated Child Development Services projects sanctioned for the State of Rajasthan and other States so far;

(b) the Central Assistance provided for those projects during last three years;

(c) whether the World Bank has also been funding the ICDS projects; and

(d) if so, the amount of World Bank assistance made available to different States in those years for implementing ICDS?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) A total number of 5614 Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Projects have been sanctioned in the country till date. Of these, 270 ICDS Projects have been sanctioned in the State of Rajasthan. The state-wise details of the number of ICDS projects sanctioned till date is given in statement-I.

(b) The Central assistance provided for the sanctioned ICDS Projects during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 410.62 crores, 434.99 crores and Rs. 568.38 crores, respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An amount of Rs. 338.73 crores has been provided to the four World Bank assisted States till date for implementation of World Bank Assisted ICDS Projects. The year-wise and the state-wise details are given in statement - II.

STATEMENT-I

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Statewise, Naturewise sanctioned Projects as on 31st March 1996 (Including Foreign Assisted/TINP Projects)

S.No.	States/UTs	Rural	Urban	Tribal	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	301	33	29	363
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	0	39	51
3.	Assam	198	3	23	224
4.	Bihar	494	11	93	598
5.	Goa	11	0	0	11
6.	Gujarat	181	12	34	227
7.	Haryana	109	5	0	114

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	67	0	8	75
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	123	2	3	128
10.	Karnataka	166	12	7	185
11.	Kerala	153	10	1	164
12.	Madhya Pradesh	329	27	130	486
13.	Maharashtra	249	27	50	326
14.	Manipur	13	1	18	32
15.	Meghalaya	1	0	29	30
16.	Mizoram	1	1	19	21
17.	Nagaland	25	2	26	53
18.	Orissa	186	12	126	324
19.	Punjab	118	5	0	123
20.	Rajasthan	220	30	30	270
21.	Sikkim	4	1	0	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	384	48	2	434
23.	Tripura	13	5	5	23
24.	Uttar Pradesh	905	19	11	935
25.	West Bengal	298	22	46	366
26.	Delhi	3	26	0	29
27.	Pondicherry	3	2	0	5
28.	Andaman and Nicobar	2	1	2	5
29.	Chandigarh	0	3	0	3
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	1
31.	Daman and Diu	2	0	0	2
32.	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	1
Total		4571	310	733	5614

STATEMENT-II

Amount released to the States during 1990-91 to 1996-97 under World Bank Assistance

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Releases				Total
	Andhra Pradesh	Orissa	M. P.	Bihar	
1990-91	5.00	4.50	-	-	9.50
1991-92	28.00	35.96	-	-	63.96
1992-93	14.00	13.00	3.16	2.85	33.01
1993-94	15.00	15.00	8.75	14.29	53.04
1994-95	16.14	25.57	33.00	15.00	89.71
1995-96	23.00	26.00	28.51	12.00	89.51
Total	101.14	120.03	73.42	44.14	338.73

[Translation]

Health Schemes

1234. DR. G. L. KANAUIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of the health schemes

started in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with the world Bank assistance. State-wise;

(b) the extent to which the said schemes have proved to be successful separately; and

(c) specific steps being taken for expeditious implementation of those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). National Programme for central of AIDS, Leprosy, Blindness and Population growth are being carried out in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with World Bank assistance.

An Externally Funded Project Cell has been set up in the Ministry to monitor the effective implementation of these Projects.

[English]

Sharing of Cauvery Water

1235. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently taken decision on sharing of Cauvery water by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of those State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). To resolve the Cauvery Water Dispute, the Central Government constituted Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal on 2nd June, 1990. The Tribunal passed an Interim Award on 25.6.91 directing the Karnataka Government to ensure inflows of 205 Thousand million Cubic feet (TMC ft.) of water into Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu for each water year (June to May) with monthly and weekly stipulations. 6 TMC ft. of water for Karaikal region of the Union Territory of Pondicherry will be delivered by the State of Tamil Nadu in a regulated manner. Further, the State of Karnataka shall not increase its area under irrigation by the waters of river Cauvery beyond the existing 11.2 lakh acres

So far, the Tribunal has conducted 90 hearings and the basin States are participating in the proceedings of the Tribunal.

[Translation]

Health Care

1236. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount spent on medicines in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase this limit; and

(c) the total expenditure borne by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Health being a State subject, medicines are procured and supplied by State Governments from their own resources. However, as per information

available in National Accounts Statistics, per capita Government expenditure in U.P. on health is Rs. 42 for the year 1992-93. In addition to that drugs required for implementing major National Health Programmes are supplied as per approved norms by the Central Government.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected from State Government.

[English]

One Rank One Pension

1237. PROF. RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government on one rank one pension issue; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Ex-Servicemen's demand for One Rank One Pension was examined by a High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC). The acceptance of the principle of One Rank One Pension was not found feasible for a variety of reasons. However, a scheme of One Time Increase in pension to the Armed Forces pensioners who retired before 1.1.1996 has been sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.1992 in pursuance of the unanimous recommendations of the High Level Empowered Committee.

Road Sector as Industry

1238. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the road sector has been declared as 'Industry'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The activities connected with construction, maintenance and development of roads are to be treated as 'Industrial Concern' under para 2 (c) (XVII) of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act 1964 and under para 2 (c) (XVI) of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act 1948 so as to facilitate loan from lending institutions to private/public sector companies to take up toll-based highway projects.

Infectious Diseases

1239. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether antibiotics and other life saving drugs used against many diseases are rapidly losing their

effectiveness as bacteria and other microbes develop resistance to them; and

(b) if so, the effective measures being taken to fight the ten biggest killer infectious diseases in the country to ensure that its socio-economic development is not crippled by the burden of these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Drug resistance in most drugs used in the treatment of infectious diseases is attributed to indiscriminate use of antibiotics.

(b) In the National Programmes on Control on diseases proper combination of drugs, dosage/duration of treatment are prescribed for effective control of the major communicable diseases.

Mother and Child Care Facilities

1240. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have shifted from demographic targets to mother and child care facilities;

(b) whether this shift has brought about any change in the attitude of those opposed to family planning on grounds of orthodoxy and rigidity in views; and

(c) if so, the what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has been replaced by a system of decentralised planning at the Primary Health Centre level. The Primary Health Centre level planning will take into account the needs of the community and is expected to lead to improvement in quality of services as well as greater acceptance by the people.

Cochin Port Containers Strike

1241. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of Cochin Port containers strike;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The blockade of containers moving to and from Cochin Port with effect from 25th June, 1996 by Cochin Port Labour Union was to protest against non-usage of private labour pools by a private Container Freight Station viz. Asian Terminals. Other trade unions have

also objected to the private CFS engaging outside workers to work in the Container Freight Station.

(c) Consequent to a meeting held by the Port Trust on 26.6.96 with the representatives of all concerned unions, steamer agents, etc., the blockade has been lifted.

[Translation]

Linking of Roads

1242. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to link the dense populated rural areas of National Capital Territory of Delhi with National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be taken up for implementation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Constitutionally, the Government of India is responsible for maintenance and development of National Highways in the country. All roads other than National Highways are primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The proposed roads are State roads and responsibility lies with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[English]

Modernisation of Jetties

1243. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any centrally sponsored scheme for the modernisation of jetties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kerala Government has implemented this scheme from 1991;

(d) whether the Union Government had given 50 percent of the total amount spent; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under this scheme Government of India provides loan assistance to State Governments for implementation of various IWT Schemes including Modernisation of Jetties

(c) The scheme of the Kerala Government for modernisation of 55 passenger jetties was sanctioned by the Government of India in January, 1993. As per the latest progress report furnished by the State Government of Kerala, out of the 55 jetties sanctioned for modernisation, 37 "C" type and 3 "B" type jetties have been completed so far

(d) and (e). The funds released by the Central Government in this regard are based on the sanctioned amounts.

National Barrage Projects

1244. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for declaring any Barrage project as a National Project;

(b) the names of projects declared as National projects by the Government during the last three years. State-wise;

(c) the names of projects for whom the demand of declaring them as National projects is pending; and

(d) the time by which those projects are likely to be declared as National projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). It was proposed to categorise River Valley Projects including Barrage Projects falling under the following criteria as nationally important projects :-

- (i) Projects which are either international or having international aspects;
- (ii) Any State Project or projects having inter-State aspects with irrigation potential above 1 lakh hectares;
- (iii) Projects of national importance from other angles.

However, no project in irrigation sector has been declared as 'National Project'.

(c) and (d). Do not arise

Job Oriented Education

1245. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the guidelines issued to State Governments to lay much emphasis on job oriented education; and

(b) the steps taken to assist the State Governments to popularise and expand the scope of vocational courses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No Sir. However, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education was launched in February, 1988 with the primary objective to enhance individual employability.

(b) For popularisation of Vocational Education Programme following steps have been taken :-

- several documents have been prepared and issued particularly for development of

curriculum, instructional material, school industry linkages, training of teachers, vocational surveys etc.

- folders, posters, vocational films developed.
 - publication of Vocational Education Bulletin.
 - organisation of exhibition of material produced by students
- For expanding the scope of vocational courses :-
- Joint Council for Vocational Education has been set up at national level for providing guidance to the programme.
 - A Central Institute of Vocational Education has been set up to provide technical and academic support.
 - 60 Vocational courses have been covered under Apprenticeship Act.
 - State Govts/UTs have been asked to develop school Industry linkages.

Loss of Crops and Property by Flood

1246. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual loss to crops and property due to flood havocs;

(b) the steps being taken to control the flood damages;

(c) the steps taken to preserve the water by proper utilisation of the rainy water for irrigation.

(d) whether the project of linking of rivers is being revived for better water management, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Annual average loss to crop and property due to floods based on data from 1953 to 1994 is estimated at about Rs 982 crores

(b) The various flood management measures such as embankments, drainage channels, town protection works, raising of villages, and anti erosion schemes undertaken through successive five year plans have provided a reasonable degree of protection to an area of 14.4 million ha (against a flood prone area of 40 million ha as assessed by RBA). Till March 1995, about Rs 4159 crores have been spent on flood management works. The Central Government is operating 157 flood forecasting stations covering 62 river basins which are providing timely flood forecasting services to the State Government for issuing warnings and organising rescue & relief operations.

(c) In the Five Year Plans emphasis was placed on creation of storages across rivers in order to utilise the

rain water for irrigation and other purposes, as a result of which the total live storage capacity of the country is at present about 193.2 billion cubic metres. Dams to create additional live storage capacity of 77 billion cubic metres are under various stages of construction. In addition, about 130 billion cubic metres storage is likely to be added through major and medium schemes under consideration.

(d) and (e). The National Water Development Agency is carrying out studies on the National Perspective Plan for water resources development which, inter-alia envisages transferring water from surplus to water-short basins by inter-linking of rivers and constructing reservoirs at potential sites. It is estimated that another 220 billion cubic metres of water will be available for utilisation under National Perspective Plan for use through inter-basin transfers

Irrigation Water Rates

1247. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the irrigation water rates currently in operation in various States, State-wise and when they were last revised;

(b) whether it is a fact the prevailing water rates are highly uneconomic and do not cover even maintenance charges;

(c) if so, whether experts committee has gone into the problem of uneconomic water rate structure and made certain recommendations

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the details of action taken proposed for rationalisation of water rates in consultation with the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Details indicating the irrigation water rates currently in operation in various States alongwith the year of their last revision are appended

(b) to (e) There is a gap between revenue realised through irrigation and related charges and the cost of operation and maintenance of irrigation projects. According to the report of the Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water (known as Vaidyanathan Committee) submitted to the Planning Commission in September, 1992, the actual irrigation revenue, on an average, worked out in 1989-90 to Rs. 50 per hectare (Rs. 20 per acre) as against the operation and maintenance costs amounting to Rs. 270 per hectare (Rs. 109 per acre). The suggestions of the Committee include: treating water rates as users charge; the objective of water charges is ultimately to recover cost; linking provision of water rates to the improvement of the quality of service; revision and implementation of water rates

in phases; consolidation of the system of Farmer group management; upgrading the system to higher level efficiency in water use and productivity; setting up experts group at the State level for working out norms for operation and maintenance and procedure for periodic review; setting up of autonomous boards at the State level to review policy regarding cost of water; revising water rates and introducing a minimum financial return criteria. The recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee were studied by the Group of Officers (GOO) set up by the Planning Commission in December, 1992. The GOO in its report of December, 1994, recommended, inter-alia, that the irrigation water rates should cover the full annual operation and maintenance cost in phases in next 5 years period. Irrigation being a State subject, recommendations of the GOO alongwith the report of the Vaidyanathan Committee has been sent by the Planning Commission to all the States for consideration and further action.

Construction of Hostels

1248. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) total number of hostels available for working women in West Bengal;

(b) the names of places from where the proposal for construction of more of such hostels in West Bengal have been received during the last three years, district-wise;

(c) the number of proposals sanctioned as on March 31, 1996 and the funds allocated for each hostel; and

(d) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be declared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) 35 hostels have so far been sanctioned in West Bengal

(b) and (c) A statement is attached

(d) The time by which remaining proposals are likely to be approved depends upon the time by which complete schematic requirements are met

STATEMENT

S No	Names of places from where Proposals have been received		whether proposal sanctioned as on 31.3.1996	Funds allocated (Rs. in lakhs)
	District	Place		
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Calcutta	Calcutta	Yes	13.70
2.	Howrah	Bagnan	No.	-

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Midnapore	Haldia (2 proposals)	One proposal sanctioned.	91.03
4.	North 24 Parganas	Chukgaria Krishnapur	Yes Yes	30.44 29.63
5.	South 24 Parganas	Basanti	No	-
6.	Uttar Dinajpur	Raiganj	Yes	7.43

Water in Narmada River

1249. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of utilisable water available in Narmada river;

(b) whether various opinion have been expressed in this regard from time to time;

(c) the steps taken by Central Water Commission to find out exact data regarding availability of water; and

(d) the details of places where water measurement stations have been set up for measuring the availability of water alongwith the name of authority who has set up these stations including the name of controlling authority?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) As per the Award of Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT), the quantum of available flow in Narmada river at Sardar Sarovar Dam site is 28 Million Acre Feet (MAF) on the basis of 75% dependability.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) After detailed analysis on the basis of further observed data upto 1990, Central Water Commission has confirmed in 1993 the assessment made by the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal.

(d) The names of places where Central Water Commission, Government of Madhya Pradesh and Government of Maharashtra have set up hydrological observation stations along the river Narmada and its tributaries for assessing the flow in the river are as under :

Central Water Commission

1. Dindori	11. Hoshangabad
2. Manot	12. Chhidgaon
3. Mohgaon	13. Handia
4. Hirdayanagar	14. Ginnore
5. Jamtara	15. Kogaon
6. Patan	16. Mandleshwar
7. Belkheri	17. Rajghat

8. Gadarwara	18. Chandwada
9. Burmanghat	19. Gaurdeswar
10. Sandia	

Madhya Pradesh

1. Mortakka	11. Chhidgaon
2. Sankalghat	12. Satrana
3. Jhansighat	13. Manegaon (Bagra Tawa)
4. Bargi	14. Maheshwar
5. Mandla	15. Tikheria
6. Hatni	16. Bamni Banjar
7. Lingwa	17. Parastola
8. Bhadli	18. Sakker
9. Lower Beda	
10. Upper Beda	

Maharashtra

1. Dhadgaon

Projects in Assam under C.R.T.

1250. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the details of the on going projects funded out of the Central Road Fund in Assam;

(b) the details of the project-wise estimated cost, and the amount released and spent so far.

(c) whether the Union Government have released the entire allocated amount; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The details of the on-going Projects are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). The following amount were allocated and released to the Assam State during the last 3 years.

	(Rs in Lakhs)
1993-94	40.00
1994-95	42.00
1995-96	21.00

STATEMENT

Name of the Work	Sanctioned Amount
1	2
State Name : Assam	(Rs. in Lakhs)
Research Project-R-5 Study of critical moisture content of evaluation of sub-grade strength for pavement under different condition	2.84

1	2
Widening of North Guwahati Amingaon high Kalbari road from 15th to 34th Km.	70.00
2	
Rangapara to Borjuli under Tezpur Rd division	5.50
Khanamukh to Kachubeel under Tezpur Rd division	5.50
Lilabari Seajuli Rd.	6.00
Anipur Oliviacherra Rd.	8.00
Paldi Derby Borjalenga Road	25.00
Silchar Jayantipur Road	40.00
Sonai-Motinagar Deedar kosh Road	40.50

Assistance from World Bank to Irrigation Projects in Bihar

1251. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the names of the irrigation projects in Bihar being operated with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) whether certain irrigation projects of Bihar are still under the consideration of World Bank for grant of assistance;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the estimated cost of these irrigation projects in Bihar which are already under operation with the aid of World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) At present, no World Bank assisted irrigation project is in operation in Bihar.

(b) and (c). A project proposal for second phase of Multi-State Subernarekha Irrigation Project with Bihar component of Rs. 1695.47 crores is in its formulation and preliminary consideration stage

(d) Does not arise.

Bridge on NH-52 in Assam

1252. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a long standing proposal for construction of a bridge on NH-52 across river Jia-Bharati near Chowkhat in Sonitpur district of Assam.

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount to be sanctioned; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The estimate for project preparation has been sanctioned for Rs. 51 lakhs and the work is in progress. The total project is likely to cost Rs. 70 crores and it is too early to indicate the likely date of completion.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Gujarat

1253. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Kendriya Vidyalayas have been opened in Gujarat during the last three years and till date;

(b) if so, the names and places of the same;

(c) the Rules, Procedure and Guidelines to open the same;

(d) the plans and estimates to open more such schools;

(e) whether there are demands and representations from Gujarat Government and other quarters to open more such schools in the State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and action taken and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) and (b). Three Kendriya Vidyalayas have been opened in Gujarat during the last three years and till date at the following places :

(i) O.N.G.C., Hazaria, Surat

(ii) O.N.G.C., Baroda

(iii) N.T.P.C., Gandhar Gal Power Project, Jhanor.

(c) The norms for opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas are given in the attached statement.

(d) For the country as a whole, the Government has approved opening of 20 Kendriya Vidyalayas each year under Civil and Defence Sector for the period from 1993-94 to 1997-98 and as many as found suitable under Project Sector.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Proposals have been received by the Sangathan for opening Kendriya Vidyalayas at the following places:

(i) Valsad.

(ii) Freelandganj, Dahod.

(iii) Godhra, District Panchmahal.

The sponsoring authorities have been asked to fulfil the terms and conditions as per norms for opening the Vidyalayas. Their response has not been received.

STATEMENT

Norms for Opening of New Kendriya Vidyalaya

1. Proposal for opening new Kendriya Vidyalaya (Central Schools) are considered only if sponsored by one of the following :-
 - (i) (a) Ministries or Departments of the Govt. of India
 - (b) State Governments.
 - (c) Union Territories Administrations
 - (d) Organisation of employees belonging to the eligible categories. (as in iii).
 - (ii) When a piece of land, measuring about 15 acres, is made available by the sponsoring authority, free of cost, to the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.
 - (iii) (a) When there is a concentration of atleast 1000 employees of the defence services or of Central Govt. employees of the Govt. of India Undertaking, individually or jointly and when there are atleast 200 children (500 in the case of big cities) willing to be enrolled in different classes of the proposed Kendriya Vidyalaya (Central Schools) to begin with.
 - (b) A minimum number of 200 children would be available for enrolment in schools in new cantonments and Defence establishments.
 - (iv) When the sponsoring authority makes available, free of rent or on nominal rent temporary accommodation to house the expanding Vidyalayas till such time as the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan can construct its own Vidyalaya building on the land given to it and
 - (v) Provision of the residential accommodation to atleast 50% of the staff, where alternative accommodation may not be available within reasonable distance from the school, should be made available by the sponsoring authority. The number of such residential units need to be earmarked before the school is opened.
2. A new Kendriya Vidyalaya (Central School) may be opened in the campus of Govt. of India Undertaking, if it agrees to bear the recurring and non-recurring expenditure including accommodation, land and future development facilities as also the proportionate overhead charges on the proposed Vidyalaya provided the need for such a Vidyalaya is established with reference to the location and non-availability of alternate educational facilities.
3. A new Kendriya Vidyalaya (Central School) may be opened in the campus of an Institution of Higher Learning, like IIT, CSIR Laboratories etc. on the

same terms and conditions as stipulated in respect of schools for Public Sector Undertakings.

[Translation]

C.J.D. Cases

1254. DR. RAMKRISHAN KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some incidents of 'mad cow' disease have occurred in India, which has affected thousands of cows in Britain and which is fatal to human beings also;

(b) if so, the number of cases of C.J.D. that has come to light in the country;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any programme to curb this disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No such case has been reported in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.G.K. Menon has been constituted to go into various aspects of 'Mad Cow Disease.'

[English]

Payment of Foreign Exchange by Shipping Corporation of India

1255. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether excess foreign exchange payment were made to certain foreign companies by the Shipping Corporation of India during the year 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry into the lapse was conducted by the Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, an amount of US\$ 2.75 lakhs pertaining to M/s. Standard Steamship (Mutual) Bermuda Ltd. was inadvertently remitted to M/s. United Stevedoring, Antwerp, Belgium in December, 1994 by London office of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. The above amount alongwith interest has already been recovered from the party.

(c) and (d). Government has not conducted any inquiry. However, Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. has instituted an internal inquiry in the matter and report of the inquiry is awaited.

Indian Children as Jockeys for Camel Racing

1256. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new UN Report on Child Labour says that young children from India are still being sold as jockeys for camel racing in the Gulf countries or as young brides to older men of Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the facts in this regards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). The UNICEF has recently brought out a report on the progress of nations with regard to child welfare, but it does not refer to the subject matter of the question. However, there have been a few instances in the past which have come to Government's notice regarding young Indian children being used as jockeys for camel racing or as young brides to older men in some Gulf countries. Government have taken steps to prevent such instances by closely scrutinising visa and passport applications and denying these facilities to persons suspected of indulging in such practices. Government proposes to continue these steps.

[Translation]

Medical College

1257. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Post Graduate Studies could not be introduced in Medical College, Nanded (Maharashtra) so far even though the college has already completed five academic sessions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI) : (a) to (c). The Government of Maharashtra has not sent any proposal seeking the permission of the Central Government for starting of post graduate courses in Medical College, Nanded under the provisions of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

[English]

Research Projects undertaken by Centre for Studies in Social Science, Calcutta

1258. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the Research Projects undertaken by the Centre of Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta during 1990 to 1995;

(b) whether there is any Projects which is lying incomplete; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). According to the information furnished by the Centre for Studies in Social Science, Calcutta, 27 research projects were started and completed during 1990-95. The total number of projects, however completed during 1990-95 is 48. While the projects undertaken till 1993 have been completed, 15 projects begun in 1994 and 1995, are yet to be completed.

[Translation]

Schemes for Welfare of Women

1259. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes being launched by the Union Government for the welfare of women; and

(b) the names of such schemes and position thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Government of India has not approved any new Central or Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Women's Development during 1996-97.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Indian Labourers in Saudi Arabia, UAE and Iraq

1260. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that Indian labourers working in Saudi Arabia, UAE and Iraq have been posing great problems due to their behaviour; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir. Indian workers in these countries are generally regarded as law abiding and hard-working.

(b) Does not arise.

Anti-India Broadcasting

1261. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Embassy in Washington had

protested against the Anti-India broadcasting by US media in regard to elections in Jammu & Kashmir:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to avoid such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Reporting on US radio and television on elections in Jammu & Kashmir was not substantial. The main commercial networks did not cover the elections in J&K at all. CNN telecast a news item on May 30, 1996 which carried some criticism. There were also some misleading reports on the subject in the US print media of May 24, 1996.

The main thrust of the criticism was that the people in Kashmir had been coerced to vote by security forces, so that the turn out could be high.

(c) Government have comprehensively refuted these false allegations in numerous briefings in Srinagar and New Delhi as well as through Indian Embassies. The Indian Embassy in Washington issued a detailed press briefing the US media following the misleading reports which appeared on May 24, 1996. Editors of leading newspapers and news agencies were also personally briefed by the Embassy.

(d) Government will continue with its policy of transparency in J&K as the most effective method of ensuring that interested observers are able to see the reality on the ground for themselves and report the correct situation to their audiences.

Setting up of Youth Hostels and Holiday Camps

1262. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of youth hostels and holiday camps set up in the country so far alongwith the facilities being provided to the youths at these places, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government allow the retired Government employees to avail of the same facilities which are being provided to the regular Government servants;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government propose to extend these facilities to Ex-Government servants also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHANR) : (a) The following 45 youth hostels have been commissioned. Panchkula, Pipli, Bhiwani (Haryana); Dalhousie, Bilaspur (Himachal

Pradesh); Ropar, Amritsar, Sangrur (Punjab); Jaipur, Jodhpur (Rajasthan); Nainital, Agra (Uttar Pradesh); Sacunderabad, Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh); Hassan, Mysore (Karnataka); Calicut, Ernakulam, Veli (Kerala); Madras, Thanjavur, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu); Panaji (Goa); Gandhinagar (Gujarat); Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh); Aurangabad (Maharashtra); Naharlagun (Arunachal Pradesh); Shillong, Tura (Meghalaya); Patnitop (Jammu & Kashmir); Patna (Bihar); Puri, Joshipur (Orissa); Darjeeling (West Bengal); Golaghat, Guwahati (Assam); Imphal, Ukhrul (Manipur); Tripura (Agartala); Dimapur (Nagaland); Aizawl (Mizoram); Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Island); Pondicherry (Pondicherry); Namchi (Sikkim);

These Youth Hostels are non-religious, non-political and non-commercial Units without any discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, caste, creed or social background. Overnight charges are kept to the minimum so that the youth with limited means can avail the stay facilities. Concession in overnight charges is given to members of Youth Hostel Association and students in organised groups of educational Institutions. It promotes youth travel by providing inexpensive hostel facilities to young persons on their educational excursions to historical and cultural centres intended to foster feelings of better understanding of each others, gain knowledge about diversities of the country, its natural beauty and historical heritage. The Department of Tourism, Government of India have, however, not set up any holiday camps.

(b) Youth hostels are primarily meant for short stay of travellers, especially youth, irrespective of their status.

(c) & (d). Does not arise.

Patent Right

1263. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US based Fox Chase Cancer Centre has applied to European patent Office for right over phylanthus Niruri popularly known in India as "bhuni amla" which is used by Ayurvedic and unani doctors for curing jaundice; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). US based Fox chase Cancer Centre has filed a patent in Europe for treating hepatitis virus by administering a component of phylanthus Niruri popularly known as "Bhumi Amla" used by Ayurvedic and Unani doctors for various ailments including Liver disorders.

No patent right can be granted for plants as such or parts of the plants because these are available in nature.

Pak Prime Minister's Statement on Kashmir

1264. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to Mrs. Benazir Bhutto's recent address to the nation in which she has, inter alia, expressed her resolve to give whole hearted support to Kashmiri Muslims in their struggle for right of self-determination; and

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

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

(b) The tone of Pakistan Prime Minister's address to the nation on 28 June, 1996 was at variance with the letter of felicitations sent by her to our Prime Minister at his assumption of office. In his reply to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, our Prime Minister suggested the resumption of the Foreign Secretary level dialogue. We await Pakistan's response to our Prime Minister's letter to the Pakistani Prime Minister.

Closure of Jammu-Srinagar Highway

1265. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days Jammu-Srinagar Highway remained closed for traffic during 1995 and from January to June 1996 with main reasons therefor;

(b) the expenditure incurred on repair works on the Jammu-Srinagar highway during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(c) whether the conditions of the highway is getting deteriorated and the steps being taken to make the highway motorable?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The Jammu-Srinagar highway remained closed for 41 days during 1995 and 9 days during January, 1996 to June, 1996 due to heavy rainfall and snowfall.

(b) The expenditure incurred on repairs works, on the Jammu-Srinagar highway, during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 413 lakhs, Rs. 511 lakhs and Rs. 516 lakhs respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

Eventhough the existing availability of funds for improvement/maintenance is quite meagre, yet persistent efforts are on to maintain the highway in motorable condition.

[Translation]

Central Government Health Scheme

1266. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the Central Government Health Scheme dispensaries are having their own laboratories for blood/sputum/stool/urin testing;

(b) is not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any scheme to provide the said facility in all the dispensaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the above said facilities are likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). It is not feasible to provide laboratory facilities in each dispensary due to financial constraints. However, all CGHS dispensaries have been covered for laboratory facilities by attaching two/three of the nearest dispensaries to the dispensaries which have the laboratory facilities.

[English]

Implementation of Major Projects

1267. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of villagers have been ousted from their native villages as a result of the implementation of major projects like Subarnarekha Multipurpose project and the Koel-Karo Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of people affected by Subernrekha Multipurpose Project and Koel Karo Project is given below :

I.	<i>Subernrekha Multipurpose Project</i>	
1.	Chandil Dam (Bihar)	37596 No.
2.	Icha Dam	
	(i) Bihar Portion	126160 No.
	(ii) Orissa Portion	9653 No.
3.	Haladia Dam	1629 No.
4.	Jambhira Dam	6672 No.
5.	Baura Dam	5474 No.
II.	<i>Koel Karo Project</i>	22359 No.

(c) The steps taken for rehabilitation in respect of Subernarekha Multipurpose Project & Koel Karo Project are given below :

I. *Subernarekha Projects* : According to the latest policy of Bihar Government, a grant of Rs. 55,000 per displaced family is being given which includes grants for house building, economic rehabilitation, shifting charges and 25 decimals of homestead. In addition payment is made to compensate for houses and lands acquired in the submergence area.

According to Orissa Rehabilitation Policy Act, 1994 a displaced family is being given assistance of Rs. 64,000 for purchase of house plots, construction of house and purchase of cultivable land. Besides this a rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 500/- per month is given for one year from the date of displacement.

II. *Koel Karo Project* : The rehabilitation package for the project consists of :-

- (i) Employment to one member from every family whose land is being acquired to be provided in the ratio of 75:25 by the Government of Bihar and in the project respectively.
- (ii) Compensation for the acquired land to be fixed by capitalising price of 15 years yield from the land.
- (iii) 25 decimal land free of cost to every oustee for construction of house at rehabilitation site.
- (iv) Rs. 750/- as transport grant for transportation of personal effects to each displaced family.
- (v) Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/- as grant-in-aid to each family whose land would be acquired depending on the amount of compensation in addition to the compensation amount of the land acquired.
- (vi) Shops at market complex constructed in colonies/construction sites would be reserved for displaced persons.
- (vii) Contracts for Earthwork and stone cutting and contracts upto estimated value of Rs. 10 lakh for affected persons on the basis of competitive bidding among them. The affected persons would not require to deposit earnest money and security deposit.
- (viii) Religious places would be constructed at the rehabilitation site in lieu of those which may be submerged.
- (ix) All civil amenities, cultural activities for tribals, technical/vocational courses for displaced families etc.

Birth Centenary of Netaji

1268. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government will be convening a

meeting of the National Committee on an urgent basis in view of the birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which is only six months away; and

(b) if so, the probable date of the meeting of the National Committee constituted for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). The Government is conscious of the urgency that needs to be accorded to the finalisation of the programmes/activities to commemorate the Birth Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. All necessary steps are being taken in this direction and the question of fixing the next date for the meeting of the National Committee is also under consideration.

Kala-Azar

1269. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is large scale incident of Kala-Azar in Bihar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have stopped spraying of D.D.T. in the endemic areas;

(d) if so, reasons therefor;

(e) the details of assistance provided to the State during 1995-96; and

(f) the steps taken to effectively control Kala-Azar in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). There has been an increase in the incidence of Kala-Azar in Bihar over the period January - May, 1996 as compared to same period last year. The increase can be attributed to non-spraying of DDT as per the schedule and inadequacy of active house-to-house detection and treatment of cases.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) During the year 1995-96, 99,200 vials of Sodium Stibo Gluconate (SSG) and 10,000 vials of Pentamidine which constitute essential drugs for treatment of Kala-azar were supplied by the Central Government to the Govt. of Bihar.

(f) steps taken to control the disease are :-

- interruption of transmission through vector control by undertaking residual insecticidal spraying in affected areas.
- Early diagnosis and complete treatment through Primary Health Care System.
- Health Education and Community participation.

Training of Health functionaries.

Further, an Expert Team has been constituted on 28th May, 1996 by the Govt. of India to assess the implementation of the kala-azar Control activities in Bihar and West Bengal and suggest measures to ensure effective implementation of the programme.

Interim Report of Pay Committee

1270. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UGC has received any Interim Report from the Pay Committee constituted to consider and suggest the pay scales of Professors, Readers and Lecturers of the Universities and Colleges; and

(b) the time by which the final report is expected to be received by the UGC for fixation of pay scales of Professors, Readers and Lecturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) As per the terms of reference of the UGC Pay Review Committee, it would make its recommendations in regard to the pay scales of University and College teachers in the light of the 5th Pay Commission recommendations in respect of revision of pay scales of Central Government employees.

Inter State Water Disputes

1271. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has been laying greater emphasis on the settlement of Inter-State water disputes;

(b) if so, what are the Inter-State water disputes pending for settlement;

(c) whether there has been an inordinate delay on the scuti of those disputes;

(d) if so, the steps taken to resolve the disputes at an early date; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. As per the existing practice efforts are made to solve the water disputes through negotiations with the basin states. In case, the efforts do not fructify and if any of the basin States approaches the Central Government to set up a Tribunal, the same is set up under Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 to adjudicate. There is also a proposal for adopting National Policy Guidelines for water sharing.

(b) to (e). At present, there are two Inter-State Water Disputes, namely : (i) Cauvery Water Disputes & (ii) Ravi-Beas Water Disputes.

In case of Cauvery Water Disputes, the Tribunal has conducted 90 hearings till date.

In the case of Ravi-Beas Water Disputes, it has not been possible to hold the sittings of the Tribunal due to the resignation of one of the Members of the Tribunal.

Indo-Iran Chemical Deal

1272. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "Clinton administration to probe India-Iran chemical deal" appearing in 'The Economic Times', New Delhi dated June 30, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken to clarify India's stand on this commercial deal with Iran?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. US Administration have conveyed their apprehension about the possibility of the pesticide plant being used for chemical weapon purposes.

(c) Government have conveyed that India is committed to nonproliferation of chemical weapons and honouring its international commitment under the Chemical Weapons Convention to which it is a signatory.

Birth Rate

1273. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual birth-rate in the country at present;

(b) the target of birth-rate by the year 2000;

(c) whether the Government are satisfied that as per the measures undertaken so far, the progress in the decline in the birth-rate would make the target achievable;

(d) if not, the additional measures which are under consideration;

(e) whether the Government propose to examine the desirability of debaring such people from voting or standing for election who have more than 3 children after a retrospective date; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per latest Sample Registration System estimates, annual birth rate in the country is 28.7 (per 1000 population) for the year 1994.

(b) In terms of National Health Policy (1983), the target birth rate for the country by the year 2000 AD is 21 (per 1000 population).

(c) According to the Planning Commission estimates the target of Net Reproduction Rate (NRR) of 1 is likely to be achieved by 2011-2016 A.D.

(d) The additional measures taken, inter-alia, include the following :

- (i) Under the Social Safety Net Scheme, additional financial support to 90 districts having higher birth rate;
- (ii) Externally aided projects in states having high growth rates;
- (iii) Implementation of Family Welfare Programme on the basis of target free approach effective from 1996-97 with emphasis on quality of care and clients' satisfaction;
- (iv) Increased involvement of Non Governmental Organisations (NGSOs); and
- (v) Integrated Reproductive Child Health (RCH) Package.

(e) and (f). A Constitution (Seventy Ninth Amendment) Bill, 1992 which disqualifies prospectively a person having more than two children from being a member of either House of Parliament or either House of Legislature of a State, has been recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development to be passed.

Bridge Over Yamuna

1274. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a pucca bridge in place of the pantoon bridge on river Yamuna at Chilla ghat Banda Marg in Fatehpur district in Uttar Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Constitutionally, the Central Government is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only and all other roads are the responsibility of respective State Governments. As the bridge in question is not on National Highways network its construction is the responsibility of State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

Central Water Commission

1275. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of violation of official

languages Act in his Ministry and in the Central Water Commission during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for such violations and the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether incidents of such violation in the Ministry and its attached offices are still continuing, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) if not, the reasons for providing more staff facilities to 'Bhagirath' (English version) in comparison to 'Bhagirath' (Hindi version) as also reasons for depriving the Hindi Journal of necessary facilities; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation by stopping such violations of the official languages Act and by putting an end to utter disregard of Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No violation of the Official Language Act in the Ministry of Water Resources or the Central Water Commission during the last three years has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

(d) Similar staff and other facilities for both Hindi and English edition of Bhagirath have been provided.

(e) The question does not arise.

Admission in Colleges in Delhi

1276. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem captioned "Sath Pratishat Se Neeche Walon Ko to Dhakhila Hi Nahin Milnewala" appearing in Jansatta dated June 17, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether only those students who have secured more than 60% marks are likely to get admission in colleges; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to ensure that all the students get admission in regular classes irrespective of their percentage of marks secured by them in Twelfth class?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education 65,435 students have passed class XII examination from Delhi Zone this year. Most of these students would have applied for admission to under-graduate courses in Delhi

Colleges. Besides, Delhi University, being a prestigious institution, attracts students from all over the country. As almost every student applies for admission to more than one course and in more than one college simultaneously, the number of students who applied for admission and the number of those who have not been able to secure it cannot be stated precisely. However, as in the previous years, the University should be in a position to accommodate almost all the eligible candidates in the Colleges, the Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board, the School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education and the External Candidates Cell.

Relations with Neighbouring Countries

1277. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN Alias PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any comprehensive action plan has been chalked out or being chalked out to strengthen further relations with neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to convene an all party meeting to formulate an action plan with a view to strengthen relations with these countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Government accords highest priority to sustaining and further strengthening relations with our neighbours and is committed to expanding cooperation with them in all spheres of bilateral relations. Action plans are prepared annually for each neighbouring country which take into consideration past performance and future scope.

(c) to (e). There is a national consensus on the above policy approach and Government is in regular touch with all sections of public opinion about further improving and deepening relations with all our neighbours.

[English]

Engineering College in D.A. University

1278. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded sanction to start an Engineering College in Devi Ahilyabai University from the current Academic Session; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started and the details of courses, proposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has accorded a conditional approval to Devi Ahilyabai University for establishment of the Institute of Engineering and Technology to conduct 4 years degree courses in Computer Engineering, Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering and Mechanical Engineering with an intake capacity of 60 students each for the session 1996-97.

Admission in Medical Colleges

1279. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the number of students of Jammu and Kashmir who have been given admission in different medical colleges of the country during the last three years. Medical College-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : The Government have no information about number of students from Jammu and Kashmir state who have got admission in different medical colleges of the country. However, 29 MBBS seats were allocated to Jammu and Kashmir state from out of the Central Pool during 1993-94 and 1994-95. college-wise details are given in the given Statement.

STATEMENT

Allocation of MBBS seats to the State of Jammu and Kashmir from out of the Central Pool.

<i>1993-94 Session</i>		
S.No	Name of the College	Number of seats
1	2	3
Delhi		
1.	Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi	: 3 (three)
2.	Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi	: 1 (one)
Bihar		
3.	Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi	: 2 (two)
4.	Nalanda Medical College, Patna	: 2 (two)
Haryana		
5.	Medical College, Rohtak	: 1 (one)
Madhya Pradesh		
6.	Medical College, Bhopal	: 3 (three)
7.	Medical College, Jabalpur	: 2 (two)

1	2	3
Maharashtra		
8.	Govt. Medical College, Aurangabad	: 1 (one)
9.	S.R. T.R. Medical College, Ambajogi	: 1 (one)
10.	Dr. V.M. Medical College, Solapur	: 1 (one)
11.	Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Wardha.	: 2 (two)
Kerala		
12.	Medical College, Prichur	: 2 (two)
Rajasthan		
13.	Medical College, Ajmer	: 1 (one)
14.	Medical College, Jaipur	: 2 (two)
Himachal Pradesh		
15.	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla	: 2 (two)
West Bengal		
16.	C.N. Medical College, Calcutta	: 1 (one)
Pondicherry		
17.	Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry.	: 1 (one)
Total		28 (twenty eight)
<u>1994-95 Session</u>		
Delhi		
1.	Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi	: 1 (one)
Total		1 (one)

Good Offices of Sri Lanka

1280. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
DR. RAMKRISHAN KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has sought good offices of Sri Lankan President to bring India and Pakistan to the negotiating table as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 8, 1996;

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir, The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister during his discussions with the External Affairs Ministers in Delhi on June 20, 1996 mentioned that the Pakistani Foreign Minister, while on a visit to Colombo, had asked

Sri Lanka to convey a message to India on Pakistan's willingness to resume dialogue with India. The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister added that his country had no presumption of mediating but had only agreed to convey the message from the Pakistani Foreign Minister as Sri Lanka had good relations with both India and Pakistan.

(b) The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister was informed that India would stick to the bilateral path in Indo-Pak relations and India was awaiting a response to our offer of a comprehensive and wide ranging dialogue on all issues of mutual concern as contained in Prime Minister's message to the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

[Translation]

Ranchi University as Central University

1281. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Ranchi University (Bihar) into a Central University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Does not arise.

(b) The National Policy on Education - 1986, with modifications undertaken in 1992, states that, in view of the need to effect an all-round improvement in the institutions, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on the consolidation of, and expansion of facilities in, the existing institutions.

Pak's Defence Outlay

1282. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pak's defence outlay and its nuclear programme is creating imbalance of military power in the South Asian region;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with other neighbouring countries of the region;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Pakistan's high level of defence spending, acquisition of sophisticated arms and weapons oriented nuclear programme are not conducive to peace and security on the region. Government have

in their diplomatic interactions with other countries, expressed their concern over Pakistan's acquisition of sophisticated arms and its clandestine weapons oriented nuclear programme.

(d) Does not arise.

Bird Hit Menace at Airports of IAF

1283. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to bird hit menace faced by flying aircraft, certain structures and communications network etc. located at airports are proposed to be shifted by Indian Air Force (IAF) to new locations;

(b) if so, the details and the measures taken so far to tackle bird hit menace at the airports of Indian Air Force;

(c) whether technology upgradation with the help of foreign agencies was attempted in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the losses suffered by IAF on account of bird hitting of fighter aeroplanes during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d). Though certain airfields are prone to bird hits on flying aircraft, no structures or communication networks are proposed to be shifted away from these airfields. However, steps have been taken by the Ministries of Agriculture and Urban Affairs and Employment and the concerned State Governments for modernisation of slaughter houses/ carcass utilisation centres and for sanitisation of areas around the bird-prone airfields to reduce bird activities. There is a proposal to acquire LPG operated Acoustic devices, Bird Guard Bio-Acoustic equipment and Microlite aircraft from abroad by the IAF for scaring away birds.

(e) During the last two years, the IAF has lost 2 MiG-27 and 2 MiG-21 aircraft besides withdrawal of 57 aero-engines.

[English]

Surplus Port Land

1284. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the rules framed by the Government for leasing out the surplus port land in the country;

(b) whether any surplus port land has been leased out of any port in Gujarat under these rules; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No land has been declared as surplus in the Port. However, land is leased out for port related activities by calling competitive bids.

(b) and (c). No. Sir.

Indian Mission Premises Abroad

1285. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Indian missions in various countries housed in properties owned by the Government of India and those housed in rented premises;

(b) the amount of rent paid in each case during the last three years, year-wise.

(c) whether the Government have examined comparative advantage of the option of purchasing property to house missions in rented premises;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have prepared any policy document in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) At present 57 (fifty-seven) Indian Missions in various countries are housed in properties owned by the Government and 59 (fifty-nine) are in rented properties. The details are enclosed in the attached Statement I and II.

(b) The amount of rent paid during the last 3 years is as follows :

1993-94	Rs. 8.32 crores
1994-95	Rs. 11.02 crores
1995-96	Rs. 11.32 crores

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of the rising trend in rentals all over the world, it has been Government's policy to acquire properties for its Missions wherever cost effective. This is done either through the purchase of built-up properties or by undertaking construction on acquiring plots. With regard to purchase of built-up properties Missions have been provided clear guidelines on the basis of which to suggest properties for outright purchase. The basic requirements in each case are :

(i) Suitability of space and location;

(ii) Economic cost effectiveness vis-a-vis the market value and rental trends;

(iii) Structural soundness and residual life of proposed properties;

(iv) Clear title.

If these criteria are met. Property Teams from the Ministry are deputed to these stations for inspection of the property and to enter into final negotiations with the owner. Similarly, with regard to construction proposals also, decisions to undertake construction in each case are taken after considering local trends in rentals, availability of built up properties for purchase, suitability of location of plots where construction is proposed, local construction norms as well as economic viability of construction vis-a-vis renting and purchase. Construction proposals are finalised taking into account Ministry's prescribed space norms, the staff strength, prescribed and additional space requirements as well as present and near future needs of the Mission in each case.

(e) Yes, Sir

(f) A comprehensive plan for acquisition/construction of properties for Indian Missions and Posts abroad has been prepared to be implemented over a period of ten years, subject to availability of funds. The Ministry of Finance has been requested to provide additional funds in this Ministry's Capital Outlay Budget for this purpose. It has been the consistent and general policy of the Government to acquire/construct, as far as possible, properties of our own, with a view to minimise expenditure on rents.

STATEMENT - I

List of Indian Missions housed in properties owned by the Government as on 15.7.1996

S.No.	Missions
1	2
1.	High Commission of India, Accra
2.	Embassy of India, Amman
3.	Embassy of India, Ankara
4.	Embassy of India, Antananarivo
5.	Embassy of India, Athens
6.	Embassy of India, Bangkok
7.	Embassy of India, Beijing
8.	Embassy of India, Bonn
9.	Embassy of India, Brussels
10.	Embassy of India, Budapest
11.	Embassy of India, Buenos Aires
12.	Embassy of India, Cairo
13.	High Commission of India, Canberra
14.	Embassy of India, Caracas
15.	High Commission of India, Colombo
16.	Embassy of India, Copenhagen
17.	Embassy of India, Damascus
18.	High Commission of India, Harare
19.	Embassy of India, Helsinki
20.	Commission of India, Hong Kong

1	2
21.	High Commission of India, Islamabad
22.	Embassy of India, Jakarta
23.	High Commission of India, Kampala
24.	Embassy of India, Kathmandu
25.	Embassy of India, Khartoum
26.	Embassy of India, Kiev
27.	High Commission of India, Kinsasha
28.	High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur
29.	Embassy of India, Kuwait
30.	High Commission of India, Lagos
31.	Embassy of India, Lima
32.	Embassy of India, Lisbon
33.	High Commission of India, London
34.	High Commission of India, Lusaka
35.	Embassy of India, Madrid
36.	High Commission of India, Mahe
37.	Embassy of India, Manila
38.	Embassy of India, Mexico City
39.	Embassy of India, Moscow
40.	High Commission of India, Nicosia
41.	Embassy of India, Oslo
42.	High Commission of India, Offawa
43.	Embassy of India, Paris
44.	High Commission of India, Port of Spain
45.	High Commission of India, Pretoria
46.	Embassy of India, Rabat
47.	Embassy of India, Santiago
48.	Embassy of India, Seoul
49.	High Commission of India, Singapore
50.	Embassy of India, Tehran
51.	Embassy of India, The Hague
52.	Embassy of India, Thimpu
53.	Embassy of India, Tokyo
54.	Embassy of India, Tunis
55.	Embassy of India, Vienna
56.	Embassy of India, Washington
57.	High Commission of India, Windhoek

STATEMENT-II

List of Missions Housed in Rented Premises and Amount of Rent Paid during the Last three Years

S No	Names of the Mission	Rents Paid during (in thousand Rs)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Embassy of India, Algiers	155	24	
2.	Embassy of India, Addis Ababa	319	312	336

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Embassy of India, Abidjan	777	480	628
4.	Embassy of India, Almaty	789	1577	1840
5.	Embassy of India, Ashgabad	8	62	175
6.	Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi	-	4310	4741
7.	Embassy of India, Baghdad	1	1	1
8.	Embassy of India, Beirut	784	998	1175
9.	Embassy of India, Belgrade	6641	6641	7022
10.	Embassy of India, Berne	3382	3607	4615
11.	Embassy of India, Bishkek	-	379	634
12.	Embassy of India, Bogota	-	1550	1532
13.	Embassy of India, Brasillia	379	2282	1587
14.	Embassy of India, Bratislava	-	-	4554
15.	Embassy of India, Bucharest	1332	1365	1551
16.	Embassy of India, Bahrain	2207	2550	2640
17.	Embassy of India, Dakar	259	259	262
18.	High Commission of India, Dar-es-Salaam	1379	1499	1598
19.	High Commission of India, Dhaka	2450	2510	3260
20.	Embassy of India, Doha	2038	1878	1983
21.	Embassy of India, Dushanbe	-	1354	2167
22.	High Commission of India, Gaborone	7361	6433	2655
23.	High Commission of India, Georgetown	344	344	361
24.	Embassy of India, Honol	1212	1212	1344
25.	Embassy of India, Havana	794	762	807
26.	Embassy of India, Kabul	-	411	-
27.	High Commission of India, Kampala	2051	1286	2317
28.	Embassy of India, Kiev	2065	5329	7057
29.	High Commission of India, Kingston	1136	1136	1191
30.	Embassy of India, Luanda	109	-	-
31.	High Commission of India, Male	770	4619	#
32.	Embassy of India, Maputo	999	1000	1057
33.	Embassy of India, Minsk	1678	1431	1500
34.	High Commission of India, Malta	415	421	520
35.	Embassy of India, Muscat	2850	2850	2840
36.	High Commission of India, Nairobi	479	1061	603
37.	Embassy of India, Ouagadougou	-	-	*
38.	Embassy of India, Panama	917	946	1201
39.	Embassy of India, Paramaribo	315	316	336
40.	Embassy of India, Phnom Penh	568	568	308
41.	High Commission of India, Port Louis	1347	7021	7389
42.	High Commission of India, Port	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
	Moresby			
43.	Embassy of India, Prague	4217	7572	7628
44.	Embassy of India, Pyongyang	438	438	488
45.	Embassy of India, Riyadh	3619	3390	1835
46.	Embassy of India, Rome	5905	6086	6912
47.	Embassy of India, Sanaa	1119	656	785
48.	Embassy of India, Sofia	991	791	673
49.	Embassy of India, Stockholm	3425	3626	4310
50.	Embassy of India, Tashkent	1717	4141	3566
51.	Embassy of India, Tel Aviv	3362	3805	3999
52.	Embassy of India, Tripoli	2634	1262	-
53.	Embassy of India, Ulan Bator	1420	1414	1919
54.	Embassy of India, Vientiane	780	354	378
55.	High Commission of India, Wellington	1871	1734	1881
56.	Embassy of India, Warsaw	2044	2485	2878
57.	Embassy of India, Yangon	153	304	432
58.	Embassy of India, Zagreb	-	-	-
59.	High Commission of India, Brunei	1108	1271	1726
Total		83112	110113	113197
Rounded to (in crores)		8.32	11.02	11.32

* Under negotiations/to be paid

Advance paid in 1994-95

+ No rental paid

Respiratory Diseases

1286. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether respiratory diseases have emerged as one of the major causes of disability and death among Indian workers;

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

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the diseases thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No scientific report or data is available at the national level on the disabilities and deaths due to respiratory diseases among Indian workers in general. However, studies done by the Indian Council of Medical Research indicate that respiratory diseases are found to be high among workers in certain industries exposed to different types of dusts e.g. silica, coal, asbestos and cotton.

(b) and (c). There are provision under the Factories Act to ensure that the workers are not exposed to occupational hazards. The Act is enforced by each State

Government. The Employees States Insurance Scheme also provide medical treatment to factory worker.

Construction and Installation of Incinerators

1287. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY AND WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Central Government to construct and install incinerators in all hospitals and nursing homes in the Capital equipped with 50 beds and above and falling under administrative control; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 1.3.1996 directed the Central Government, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committee to construct and install incinerators in all hospitals and Nursing Homes in the Capital with 50 beds and above falling under their administrative control within nine months. In order to implement the directives of the Supreme Court, orders for installation of an incinerator for Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital have been issued. Action has also been initiated to provide additional incinerator for Safdarjang Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and Associated Hospitals and All India Institute of Medical Sciences. New Delhi to supplement the incinerators already installed. Government of NCT of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committee are also taking action to implement the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Strategic Planning

1288. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "India Lagging in strategic Planning" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated May 31, 1996; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Ye, Sir.

(b) India has a comprehensive strategic and security policy based *inter alia* on our threat perceptions and the global and regional security environment. This policy is kept continually under review, in the light of developments which impact on our national security, enabling Government to take all necessary measures to cope with any threat to the nation.

[Translation]

Irrigation Project in Tribal Areas of Rajasthan

1289. SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government would make separate provisions for the completion of "Mahi Canal (Sagwada-Dungarpur) Bagidore Anandpuri irrigation project in the tribal area of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the funds to be provided in 1996-97 to the aforesaid project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Mahi Bajaj Sugar Project Stage II Unit II envisages irrigation in Sagwada, Dungapur, Bagidore and Anandpuri areas. The working Group of the Planning Commission had recommended an outlay of Rs. 33.06 crores for this Project for 1995-96 subject to the condition that State Government would obtain clearance from the Advisory Committee. The project involves inter-State issues of submergence and sharing of water between Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. After resolving inter-State issues the State Government is required to submit Detailed Project Report to Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal.

(b) 1996-97 Annual Plan of Rajasthan has not been finalised.

Construction of Bridge in M.P.

1290. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a bridge over river Asan near Ghonda on National Highway No. 3 in Murena district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). For the reconstruction of a bridge across river Asan at Km. 85/10 on N.H. 3 technical proposal, land acquisition estimate and alignment for new bridge have been approved by the Government. The design and estimates are yet to be prepared and submitted by the State Government. Therefore, it is too early to indicate any time frame for the completion of the project.

[English]

Clearance of R V P

1291. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several river valley projects are awaiting clearance from the Government of India like Ichampalli, Polayaram (Ramapada Sagar Project); and

(b) if so, the time by which the long pending projects are likely to be cleared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) 69 Major and 58 medium irrigation projects are pending clearance at the Centre. The Polavaram Project and Inchampalli project of Andhra Pradesh are not among the pending projects. In respect of Polavaram Project, the State Government is required to submit modified project report after compliance of observations of the Central Water Commission. Inchampalli Project proposal had been rejected by the Ministry of Environment and Forest due to submergence of large forest area. It was suggested to the State Government to investigate alternative site to drive the same benefits involving submergence of less forest area. The detailed project report of the project is to be prepared by the Government of Andhra Pradesh under guidance of a joint Task Force of the Chief Engineers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The joint Task Force could not be constituted due to lack of consensus among the States.

(b) Though there is prescribed limit for appraisal of the projects, the clearance is delayed due to the delay by the State Governments in complying with the observations of various Central Appraising Agencies.

Irrigation projects in Gujarat

1292. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of medium and major irrigation

projects in Gujarat presently under execution during 1995-96 in terms of targets both physical and financial:

(b) the details of funds sought by the State Government and funds actually released during 1995-96, project-wise:

(c) the tentative allocation of funds and target set for 1996-97 project-wise of the on going schemes and funds proposed to be allocated for new projects:

(d) the names of the projects awaiting clearance alongwith the reasons for delay; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Statement-I giving details of major and medium on-going irrigation projects of Gujarat is enclosed. The funds are released to the State Government in the form of bloc grants and loans not tied to any sector of Development or the project.

(c) The plan allocation for 1996-97 for the ongoing schemes of Gujarat has not been finalised.

(d) Statement-II giving status of new major and medium irrigation projects of Gujarat pending clearance is enclosed.

(e) Though there is prescribed time limit for appraisal of the project, the clearance is delayed due to the delay by the State Government in compliance of the observations of various Central Appraising Agencies.

STATEMENT-I

Statement giving details of On-Going Major, Medium and ERM Project of Gujarat

S.No.	Name of the Project	Latest	Expdr.	Outlay	Ultimate	Potential	Target
		estimated cost	incurred upto March.95	recommended by Working Group during 1995-96	irrigation potential	created upto 3/95	Potential for 1995-96
		Rs. in crores			Thousand hectares		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Major Projects							
1.	Sabarmati	124.51	113.43	4.00	61.09	55.44	5.84
2.	Panan	95.34	173.52	6.00	49.37	49.16	-
3.	Karjan	264.10	233.29	15.00	77.36	46.10	0.39
4.	Damanganga	231.32	173.52	14.72	51.56	45.33	6.23
5.	Sakhi	113.40	104.53	3.50	25.20	24.18	0.08
6.	Sardar Sarovar	13180.62	4515.34	1500.00	1792.00	-	-
7.	Sipu	97.75	85.86	4.75	22.00	20.00	2.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Watrak	63.03	64.10	3.00	18.34	18.34	-
9.	Zankhari	78.70	3.70	-	24.00	-	-
Medium Projects							
1.	Hiran (S) - II	12.20	8.92	-	6.40	6.40	-
2.	Sakhabadar	22.06	23.50	1.20	5.41	5.41	-
3.	Machhundri	21.05	21.75	0.75	8.08	8.08	-
4.	Kalaohar	21.62	21.83	0.77	4.70	4.70	-
5.	Machhannala	17.92	17.29	0.10	4.33	4.30	-
6.	Ver-II (Anli)	26.50	24.84	1.00	5.47	5.47	-
7.	Deo	56.98	52.84	0.10	10.16	10.16	-
8.	Venu-II	23.78	23.31	1.00	5.25	6.00	-
9.	Und (Jivapur)	38.45	39.05	0.77	9.59	9.59	-
10.	Bhadar (Panchmahals)	47.93	47.69	0.10	8.00	8.70	-
11.	Mazam	32.60	31.62	0.05	4.72	5.73	-
12.	Hadaf	26.17	25.34	0.50	5.24	6.08	0.28
13.	Gahai	71.53	56.50	4.20	7.51	9.72	-
14.	Kelia	25.00	23.03	2.65	3.46	3.46	-
15.	Harnab	8.72	8.24	0.05	3.44	2.84	0.10
16.	Sam	11.47	11.20	0.75	2.76	2.76	-
17.	Anipur	9.62	9.80	0.50	6.77	4.30	1.80
18.	Aunaria	7.56	6.96	0.05	2.37	2.39	0.43
19.	Aji-II	13.61	13.86	-	2.38	2.25	-
20.	Aji III	23.54	28.81	0.60	6.84	6.77	-
21.	Jhuj	42.00	38.78	2.25	5.89	3.22	-
22.	Uben	13.20	13.45	-	2.46	2.46	-
23.	Mukteshwar	22.80	20.45	3.75	-	2.00	-
24.	Deni II	11.24	11.33	0.05	2.42	2.42	-
25.	UNU II (Gunatit Sarovar)	38.94	25.03	4.00	4.25	-	-
ERM							
1.	Machhu I (Dam Strengthening)	1.70	1.60	-	-	-	-
2.	Machhu II (Reconstruction)	39.30	40.01	0.90	9.99	9.90	-
3.	Modernisation of Kharicut Canal	8.15	8.24	0.50	2.07	2.01	-
4.	Modernisation of Fatehwadi Canals	40.46	38.33	0.00	4.47	4.33	-
5.	Dantiwada Modernisation	45.70	47.64	3.00	12.13	12.13	-
6.	Modernisation of Bhadar Canals	24.05	24.32	2.50	1.71	1.71	-
7.	Modernisation of Shetrunji Canals	26.21	35.68	6.00	3.78	3.63	-
8.	Modernisation of Machhu I Canals	11.12	11.29	2.00	1.07	1.00	-
9.	Prevention of Salinity ingress (Saurashtra Coastal Development)	172.12	126.56	18.00	18.27	14.10	-
10.	Ukar - Kakrapar Modernisation	75.23	63.08	3.50	3.09	3.09	-
11.	Restoration of Mitti	2.53	4.02	2.45	-	-	-
12.	Kalindri	3.41	1.31	0.20	2.56	2.56	-

STATEMENT-II*Details of the Status of Appraisal of New Major and Medium Irrigation Projects of Gujarat :*

S.No.	Name of Project	Latest estimated cost (Rs in crores)	Ultimate Irrigation Potential (Hectares)	Date of receipt in CWC	Status of Techno-economic appraisal
(A) <i>Techno-economic examination completed and found acceptable by the Advisory Committee subject to compliance of certain observations by the State Government :</i>					
<i>Major</i>					
1	Modernisation of Machhu I Irrigation	11.12	2,140	2/91	Found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in 8/93 for Rs. 8.12 crores subject to environment clearance and concurrence of State Finance Deptt. The State Government is required to obtain the environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest and also obtain concurrence of State Finance Department.
<i>Medium</i>					
'Nil'					
(B) <i>Consideration deferred by Advisory Committee :</i>					
<i>Major</i>					
'Nil'					
<i>Medium</i>					
1	Walan Irrigation Project	22.16	7,390	5/90	Consideration deferred by the Advisory Committee for obtaining forest clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests, clearance of RR Plans from Ministry of Welfare and review of cropping patterns etc.
(C) <i>Projects under correspondence with the State Governments</i>					
<i>Major</i>					
'Nil'					
<i>Medium</i>					
1	Und II Irrigation Project	38.94	4,250	12/91	The State Govt. is required to sort out aspects of Hydrology, irrigation planning and cost estimates etc.
2	Goma Irrigation Project	31.10	7,000	5/94	The State Government is required to sort out various techno-economic issues.
3	Ozat II	59.73	7,970	10/93	The State Government is required to sort out various techno-economic issues with Central Water Commission
4	Restoration of Mitti Irrigation	14.51	2,030	6/93	-do-
5	Mahupada Water Reservoir	25.74	2,340	9/93	-do-
6	Vartu II	30.38	6,150	12/91	Modified report examined by Central Water Commission and comments sent
7	Nanibarsan Water Resources Project	32.40	3,760	11/94	The State Government is required to sort out various techno-economic issues with Central Water Commission
8	Bakrol	23.86	4,290	1/95	-do-

[Translation]

Allocation for Irrigation Projects

1293. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount allocated for the medium and major irrigation projects in the country during the last three years has been curtailed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount sought from the World Bank for these projects in 1994-95 and 1995-96 and the amount allocated to each State out of the same?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). No Sir. In the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), the total outlay for Major and Medium Irrigation is of the order of Rs. 22,414.53 crores. Out of this, outlays made during the last three years are as given below indicating rising trend :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Approved Outlay
1993-94	3,840.90
1994-95	4,284.96
1995-96	5,045.98

(c) During 1994-96 only three major irrigation projects received assistance from the World Bank as per details given below :

Name of Project	State	Amount of External assistance
Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	Haryana	US \$ 294.289 Million (Rs. 1030 crores approx.)
Tamil Nadu Water Resources Conso- lidation Project	Tamil Nadu	US \$ 282.9 Million (Rs. 990 crores approx.)
Orissa Water Resources Conso- lidation Project	Orissa	(US \$ 290.9 Million) (Rs. 1018 crores approx.)

Note : US \$ = US Dollar.

Approved Irrigation Schemes

1294. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the number of irrigation schemes approved for implementation and the amount of funds provided during the last three years as well as current financial year, State-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) 158 Major, 226 Medium and 95 Extension/Renovation/Modernisation (ERM) Irrigation Projects spilled over into VIII Plan. In addition 14 Major, 50 Medium and 24 ERM New Irrigation Projects were taken up for execution in VIII Plan. Statewise and yearwise expenditure/outlay for the last three years i.e. 1993-96 are given in the attached Statement. States Annual Plan for 1996-97 have not been finalised.

Details of Minor Irrigation Schemes are not kept at the Centre.

STATEMENT

Statewise details of expenditure/outlay on ongoing Major, Medium and Extension/Renovation/ Modernisation projects for the period 1993-96.

(Rs. in Crores)

S No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Expend- iture during 1993-94	Expend- iture during 1994-95 (Anticip- ated)	Outlay during 1995-96 recomm- ended by working Group
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1511.48	301.64	651.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
3.	Assam	19.80	21.65	21.75
4.	Bihar	93.96	119.78	267.00
5.	Goa	15.16	24.75	30.48
6.	Gujarat	435.38	455.99	605.67
7.	Haryana	22.30	44.35	26.81
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.46	2.60	2.63
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	23.00	38.26	44.12
10.	Karnataka	551.44	783.93	741.85
11.	Kerala	94.85	86.00	94.50
12.	Madhya Pradesh	268.32	202.63	295.80
13.	Maharashtra	518.92	690.99	537.29
14.	Manipur	24.99	25.68	160.70
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	-	-
16.	Mizoram	0.00	-	-
17.	Nagaland	0.00	-	-
18.	Orissa	135.66	140.52	135.62
19.	Punjab	30.02	37.04	46.15
20.	Rajasthan	226.99	293.36	337.03
21.	Sikkim	0.00	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	30.84	20.73	10.11
23.	Tripura	5.51	3.88	5.63
24.	Uttar Pradesh	294.53	283.51	349.56
25.	West Bengal	80.06	83.92	97.50
	Union Territories	-	-	-
	Total	4384.87	3661.21	4461.35

[English]

Height of Sardar Sarovar Project

1295. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is felt that the height of Sardar Sarovar Project is required to be 110 metres in the interest of the dam and the State;

(b) if so, the extent by which it has been agreed to; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the final decision arrived at in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Height of Sardar Sarovar Dam has been determined by Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal under its Award.

Production of Battle Tank Arjun

1296. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the main battle tank (Arjun) being produced in the country is ready for introduction; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Based on extensive User trials and performance evaluation, the Army has given clearance for production of indigenously designed and developed main battle tank (MBT) ARJUN. After its production, the MBT ARJUN will be inducted into the Army during the Ninth Plan period.

[Translation]

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Uttar Pradesh

1297. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI D.P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said Vidyalayas are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). Proposals for opening Navodaya Vidyalayas in Uttar Pradesh have been received by Navodaya

Vidyalaya Samiti. In respect of the proposals received from 15 districts named below, the condition prescribed have not been fully satisfied. These districts are :

1. Moradabad
2. Saharanpur
3. Philibhit
4. Kheri
5. Pauri Garhwal
6. Jalaun
7. Dehradun
8. Shahjahanpur
9. Banda
10. Maharajaganj
11. Lucknow
12. Kanpur Dehat
14. Pratapgarh
15. Sonbhadra

The proposal for the District of Rampur has been referred to the Site Inspection Team for inspection.

[English]

Malignant Malaria

1298. DR. RAMACHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attack of Malignant Malaria is on the rise throughout the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for the outspread of Malignant Malaria;

(c) the number of deaths due to the said disease during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the immediate steps Government propose to take to combat this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHEI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Malignant Malaria (P. Falciparum Malaria) has shown marginal increases during the last few years.

(b) The main reasons for spread of Malignant Malaria are :

- Natural calamities like excessive prolonged rains, water logging and ecological changes.
- Development of resistance in Vectors to insecticides and parasites to drugs commonly used for control of malaria.

(c) A Statement showing the State-wise number of deaths due to malaria during the last three years is enclosed.

(d) Following are the steps taken for effective control of Malaria :

- Early detection and prompt treatment;
- Vector Control through effective use of insecticides to interrupt transmission;
- Anti-larval measures to eliminate mosquito breeding through source reduction, application of larvicides and adoption of bio-environmental approaches;
- Intensification of Health Education activities to create awareness among the people to prevent Malaria;
- Experimenting with new insecticides in multiple resistant areas on a pilot basis.

STATEMENT

Deaths due to Malaria in India During 1993, 1994, 1995

S. No.	Name of the States/ UTs/other	1993	1994	1995
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	9	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6	0
3.	Assam	40	69	300
4.	Bihar	2	12	21
5.	Goa	-	0	-
6.	Gujarat	25	14	5
7.	Haryana	-	-	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	0
10.	Karnataka	-	3	20
11.	Kerala	-	1	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	12	28	19
13.	Maharashtra	15	19	219
14.	Manipur	9	55	17
15.	Meghalaya	-	11	18
16.	Mizoram	33	41	54
17.	Nagaland	-	253	0
18.	Orissa	118	78	163
19.	Punjab	-	1	8
20.	Rajasthan	19	452	47
21.	Sikkim	-	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	9	7	1
23.	Tripura	19	20	12
24.	Uttar Pradesh	-	0	0
25.	West Bengal	37	52	146

1	2	3	4	5
Union Territories				
1.	A and N Islands	1	1	2
2.	Chandigarh	-	-	-
3.	D and N Haveli	-	-	-
4.	Delhi	-	-	-
5.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-
6.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
7.	Pondicherry	-	-	-
India		354	1122	1061

Suspension Bridge Over Dawki River

1299. SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a suspension bridge spanning Dawki river, on the Shillong-Dawki highways, has broken down leading to the suspension of traffic over it;

(b) whether this has affected transfer of coal to Bangladesh through that highway;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government propose to repair the existing bridge or to build a new concrete bridge so as to restore the vital international road link?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Recently a wind tie of this bridge, which had snapped, has since been repaired. However, as a precautionary measure, some load restrictions have been imposed on the movement of loaded vehicles.

(b) and (c). Transfer of coal to Bangladesh through Shillong-Dawki highway is reported to have been slightly affected. However, to cater to Indo-Bangladesh trade, an alternative route via NH-44 upto Jowai and, thereafter, upto Dawki, without crossing the river, is already available.

(d) Efforts are under way to rehabilitate this bridge to its original load capacity. Construction of a new concrete bridge, at a suitable site nearby, will need detailed investigations and be subject to the adequacy of funds therefor.

Funds under CRF

1300. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved an expenditure for construction of three roads under CRF schemes by its letter dated January 17, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the amount has been released so far according to their approval; and

(d) if not, the reasons for non-release of funds?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The Central Government has sanctioned three roads projects under CRF schemes by its letter dated 17.1.95 to the Government of Assam.

(b) The details of the projects are as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of Project	Amount approved under CRF
1.	Silchar-Jayantipur Road	40.00
2.	Palot-Derby-Borjalenga Road	25.00
3.	Sonai-Motinagar-Didarkush Road	40.50
Total		1.05.50

(c) and (d). The allocation under CRF are made state-wise on lumpsum basis and not work-wise. However, a sum of Rs. 21.00 lakhs has been released to the Government of Assam during the year 1995-96.

Setting up of University at Balasore

1301. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the long standing demands to set up a Central University for Northern Orissa at Balasore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The National Policy on Education - 1986, with modifications undertaken, in 1992, states that, in view of the need to effect an all-round improvement in the institutions, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on the consolidation of, and expansion of facilities in the existing institutions.

In view of the above, the Government has no proposal to set up a Central University for Northern Orissa at Balasore.

Amendment to UGC Act

1302. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to amend Section 24 of the UGC Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The Government had introduced 'The University Grants Commission (Amendment) Bill, 1995' in the Rajya Sabha to amend Section 24 of the UGC Act with a view to enhancing the penalty for those who contravene the provisions of Section 22, which relates to the right of conferring or granting degrees by a university, or Section 23 which prohibits the use of word 'University' by an institution not established in accordance with the prescribed manner.

Deportation of Indians from Dubai

1303. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sizeable number of Indians are being deported every month from Dubai on the pretext of overstaying or staying without valid travel documents either by sea or by air;

(b) whether this fact has ever been brought to the notice of the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and necessary steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Government is aware that a large number of Indians have been deported from UAE to India for overstaying or for staying without valid travel documents. The deportation has taken place by sea and by air. According to figures given by Dubai Authorities the number of Indian nationals who have been deported since the beginning of this year is as follows :

S.No.	Month	Indian nationals deported
1.	January	962
2.	February	641
3.	March	733
4.	April	959
5.	May	899
6.	June	874

(c) Majority of these persons are victims of unscrupulous agents. Other cases are due to overstay after expiry of Visas and detection of forged passports. As and when complaints are received, these are enquired into with the help of Police and the concerned Indian Missions abroad depending upon the nature of complaints. Necessary action is also taken by Indian Missions abroad for redressal of the grievances of the Indian nationals by intervening with the local authorities on a case by case basis.

Sainik Schools

1304. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the sainik schools set up during the last three years in the country. State-wise;

(b) whether not a single sainik school has been set up in the State of Bihar during the said period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c). Since 1978, no new Sainik School has been opened in any of the States in the country.

Transit Facilities through Bangladesh

1305. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have requested Bangladesh to grant transit facilities for goods passing through that country to India's North-eastern States; and

(b) if so, the response of Bangladesh thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Government of India have been interested in securing multi-modal transit facilities through the Bangladesh territory to the North Eastern States and have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh on a number of occasions.

(b) The Government of Bangladesh have not yet reacted positively to our proposals.

External Publicity

1306. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken to revamp our external publicity departments functioning abroad so as to improve the country's image abroad and also to project our viewpoints more forcefully on sensitive and important issues;

(b) whether Government propose to appoint professionals for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Several new steps have been taken to explain, interpret and project India's Foreign Policy objectives. These included the opening of MEA's Home Page on INTERNET; upgradation of our communications system with missions and posts abroad; use of modern publicity techniques and professional public relations; lobbying and advertising agencies; diversification and augmentation of channels of communications and mass media including projection through satellite television;

and broad basing of publicity by involvement of non-governmental and professional agencies. India's foreign and economic policies and specific initiatives in both areas have been well received. The policy of transparency combined with new initiatives on Kashmir and human rights issues and their forceful projection abroad have contained Pakistan's propaganda against India on these issues. There has been a perceptible improvement in India's international image in the media and amongst the public abroad.

(b) and (c). The Government already employs professional and professional agencies in the preparation and placement of its publicity materials. Such agencies are regularly used in the production of publications, documentary or video films, feature articles on various subjects, public relation activities, advertising and media strategy.

[Translation]

Four Laning of NH-24

1307. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to convert the Delhi-Bareilly-Lucknow highway (National Highway-24) into four lanes is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The total length of Delhi-Bareilly-Lucknow highway (NH-24) is 499 km. The portion of NH-24 from Delhi to Ghaziabad 28 km. in length is already four lane. The remaining 471 km. length is having 2 lane carriageway. 4 laning of Ghaziabad-Hapur Section including Hapur bypass totalling a length of 32 km. is included in the 8th Five Year Plan and the work is proposed to be executed with loan assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (Japan). The loan agreement was signed in Feb., 1995.

[English]

Blood Bank

1308. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representations have been received from the State of Kerala for the issue of licences for Blood Bank during 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of licences issued to the applicants.

(d) the reasons for delay in granting licences to the remaining applicants; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure early decision on the issue of such licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). A representation regarding delegation of powers to the State Government in the matter of issuing of licence Blood Banks was received from Minister of Health, Kerala on 16.10.95 and reply was also sent to the then Minister of Health, Kerala on 18.12.95. Subsequently, a copy of the same representation was again forwarded by Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Government of Kerala to the Union Health Secretary on 3.5.96.

(c) and (d). Applications for issuance of licences to 41 Blood Banks were received by Drugs Controller General (India). Out of these, 36 licences have been duly approved; for the remaining 5 Blood Banks, licences could not be approved because of basic deficiencies observed due to non-compliance of various parameters as stipulated under Schedule 'F', Part - XII (B) of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules.

(e) There is no delay on the part of the Central Licence Approving Authority (Drugs Controller General India) in approving the licences. However, the Government proposes to strengthen Central Drugs Control Organisation for shouldering the new responsibilities vested under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules and also to expedite the disposal of the cases.

DTC Dying a Reject's Death

1309. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have seen the newsitem captioned 'DTC dying a reject's death' appearing in the 'Indian Express', New Delhi dated April 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the steps being taken to rejuvenate the dying DTC;

(d) the considerations which weighed with the then Government in privatising transportation particularly in certain remunerative routes like '620' and host of others;

(e) whether Government will re-examine wholesale privatisation of transportation system in the Capital in the light of complaints received from commuters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Although, the financial position of DTC is not satisfactory, it can-not be said that DTC is dying a reject's death as Government is making all out efforts to improve the financial position of DTC.

(c) The Government has taken following steps to rejuvenate DTC :

(i) Introduction of Voluntary Retirement scheme in DTC to reduce its surplus staff;

(ii) Ban on recruitment.

Besides this, Government is continuously monitoring the performance of DTC with a view to improve its functioning and the steps are being taken on continuing basis to increase productivity, reduce cost per km., enforce economic measures, prevent leakage of revenue by effective checking, rationalisation of routes with a view to increasing revenue collection and to reduce the cash losses.

(d) to (f). As the fleet of DTC could not be augmented mainly on account of financial constraints and it was not possible for the DTC to meet the increasing demands of transportation in Delhi, Private Bus System in Delhi was introduced by Transport Department of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi to supplement the DTC operation. The Private buses were introduced on each routes in the ratio 40:60 alongwith DTC. Since the introduction of Private Buses was limited to 40% of the total requirement of city buses, the question to re-examine wholesale privatisation of transport system in the Capital does not arise.

Policy on National Defence

1310. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a pressing demand since long for formulation of a long term policy on national defence and security;

(b) if so, whether there have been suggestions for setting up a national security council; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) India has a comprehensive strategic and security policy based *inter alia* on our threat perceptions and the global and regional security environment. This policy is continually under review, in the light of developments which impact on our national security, enabling Government to take all necessary measures to cope with any threat to the security of the nation.

(b) and (c). The National Security Council was set up on 24 August, 1990.

[Translation]

Funds to Government of NCT Delhi for Publication of Sanskrit/Urdu Books

1311. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial assistance has been provided to the Government of National Capital Territory Delhi for publication of Sanskrit/Urdu Books during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the development of Sanskrit and Urdu in National Capital Territory Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Development of Sanskrit Education, NCT of Delhi was given a grant of Rs. 41,400/- each year during 1994-95 and 1995-96 for eminent Sanskrit Pandits in indigent circumstances. For development of Urdu in NCT of Delhi the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Languages has given grant to Basic Calligraphic Centres, a Decorative Calligraphic Centre and to two NGOs.

[English]

National Waterway No.III

1312. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the National Waterways III from Kottappuram to Kasargoda in the North and from Kollam to Kovalam in the south;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds likely to be allotted for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Techno-economic feasibility studies have indicated that the extension of the National Waterway No. III from Kottapuram to Kasargoda and from Kollam to Kovalam will not be viable in terms of economic and financial rate of return. However, a fresh techno-economic study is arranged to re-examine the viability of the Kollam-Kovalam stretch of the waterway.

(c) At this stage it will not be possible to indicate the quantum of funds likely to be allotted for the purpose.

[Translation]

Development of Water Resources

1313. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme of the Government for development of water resources in the country at national perspective;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government for resolving water disputes among the various States, distribution of river water and utilisation of water going waste by constructing dams;

(c) whether Government propose to start work on small irrigation projects and construct small dams, tanks according to the needs of the particular area in place of major irrigation projects;

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) State-wise allocation of funds for the purpose during the last two years;

(f) whether State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) National Perspective for water resources development was prepared by the Central Government which envisages linkages between various peninsular rivers and also between Himalayan rivers separately for transfer of water from water surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. Government has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 to prepare feasibility reports for the water transfer links. 36 water transfer links, 17 under Peninsular component and 19 under Himalayan component have been proposed.

(b) As per the existing practice efforts are made to solve the water disputes through negotiations with the basin States. In case, the efforts do not fructify and if any of the basin States approach the Central Government to set up a Tribunal, the same is set up under Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 to adjudicate. There is also a proposal for adopting National Policy Guidelines for water sharing.

(c) and (d). Major irrigation projects and small irrigation projects and Tanks are planned and implemented according to the Topo-graphical, Geological and Hydrological aspects etc. The small irrigation projects supplement the irrigation facilities provided by Major irrigation projects.

All the three types are being implemented by the State Governments.

(e) A statement is attached.

(f) Plan allocation for various categories of State irrigation projects are made in consultation with the State Governments.

(g) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Approved outlay in respect of Major & Medium Irrigation, Minor Irrigation

(Rs. Crore)

S.No.	State/U.T.	Major & Medium Irrigation		Minor Irrigation	
		1994-95	1995-96	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	325.55	980.61	82.99	142.28
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.00	0.50	14.20	16.16
3.	Assam	25.65	26.00	38.00	41.00
4.	Bihar	319.00	316.46	181.27	178.70
5.	Goa	29.71	30.28	3.60	4.00
6.	Gujarat	485.98	484.13	100.00	101.85
7.	Haryana	124.09	178.95	40.54	45.51
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.74	3.06	23.26	25.70
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	18.71	20.39	19.97	21.60
10.	Karnataka	628.92	775.50	67.03	66.78
11.	Kerala	104.00	113.00	33.50	34.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	362.60	270.60	166.70	158.14
13.	Maharashtra	618.09	622.43	226.44	293.36
14.	Manipur	32.22	38.73	5.30	7.00
15.	Meghalaya	2.70	3.00	6.63	6.80
16.	Mizoram	0.05	0.07	2.78	2.40
17.	Nagaland	0.80	0.80	2.45	2.55
18.	Orissa	299.99	198.09	80.85	94.00
19.	Punjab	56.44	64.96	28.99	33.68
20.	Rajasthan	271.84	328.00	46.06	48.95
21.	Sikkim	0.00	-	1.99	2.31
22.	Tamil Nadu	65.41	76.23	59.14	48.01
23.	Tripura	3.57	5.63	4.41	4.65
24.	Uttar Pradesh	380.76	372.01	39.59	57.58
25.	West Bengal	101.60	105.00	64.25	16.00
	Total (States)	4261.42	5014.43	1339.94	1453.01
26.	Andaman & N. Island	-	-	1.99	1.42
27.	Chandigarh	-	-	0.25	0.20
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.00	0.50	0.85	1.05
29.	Delhi	-	-	2.50	2.52
30.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-
31.	Pondicherry	-	-	2.20	2.83
32.	Daman & Diu	0.55	0.55	0.10	0.12
	Total (U.Ts.)	1.55	1.05	7.89	8.14
	Total States & U.Ts.	4262.97	5015.48	1347.83	1461.15
	Central Sector	21.99	30.50	65.38	59.00
	Grand Total	4284.96	5045.98	1413.21	1520.15

[English]

Primary Health Centres

1314. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the criterion fixed and allocation made by the Centres to set up Primary Health Centres and Health Sub-Centres in the country;

(b) the number of PHC and Health sub-centres set up in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the district-wise location and fund allocation made for those Centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Population norms for setting up of the Primary Health Centres & Sub-centres are as follows:

	Plan areas	Hilly/tribal areas
Sub-Centres	5000	3000
Primary-Health Centres	30000	20000

The PHCs are established and maintained by the State Government under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme. The Sub-centres established after 1.4.81 are funded by the Central Govt. under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Outlay for these centres during the last three years is indicated below :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Outlay under MNP*	Allocation for Sub-centres
1993-94	31277.74	18500.00
1994-95	36200.58	18500.00
1995-96	50134.03	19000.00

* Also includes outlay for Community Health Centres and construction of Sub-centres.

(b) During the Eighth Plan, emphasis has been on consolidation of the existing infrastructure. However, 120 additional PHCs were opened till 1994-95.

(c) The Central Govt. does not maintain district-wise details.

Jurisdiction of Passport Office, Delhi

1315. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people from satellite towns of Gurgaon, Faridabad and Noida are finding great difficulty in obtaining their passports as they have to go to their distant State capitals;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend the jurisdiction of the passport office in Delhi to cover these towns; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). The districts of Gurgaon, Faridabad, Sonapat and Rohtak in the State of Haryana and the district of Ghaziabad and Meerut in the State of UP have already been brought under the jurisdiction of Regional Passport Office, Delhi w.e.f. 2.12.94. Since Noida is a part of district Ghaziabad, passport applicants from Noida are also served by the Regional Passport Office, Delhi.

Family Welfare Centres

1316. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the number of family welfare centres at present in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : There are 19 District level Post Partum Centres, 60 Sub-district level Post Partum Centres, 10 Urban Family Welfare Centres, 8 Urban Health Posts and 314 Rural Family Welfare Centres in the state of Orissa.

Assistant Commissioner's Office

1317. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for setting up of office of Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to set up Assistant Commissioner's Office of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The Offices of Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, are set up keeping in view the concentration of Kendriya Vidyalayas in and around a particular location and also equitable span of control of each Regional Office.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Teesta Barrage Project

1318. SHRI AMARROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) The approximate area which is likely to be

irrigated with the completion of Teesta Barrage Project of West Bengal:

(b) the percentage of work completed so far; and

(c) the area irrigated by this project till date?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Presently Sub-stage I of stage I of Teesta Barrage Project under Phase-I is under execution. The ultimate irrigation potential of this sub-stage is 527 th. ha.

(b) The percentage of work completed so far is as given below :

3 barrages namely, Teesta Mahananda and Dauk Nagar barrages and Teesta Mahananda link canal and Mahananda main canal have been completed. The progress of other 3 main canals and distribution system is as given below.

1. Dauk Nagar Main Canal	66%
2. Nagar Tangon Main canal	Nil
3. Teesta Jal Dhaka Main canal	25%
4. Distribution system	25%

(c) Against an ultimate potential of 527 th. ha. (thousand Hectares) a potential of 73.35 thousand hectare was likely to be created by March 1996.

Upgradation of Medical College

1319. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to upgrade the Guwahati Medical College into a fullfledged Medical Institute; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Kanhar Irrigation Project

1320. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister OF WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which Planning combined on had accorded approval to "Kanhar" Irrigation Project in Palamau district of Bihar;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred on the said project so far;

(c) whether the Government propose to commission this project; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Planning Commission has not accorded approval to Kanhar Irrigation Project.

(b) No expenditure has been incurred on the project so far.

(c) and (d). The State Government of Bihar is yet to settle the issue with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. Though there is prescribed time for techno-economic appraisal of the project, the clearance of any project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the various Central Agencies.

[English]

Four Laning of Nagpur Ring Road

1321. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding four laning of Nagpur Ring Road has been received from Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of Maharashtra had submitted a proposal on 25.7.94 for four laning of Nagpur Ring Road between Wardha Road and Umred Road (km. 1.457 to km 6.871) for an estimated cost of Rupees 165 Lakhs which was sanctioned by this Ministry on 16.11.94 under the Central Road Fund Scheme.

[Translation]

Setting up of IDB

1322. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a separate Institutional Development Bank (IDB) to provide financial assistance for the construction of roads and National Highways in the Country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Production of Ballistic Missile by Pakistan

1323. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been reported that Pakistan is

producing new ballistic missile at a secret factory with Chinese support; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen press reports in this regard.

(b) Government have been aware of Pakistans attempts to develop and produce Half series of ballistic missiles with Chinese assistance and consider it a matter of great concern. Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

US Report on Pak's Support to Militants

1324. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government are aware of the latest report of the US Government "Patterns of Global Terrorism 1995" admitting Pakistan's support to the militant groups in Kashmir and Punjab;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to project the report in the international fora;

(d) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the US in view of its massive arms supply to Pakistan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). The State Department's Annual Report on Patterns of Global terrorism for 1995 states, interalia, that there are credible reports of official Pakistani support to militants fighting in Kashmir, including Pakistani, Afghan and Arab nationals, and to groups that claimed responsibility for various terrorist bombings in Kashmir. In the context of the on-going hostae crisis in Kashmir, it mentions that the Harkat-ul-Ansar (HUA), a militant group headquartered in Pakistan, is believed to be linked to Al-Faran, the group that has claims responsibility for the kidnappings. The Report also mentions that India claims that Pakistan harbours and supports Sikh militant groups.

The above statements in the Report on Patterns of Global Terrorism support our position that Pakistan continues to be directly involved in large scale promotion and support of terrorist activities in India, with the supply of arms, equipment, training and infiltration.

(c) Government has been sharing with friendly government on a continuous basis the evidence

available with us from various sources of Pakistan's active involvement in terrorism in India.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Government has repeatedly made it clear to the US Government that the US decision to transfer the \$368 million arms package to Pakistan under the Hank Brown amendment would not promote peace and stability in the region and should be viewed, interalia, in the light of Pakistan's major and direct involvement in international terrorism.

Raids on the Residence of Health Department Officer

1325. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Raids on the residence of the officer of Health Department" appearing in the 'Hindustan' on June 28, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage of investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is under investigation and details are being collected to be laid on the table of the House.

Report on Conditions of Indian Girls

1326. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent report on conditions of Indian girls published by the UNICEF;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government towards the improvement of the conditions in regard to their equcational rights?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Government is aware of the recent Report on the "Progress of Nations" brought out by United Nations Childrens' Fund (UNICEF).

(b) The Report which is an International publication gives a global update of how children are faring in both industrialised and developing countries. They are in the areas of health, nutrition, gender gap in education,

immunisation, malnutrition, maternal mortality, low birth-weight, poor hygiene, breast-feeding and weaning, general subordination of women etc.

(c) The steps taken by the Government towards improvement of the conditions in regard to their educational rights include :

- (i) National Policy on Education (NPE) 1992 and Programme of Action (POA) which proposes education for women's equality with a focus on girls in literacy and primary education programme.
- (ii) Awareness Generation among Girls and Women to improve girls participation.
- (iii) Various incentive schemes like uniforms, text books, stipends, attendance allowance, stationery grants, hostel facilities etc.
- (iv) Operation Blackboard where 50% of teachers appointed are women.
- (v) Non-formal Education Programme for Girls.
- (vi) Mahila Samakhya Programme.
- (vii) Total Literacy Campaigns.
- (viii) District Primary Education Programme which stresses education for girls.

[Translation]

Garbage Free Air Bases

1327. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the schemes of keeping of the ten kilometer radius of airbases fully garbage free to avoid any air mishaps; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). The Government propose to implement the Centrally sponsored scheme of improving sanitation and solid waste management, which includes shifting of open garbage dumps, construction of covered garbage points, etc., within a radius of 10 Kms around the vicinity of selected air bases.

[English]

Central Schemes for Women and Children

1328. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the central schemes formulated to ameliorate the conditions of women and children from weaker sections of the community;

(b) the investment made there under scheme-wise and State-wise during the last three years and the results achieved so far;

(c) the outlays provided for 1996-97 for the schemes, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(d) the new schemes proposed for the welfare of women/children; and

(e) the schemes proposed to be dropped/suspended?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c). The Department of Women & Child Development is implementing a number of schemes for upliftment of women and children belonging to weaker sections of the society. A statement showing schemewise expenditure, the results achieved thereunder during the last three years and the schemewise outlays for 1996-97 is statement-I. No Statewise allocations are made under the Central schemes of the Department of Women & Child Development. However, under the centrally-sponsored schemes of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY), grants-in-aid are released to the State Governments/UT Administrations on the basis of the number of projects/blocks sanctioned in each State/UT. A statement showing grant-in-aid released to the States/UTs under the ICDS Scheme during the years from 1993-94 to 1996-97 (till date) is statement-II. Another statement showing the results achieved under the ICDS Scheme during the last 3 years is statement-III. As regards Indira Mahila Yojana, the scheme was launched in 200 blocks of the country on 20 August, 1995. A statement giving the grants released to the State under IMY during 1995-96 and the results achieved is statement-IV.

(d) and (e). None.

STATEMENT-I

Scheme wise Expenditure & Achievements in 1993-94, 94-95, 95-96 & Plan Outlay for 1996-97

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		Plan Outlay for 1996-97
		Expenditure	Achievement	Expenditure	Achievement	Expenditure	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Creches/Day Care Centres	1.66	12389 creches 3.10 lakh bene.	6.50	12470 creches 3.12 lakh bene.	7.50	12470 creches 3.11 lakh bene.	7.50
2.	National Creche Fund	19.90	-	0.01	450 creches	0.01	509 creches	0.01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Early Childhood Education	0.50	4224 centres	0.50	4361 centres	0.50	4365 centres	0.50
4.	Balwadi Nutrition Programme	3.94	5641 centres	5.87	5641 centres	6.05	5641 centres	6.05
5.	Hostels for working women	7.05	30 hostels 2069 bene.	7.75	53 hostels 4592 bene.	7.75	37 hostels 3560 bene.	7.75
6.	Employment cum income Generating Units for Women (NORAD)	4.40	56 Projects 6000 bene.	4.99	134 projects 9635 bene.	6.20	188 projects 13500 bene.	8.00
7.	Support to Training-cum- Employment Programme for Women (STEP)	15.05	6 projects 12000 bene.	15.98	13 projects 68590 bene.	16.00	7 projects 36390 bene.	16.00
8.	Short Stay Homes	2.04	34 homes	2.14	42 homes	2.75	32 homes	2.75
9.	Education Work for Preven- tion of Atrocities against Women	0.46	Not quantifiable	0.42	Not quantifiable	0.35	Not quantifiable	0.35
10.	Rashtriya Mahila Kosh	-	-	0.01	37066 bene.	0.01	99627 bene.	0.01
11.	Mahila Samridhhi Yojana	10.50	5.40 lakh accounts	50.00	85.29 lakh accounts	60.00	158.27 lakh accounts	60.00
12.	Condensed Courses for Education & Vocational Training	8.00	1393 courses 34825 bene.	8.00	1215 courses 30375 bene.	10.00	1235 courses 30875 bene.	9.00
13.	Socio Economic Programme	4.50	502 units 6080 bene.	5.50	564 units 6768 bene.	6.50	673 units 4866 bene.	6.00
14.	Awareness Generation Projects	1.25	-	2.00	-	2.25	-	2.25
15.	Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)	410.62	312 projects	434.99	312 projects	555.64	1677 projects	503.94
16.	Indira Mahila Yojana	-	-	-	-	12.00	200 IMY blocks allotted	12.00
17.	World Bank Assisted ICDS Projects	53.36	66 blocks	90.00	8 blocks	90.00	37 blocks	154.30

STATEMENT-II

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (April-July 96)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1819.26	1796.63	2944.16	774.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	501.43	364.43	657.98	164.08
3.	Assam	1129.93	2006.10	1859.19	561.49
4.	Bihar	2867.11	4779.49	2955.19	1452.69
5.	Goa	180.26	144.58	189.63	40.32
6.	Gujrat	2270.17	1986.58	2477.95	655.69
7.	Haryana	829.86	703.75	1026.86	226.78
8.	Himachal Pradesh	587.34	519.90	852.93	213.22
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	710.25	708.33	902.98	300.85
10.	Karnataka	3201.45	2874.87	4153.54	570.53
11.	Kerala	1259.01	1252.62	1788.95	427.64
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2631.69	4088.10	3902.20	1050.60
13.	Maharashtra	3484.91	3527.82	5409.35	1102.73
14.	Manipur	409.47	338.69	484.31	111.30
15.	Meghalaya	462.88	333.72	549.69	109.48
16.	Mizoram	315.19	280.42	308.16	69.44

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Nagaland	316.38	467.62	559.76	145.88
18.	Orissa	722.28	1096.32	1737.01	565.13
19.	Punjab	1285.40	762.48	1093.17	355.73
20.	Rajasthan	2258.58	1972.64	2565.63	783.74
21.	Sikkim	115.23	22.03	126.40	18.48
22.	Tamil Nadu	2104.08	1418.41	2981.45	425.86
23.	Tripura	245.96	237.85	359.90	76.72
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6977.27	7287.73	11141.94	2755.41
25.	West Bengal	3588.95	3648.91	4833.65	1148.78
26.	Delhi	494.41	603.01	616.47	97.29
27.	Pondicherry	115.33	105.83	117.78	18.48
28.	Andaman & Nicobar	53.07	59.54	66.62	18.48
29.	Chandigarh	42.84	36.91	38.82	7.56
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	17.24	16.29	27.81	3.92
31.	Daman & Diu	32.83	21.43	36.32	7.56
32.	Lakshadweep	14.70	18.19	15.66	3.92
33.	R.K. Mission	17.24	17.85	18.74	
34.	Miscellaneous			37.83	
Total		41062.00	43499.00	56838.03	14264.15

STATEMENT-III

Statement indicating Statewise Number of ICDS Project Sanctioned and Beneficiaries Covered under ICDS during last 3 years

(Beneficiaries in Lakhs)

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of ICDS Projects Sanctioned Uptill (Cumulative)			Number of Beneficiaries (Children 0-6 Years & Mothers)								
					1993-94			1994-95			1995-96		
		93-94	94-95	95-96	Child- ren	Moth- ers	Total	Child- ren	Moth- ers	Total	Child- ren	Moth- ers	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	192	209	363	13.74	3.09	16.83	13.58	3.10	16.68	12.34	2.80	15.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	39	39	51	0.53	0.10	0.63	0.56	0.11	0.67	0.70	0.12	0.82
3.	Assam	79	83	224	3.32	0.67	3.99	3.90	0.73	4.62	3.28	0.51	3.78
4.	Bihar	296	323	598	11.51	1.74	13.25	12.14	1.92	14.05	11.23	1.64	12.87
5.	Goa	11	11	11	0.30	0.08	0.38	0.34	0.17	0.51	0.34	0.09	0.43
6.	Gujarat	154	163	227	9.86	1.86	11.72	9.40	1.78	11.18	9.50	1.81	11.31
7.	Haryana	104	106	114	7.04	1.91	8.95	7.11	1.92	9.04	8.33	2.12	10.46
8.	Himachal Pradesh	41	42	75	1.27	0.26	1.53	1.25	0.26	1.51	1.69	0.32	2.01
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	69	78	128	1.48	0.30	1.78	1.58	0.35	1.94	1.51	0.32	1.83
10.	Karnataka	185	185	185	15.79	2.68	18.47	16.80	4.11	20.91	22.91	3.78	26.69
11.	Kerala	113	120	164	6.42	1.32	7.74	6.15	1.33	7.48	5.59	1.09	6.69
12.	Madhya Pradesh	269	298	486	11.25	2.34	13.59	10.92	2.79	13.72	12.94	2.85	15.80
13.	Maharashtra	255	274	326	17.70	3.60	21.30	17.70	3.60	21.30	17.61	3.62	21.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14. Manipur		29	29	32	0.90	0.18	1.08	1.07	0.21	1.28	1.16	0.23	1.38
15. Meghalaya		30	30	30	0.75	0.10	0.85	0.81	0.13	0.94	0.92	0.16	1.08
16. Mizoram		21	21	21	0.52	0.14	0.66	0.57	0.15	0.71	0.65	0.15	0.81
17. Nagaland		26	27	53	1.24	0.18	1.42	1.42	0.29	1.71	1.43	0.42	1.85
18. Orissa		218	229	324	12.48	2.42	14.90	13.10	2.55	15.65	12.78	2.25	15.03
19. Punjab		70	72	123	2.16	0.63	2.79	2.16	0.67	2.83	2.15	0.51	2.66
20. Rajasthan		182	194	270	6.28	1.07	7.35	8.54	1.68	10.21	9.02	1.79	10.81
21. Sikkim		4	5	5	0.11	0.02	0.13	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.19	0.04	0.23
22. Tamil Nadu		112	431	434	5.10	1.13	6.23	5.15	1.13	6.28	9.87	4.21	14.08
23. Tripura		19	20	23	0.66	0.11	0.77	0.70	0.13	0.84	0.88	0.10	0.98
24. Uttar Pradesh		540	580	935	16.62	3.84	20.46	17.26	4.52	21.78	18.26	4.44	22.70
25. West Bengal		277	294	366	11.55	1.71	13.26	11.76	2.05	13.81	12.62	1.76	14.39
26. A & N Islands		4	5	5	0.17	0.03	0.20	0.16	0.04	0.20	0.13	0.04	0.17
27. Chandigarh		2	3	3	0.13	0.04	0.17	0.13	0.04	0.17	0.13	0.04	0.17
28. D & N Haveli		1	1	1	0.13	0.04	0.17	0.13	0.04	0.16	0.13	0.04	0.16
29. Delhi		28	28	29	3.16	0.64	3.80	3.89	0.79	4.68	3.54	0.68	4.22
30. Daman & Diu		2	2	2	0.05	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.01	0.07
31. Lakshadweep		1	1	1	0.05	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.02	0.08
32. Pondicherry		5	5	5	0.29	0.08	0.37	0.30	0.08	0.38	0.31	0.10	0.42
Total		3378	3908	5614	162.56	32.35	194.91	168.80	36.73	205.52	182.28	38.07	220.35

STATEMENT-IV

Statement showing grants released and results achieved under Indira Mahila Yojana during 1995-1996, State/UT-wise.

S. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Grants released during 95-96 (Rs. in lakhs)	State/UT-wise No of IMY blocks allotted for 95-96	Statewise No. of Indira Mahila Block Societies regd.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	85.40	14	14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.10	1	-
3.	Assam	30.50	5	-
4.	Bihar	122.00	20	-
5.	Goa	6.10	1	-
6.	Gujarat	61.00	10	-
7.	Haryana	24.40	4	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18.30	3	-
9.	J & K	12.20	2	-
10.	Karnataka	61.00	10	10

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	42.70	7	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	85.40	14	5
13.	Maharashtra	97.60	16	5
14.	Manipur	6.10	1	-
15.	Meghalaya	6.10	1	-
16.	Mizoram	6.10	1	-
17.	Nagaland	6.10	1	-
18.	Orissa	42.70	7	-
19.	Punjab	30.50	5	5
20.	Rajasthan	61.00	10	-
21.	Sikkim	6.10	1	1
22.	Tamil Nadu	79.30	13	-
23.	Tripura	6.10	1	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	183.00	30	30
25.	West Bengal	85.40	14	-
26.	Delhi	-	2	-
27.	A & N Islands	-	1	-
28.	Chandigarh	-	1	-
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	1	-
30.	Daman & Diu	-	1	-
31.	Lakshadweep	-	1	-
32.	Pondicherry	-	1	-

Teaching Hindi Abroad

1329. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Cultural Relations had prepared a panel of candidates during the month of June, 1996 for deputation for teaching Hindi abroad;

(b) if so, whether the selection has been done disregarding the guidelines issued by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether candidates who had been on deputation abroad earlier have also been selected again;

(d) whether the Government propose to direct I.C.C.R. to reselect candidates as per the guidelines issued; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) After seeking nominations from major Indian universities and Central Institute of Hindi, ICCR had conducted interviews for preparing a panel of Hindi teachers to be deputed abroad against existing and future vacancies. The interviews of suitable candidates were held on 25-26 June, 1996 by a duly constituted Selection committee of Hindi experts

(b) No, Sir. The selection has been done within the guidelines for deputation of Hindi teachers abroad and after seeking nominations from a number of universities in India and scrutiny of applications

(c) There are four candidates who have already been deputed by ICCR to foreign countries and who have been selected and placed on the fresh panel. However, as per the decision of the Selection committee, these candidates have been placed last on the panel and candidates who have never been posted abroad earlier will get preference in order of merit.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. Since the selections already made are within the guidelines and policy laid down for this purpose, the Government does not propose to direct ICCR to have fresh interviews

Blood Donation

1330. SHRI PINAKI MISRA Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether, attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item in the Hindustan Times dated January 14, 1996 to the effect that blood donation from Indians are refused in Sweden on the grounds of congenital risk factor;

(b) if so, whether blood donations from Indian donors are refused on similar grounds of race in other European and developed countries; and

(c) if so, the Government's information in this regard and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, the report is inaccurate.

There is no legislation in Sweden which discriminates among donors on the basis of a congenital risk factor.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Sharing of Flood Water

1331. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA .
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan have requested/proposed to Central Water Commission and the Union Government to expedite the matter relating to sharing of flood water of Ganga with Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken by the CWC/Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether the surplus water of river Ganga is proposed to be utilised by the State Government for its drought prone areas; and

(e) if so, the steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Ganga Flood Control Board was asked to prepare a scheme for diversion of Ganga water to Rajasthan for 100 days during monsoon at the rate of 1133 cubic metres per second (cumec) near Hardwar and 566 cumec near Bijnore. The study was entrusted to Central Water Commission to find out the availability of surplus water at these two places for diversion to Rajasthan. Government of Rajasthan has requested Central Water Commission to expedite the study.

(c) The study conducted by Central Water Commission revealed that sufficient water was not available in Ganga at these two places for more than 20-30 days in a year for diversion to Rajasthan. On the request of Rajasthan, Central Water Commission has agreed to review the study. The time required to take a decision by Ganga Flood Control Board will depend upon the outcome of the study.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Rajasthan has indicated to utilise the surplus flood water of the Ganga in the drought prone areas of the State. The state will formulate a technical proposal depending upon the outcome of the study.

Central Assistance for Irrigation Projects

1332. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :
DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL :
SHRI MRUTUNJAYA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the on-going major medium irrigation

projects in the country, particularly in Bihar and Orissa are receiving aid from World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount received from the World Bank with allocation of funds to each State;

(c) whether the funds allocated by the Centre for this purpose during the last three years have been reduced;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and details of amount of Central Assistance;

(e) whether the Government have come across of diversification of assistance for other purpose; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) There are eight World Bank

assisted major and medium irrigation projects currently under implementation in the country. In Bihar, there is no World Bank assisted project in operation. In Orissa there are three World Bank assisted projects under implementation.

(b) A statement indicating the Name of the Project, Date of Agreement, Amount of Assistance and Utilisation of Funds upto 31.3.1996 is enclosed.

(c) and (d). The Central assistance to the States is in the form of block loans and block grants. Irrigation being a state subject, the investigation, planning, execution as well as funding is done by the state under the 'State Plan'. The reduction in the actual expenditure as compared to approved outlay as indicated in the table given below is mainly due to reduction in the resources to be raised by the State.

Central Assistance

(Rs. in crores)

	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	(Approved)	(Actuals)	(Approved)	(Actuals)	(Approved)	(Latest Estimates)
1. Bihar	1801.60	1647.46	2068.05	1846.16	1786.57	1786.57
2. Orissa	1213.14	944.35	1311.43	1127.49	1263.29	1250.13

(e) No. Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

List of on-going Externally Assisted Irrigation Projects

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Date of Agreement	Amount of Assistance	Utilisation as on 31.03.1996 (in Million)
1	2	3	4	5	6
World Bank					
1.	Upper Krishna Irrigation Project Phase-II	Karnataka	16.6.89	US\$ 169.208	US\$ 150.812
2.	Maharashtra Composite Irrigation Project-III	Maharashtra	5.12.85	US\$ 169.083	US\$ 138.411
3.	Punjab Irrigation and Drainage Project	Punjab	9.2.90	US\$ 171.429	US\$ 93.875
4.	Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	Haryana	6.4.94	US\$ 294.289	US\$ 32.263
5.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	Tamil Nadu	29.4.95	US\$ 282.9	US\$ 12.438
6.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	Orissa	19.12.95	US\$ 290.9	US\$ 276.693

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project	Multi-state (M.P., Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu & Orissa)	10.6.91	US\$ 148.884	US\$ 20.847
8.	Hydrology Project	Multi State (Orissa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu)	22.9.95	US\$ 142.0	US\$ 4.003

[Translation]

Education for Minorities

1333. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings held so far under the programme of education for minorities and the dates on which they were held;

(b) the decisions taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of the action taken by Government for implementing such decisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) On a Meeting of the National Monitoring Committee on Minorities Education, was held on 8th November, 1995.

(b) and (c). Necessary steps have already been initiated in terms of the discussions and decisions taken in that meeting. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

Recommendations

1. Efforts be made to fuse the special measures targeting the minorities with the general measures to improve the availability, accessibility and content of education. Particularly, schemes relating to universalization of elementary education and total literacy campaigns be taken up in minority concentration areas on priority basis.

Action Taken

Operation Blackboard

- Under Operation Black-Board Programme, all primary schools as in 1986 have been covered (5.22 lakhs). Upper primary schools are concerned. preference would be given to minority concentration blocks.

Non-Formal Education

- As far as Non-formal Education is concerned in states with minority concentration districts strong emphasis would be laid on preparation of instructional material in urdu and on locating NFE centres in minority concentration blocks.

District Institutes of Education & Training

- In some District Institutes of Education & Training (DIETs), special cells have been created for inservice training of urdu teachers. More such Cells will be created.

Total Literacy Campaign

- Under the total literacy campaign 12 Minority Concentration Districts have been identified comprising Bhopal of MP, West Dinajpur of WB, Jaisalmer of Rajasthan, Rampur, Saharanpur, Muzfarnagar, Gonda, Pilibhit of Uttar Pradesh and Purnea, Kishanganj, Katihar

2. The schemes for the educational development of minorities be given appropriate publicity so that the intended beneficiaries get sufficient information in this respect.

3. UGC scheme of Coaching Classes for minorities has not fulfilled its objectives. This needs to be looked into and implementation of the scheme be intensified with focus on women. Special Coaching classes for women should be started soon.

4. Adequate data should be generated about the extent of benefit which is being derived by the members of the minority community from various schemes designed for their welfare and for this purpose studies be taken up in hand through resource organisations and other agencies.

5. A sub-Committee of the National Committee be set up to interact with the states in order to ensure better implementation of the programmes.

& Darbhanga of Bihar. In most of the districts Total Literacy Campaigns have been launched.

Following steps are being taken :

1. Issue of advertisements in newspapers, particularly regional language newspapers.
2. Bringing out reader friendly brochures.
3. Requesting State Governments to give wide publicity to programmes for minorities education.
4. Use of Radio and TV for dissemination of information about minority programmes.

UGC has advised the coordinators of all the Coaching Centres to give special emphasis on coaching of women candidate.

NCERT and NIEPA have been requested to prepare projects for the purpose.

Under consideration.

Nehru Yuvak Kendra

1334. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Nehru Yuvak Kendras functioning in Uttar Pradesh, location-wise and the names of the areas covered by these Kendras;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the Kendras located in Jhansi division during the last three years, and

(c) the amount sanctioned for each Kendra in Jhansi division during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND/SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) 63 Nehru Yuva Kendra are functioning in Uttar Pradesh. Location of these Kendras are given in the attached statement-I. Each Kendra covers the respective revenue district except in Sultanpur district where there are two Nehru Yuva Kendras, one in Sultanpur and the other in Amethi.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the Kendras located in Jhansi division during the last three years is given in the attached statement-II.

(c) The amount sanctioned for each Kendra in Jhansi division during the current financial year is as

under :-

1.	Banda	Rs. 1,80,470/-
2.	Hamirpur	Rs. 1,44,720/-
3.	Jhansi	Rs. 1,41,300/-
4.	Jalaun	Rs. 1,39,320/-
5.	Lalitpur	Rs. 1,38,720/-

STATEMENT-I

List of Nehru Yuva Kendras Functioning in the State of Uttar Pradesh

S.No. Name of Kendra

1	2
1.	Almora
2.	Allahabad
3.	Aligarh
4.	Partapgarh
5.	Azamgarh
6.	Badaun
7.	Banda
8.	Bijnor

1	2
9.	Chamoli
10.	Dehradun
11.	Deoria
12.	Fatehgarh
13.	Fatehpur
14.	Faizabad
15.	Ghasipur
16.	Gorakhpur
17.	Hamirpur
18.	Jhansi
19.	Lakshimpur Khri
20.	Mathura
21.	Meerut
22.	Muzaffar Nagar
23.	Moradabad
24.	Nainital
25.	Mirzapur
26.	Pauri Garhwal
27.	Pithoragarh
28.	Rai Bareilly
29.	Rampur
30.	Sitapur
31.	Saharanpur
32.	Unnao
33.	Uttar Kashi
34.	Varanasi
35.	Sultanpur
36.	Lalitpur
37.	Etah
38.	Agra
39.	Tehri Garhwal
40.	Bulandshahar
41.	Shahjahanpur
42.	Bahraich
43.	Jaunpur
44.	Bareilly
45.	Pilibhit
46.	Mampur
47.	Lucknow
48.	Gonda

1	2
49.	Barabanki
50.	Ballia
51.	Kanpur
52.	Etawah
53.	Jalaun
54.	Ghaziabad
55.	Hardoi
56.	Basti
57.	Haridwar
58.	Biddharthnagar
59.	Amethi
60.	Maharajganj
61.	Mau
62.	Ferozabad
63.	Sonebhadra

STATEMENT-II

The Expenditure Incurred on the Kendras Located in Jhansi Division during the Last Three Years.

S. No.	Kendra Name	1993-94 (Rs.)	1994-95 (Rs.)	1995-96 (Rs.)
1.	Banda	2,38,871-90	1,70,937-00	1,65,070-00
2.	Hamirpur	1,49,280-40	1,74,833-50	1,76,401-00
3.	Jhansi	1,54,330-15	82,777-30	1,42,095-50
4.	Jalaun	1,40,053-10	1,81,913-10	1,11,186-00
5.	Lalitpur	1,48,302-20	1,34,377-30	2,00,295-55

New Policy of Sports

1335. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new policy in regard to sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above policy is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) No, Sir.

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

STATEMENT

Name of	Number of Leprosy Eradication Centre, District functioning in the State of Assam						
	SET	ULC	UULC	Leprosy treatment Centre	LCU	MLCU	LTU
Kamrup	16	1	1	4			1
Nalbari	13			2			1
Kokrajhar	5	1			1		1
Bongaigaon	8						1
Dhubri	16						1
Barpeta	6						1
Goalpara	8	1		1	1		1
Nagaon	19	1		3			1
Merigaon	8						1
Golaghat	9	1		1			1
Jorhat	13	1		1			1
Dibrugarh	16	1		1		1	1
Sibsagar	16	1		1		1	1
Tinsukia	10	1			1		1
Dhemaji	13						1
Lakhimpur	26			4			1
Darrang	7				1		1
Sonitpur	10	2					1
Karbi-Anglong	18			27	2		-
Karimganj	8	1		2			1
N.C. Hillas	4			7	1		1
Caohar	14	1		1			1
Hailakandi	5			1			1
Total	268	13	1	56	7	2	22

LCU - Leprosy Control Unit
 ULC - Urban Leprosy Centre.
 MLCU - Modified Leprosy Control Unit.
 HLTU - Mobile Leprosy Treatment Unit
 UULC - Upgraded Urban Leprosy Centre.
 SET - Survey Education & Treatment Centre.

[English]

Leprosy Eradication Centre

1336. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of leprosy eradication centres in operation in Assam, district-wise:

(b) the amount of assistance sanctioned and released to each of these centres by the Government during each of the last three years:

(c) whether any free medicines are being provided to leprosy patient in those centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The number of leprosy eradication centres functioning in various districts in Assam is given in the attached statement.

(b) The assistance to these centres is released by the State Govt. However, the assistane released to the State of Assam during the last three years is as

under :-

Year	Assistance released by Govt. of India (Rs. in lakhs)		
	Cash	Kind	Total
1993-94	18.00	1.49	19.49
1994-95	20.00	16.47	36.47
1995-96	20.00	42.45	62.45

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Anti Leprosy drugs are being supplied to State for free treatment of all the patients as and when requested by the State Govt.

National Council of Blood Transfusion

1337. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 35 on February 27, 1996 and state :-

(a) whether the Government have since set up a National Council of Blood Transfusion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the State Governments have also been advised to set up similar bodies at State level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) National Blood Transfusion Council has been constituted and registered under Societies Registration Act of 1860 on 23.5.1996 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary & Project Director (NACO) having members from Govt. of India, Indian Red Cross Society, Medical Council of India, Indian Medical Association, major medical and health institutions and private blood institutions.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) So far information has been received from the following 19 States/Union Territories confirming establishment of Blood Transfusion Councils in their respective States :-

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Gujarat
4. Haryana
5. Jammu & Kashmir
6. Karnataka
7. Kerala

8. Maharashtra
9. Mizoram
10. Manipur
11. Orissa
12. Uttar Pradesh
13. Tamil Nadu
14. Punjab
15. Tripura
16. West Bengal
17. Pondicherry
18. Chandigarh Admn.
19. Daman & Diu

[Translation]

Synthetic Milk

1338. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
SHRI KACHARU BHAAU RAUT :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether synthetic milk containing a mix of hazardous chemicals is being sold by milk producers in many parts of the country;

(b) whether any remedial measures have been taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any study regarding possible ill-effects of such milk has been conducted by the Government;

(e) if not, reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government have been able to take any action against the guilty manufacturers of synthetic milk; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Some cases of adulteration in milk with foreign substances have been reported from certain States in the northern parts of the country.

(b) and (c). Sale of adulterated milk is prohibited and is a punishable offence under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. The Food (Health) authorities of States/UT. have been advised to step-up surveillance measures and take appropriate legal action against the offenders.

(d) and (e). Presence of sodium hydroxide/detergents/added urea in milk may cause gastric disorders.

(f) and (g). The concerned State authorities have launched prosecutions and some arrests have also been made.

National Waterway Between Patna and Allahabad

1339. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government till date has not been able to open National Waterway for traffic between Patna and Allahabad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this waterway will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). During high water period, the waterway between Patna and Allahabad is open for traffic. However, in order to make it navigable round the year, bed regulation activities, such as, dredging, bandalling and provision of terminal facilities are proposed to be included during the 9th Five Year Plan, phasing of which would depend on growth of cargo and availability of funds.

Research Centre Nalanda

1340. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives with which Mahavihar and Postgraduate Research Centre (Snatkotar Anusandhan Kendra) was set up at Nalanda and whether these objectives are being achieved;

(b) the reasons for delay on the part of the Central education department in taking over this research centre located at such a place of pride; and

(c) the details of the proposal under consideration to directly monitor the development activities at this research centre?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). Nav Nalanda Mahavihar (NNM), an Institute dedicated to the post graduate studies and research in Pali language and literature and Buddology, was established by the State Government of Bihar in 1951 with a view to reviving some of the past glory of the ancient University of Nalanda. In 1990, the Government of Bihar decided to hand over the NNM to the Government of India (Department of Culture). This decision was taken keeping in view the international character of the Institute as also to facilitate its all round development. Consequent upon this decision, Government of India (Department of Culture) prepared Memorandum of Association, Rules, Regulations and Bye-laws of the Nav Nalanda Mahavihar. After completing the legal and administrative formalities, the NNM was taken over by

the Government of India vide Resolution dated 7-12-1993. The Institute was registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act on 25-2-1994.

(c) According to the new dispensation, the Nav Nalanda Mahavihar is an autonomous society fully funded by the Government of India (Department of Culture). A Director has been appointed to manage the affairs of the Institute. The Academic Council and the Finance Committee of the Society have also been constituted.

[English]

Sports Institutions

1341. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sports institutions functioning/proposed to be opened in the country to encourage sports for women;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the sites have been identified for new institutions, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) the funds allocated and spent during the last three years, institution-wise; and

(e) the efforts being made to find out new talents, discipline-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) Sports Authority of India (SAI) under its various schemes encourages Sports among Women. Apart from National Sports Talent contest, SAI training Centres and Special Area Games (SAG) schemes which promote sports among Women also, the following schemes are being implemented exclusively for Women :-

(i) National Sports Festival for Women

This Festival is held every year and involves holding of lower level competitions (Block, Distt. and State level) by the States/UTs which are followed by National level competitions.

(ii) Sports Talent Search Scholarship Scheme

Under this Scheme, scholarships are awarded to Women National champions and to women having Masters Degree in physical education doing SAI's NIS Diploma/M.Phil/ Ph.D.

(iii) Promotion of Sports and physical Education amongst women

Under the Scheme, Special Certificate

Courses are held every year for women physical education teachers.

(b) and (c). Details in respect of Adopted Schools under National Sports Talent Contest scheme as well as in respect of SAI Training centres and Special Area Games scheme are given in the attached statements I, II and III.

(d) On an average, SAI spends a sum of Rs. 37,500/- per child per year on education, training and participation in the tournaments for the children admitted under the schemes mentioned in para 1 of part (a)

above. Year-wise details are as under :-

1993-94	Rs. 2,87,47,306/-
1994-95	Rs. 2,91,12,480/-
1995-96	Rs. 2,45,92,701/-

(e) Under all the above schemes, talent scouting is carried out from Block level to National level with the help of local authorities, State Govts. in association with Regional Directorates of SAI. Talent is being scouted in 17 disciplines as per details given in statement-IV.

STATEMENT-I

Adopted Schools under National Sports Talent Contest Scheme

	Name of School	Discipline	Boys	Girls	Total
	1	2	3	4	5
Punjab					
*1.	Govt. Girls Senior Secondary School Jalandhar	Athletic		14	
		Hockey		06	20
*1-A	Yadnandra public School, Patiala	Athletic	08	03	11
2.	Shivalik Public School	Athletics	08	05	
		Hockey	11		
		Volleyball	13	03	
		Badminton	04		
		Wrestling	18		
		Football	11		73
Haryana					
1.	Motilal Nehru School of sports Rai.	Athletics	15	08	
		Gymnastics	06	06	
		Hockey	04		
		Swimming	09	02	50
Himachal Pradesh					
*	Govt. Seniro Secondary School, Mazra.	Hockey		07	07
Delhi					
*1.	Air Force bal Bharti School, New Delhi	Badminton		05	
		Basketball		02	
		Swimming		02	09
*2.	Mothers International School, New Delhi	Athletics		05	
		Table Tennis		03	08
Uttar Pradesh					
*	M.K.P. Inter College Dehradun.	Hockey		14	
		Table Tennis		02	
		Volleyball		02	
		Badminton		02	20

	1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh					
	Maharani Lakshmbai Govt. Multi purpose School, Jabalpur	Athletics Basketball Gymanstic		10 02 03	15
West Bengal					
1.	Govt. Girls High School Krishnanagar	Athletics Gymnastics Volleyball		23 10 06	39
2.	Dowhill School Karshiang, W.B.	Athletics Basketball Gymnastics		04 04 13	21
3.	Taldi Mohanchand High School, Taldi	Athletics Swimming Volleyball	14 15 04	06 07 02	48
Orissa					
1.	St. Mary Girls School Sundergarh	Athletics		05	05
Bihar					
	Govt. Girls High School, Ranchi	Athletics Hockey Volleyball		14 12 04	30
Sikkim					
	Tashi Namgyal Academy Gangtok	Athletic Badminton Football Table Tennis Swimming	03 02 14 03 03	02 02 - 01 02	32
Assam					
1.	Govt. Bezbaruah Hr. Sec. School, Golaghat	Athletics Football	04 13	06 -	23
Arunachal Pradesh					
1.	Dony Polo Vidya Bhavan Itanagar	Football Athletics	08 16	- 09	33
Maharashtra					
1.	Pravara Public School, Pravaranagar	Athletics Gynastic Swimming Basketball Hockey	11 09 10 12 04	10 - 02 03 -	61
2.	Muktangan English School Pune	Athletics Gymnastics	33 03	22 08	66
3.	Sanjeevan Vidyalaya Panchgani	Badminton Basketball Swimming	04 05 -	02 - 02	13
Gujarat					
1.	NSTC Gandhinagar (Hostel), Gandhinagar	Athletics Hockey Gymnastic	- 04 -	11 - 02	17

* These Schools are exclusively for girls.

	1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	V.P. Siddhartha Public School Vijaywada	Athletics Basketball Gymnastic	03 03 11	05 - 04	26
Kerala					
1.	Mount Carmel Girls School Kottayam.	Athletics	-	13	13
Total=			318	322	640

STATEMENT-II*SAI Training Centres*

S.No.	State	Centre	Discipline	Innate Position		
				Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Punjab	Patiala	Gymnastics Hockey Judo Swimming	01 23 09 -	05 - - -	38
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Eluru	Athletics Volleyball Wt. Lifting	05 05 03	- - 01	14
3.	Karnataka	Dharwad	Athletics Basketball	18 12	03 -	33
4.	Karnataka	Medicary	Athletics Hockey	4 -	12 21	33
5.	Karnataka	Bangalore	Athletics Boxing Football Hockey Judo	05 03 16 25 06	02 - - - -	57
6.	Kerala	Kollam	Athletics Football	20 07	11 -	38
7.	Kerala	Trichur	Athletics Basketball Badminton Swimming	03 - 03 01	06 11 - 02	26
8.	Kerala	Calicut	Athletics Badminton Volleybal Football	14 - 14 17	- 01 - -	46
9.	West Bengal	Burdwan	Basketball Gymnastics Volleyball	08 05 04	- 07 -	24
10.	West Bengal	Calcuta	Athletics Football Hockey Archery	06 03 21 04	03 - - 06	43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	Orissa	Cuttack	Athletics	12	06	
			Football	27	-	
			Gymnastic	05	02	
			Basketball	14	-	
			Hockey	-	-	66
12.	Maharashtra	Buldana	Athletics	06	04	
			Handball	02	12	24
13.	Maharashtra	Kandivali	Athletics	11	04	
			Hockey	26	-	
			Wrestling	11	-	52
14.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	Athletics	-	09	
			Basketball	-	04	
			Volleyball	-	03	16
15.	Assam	Golaghat	Athletics	13	13	
			Football	15	-	41
16.	Assam	Guwahati	Athletics	05	03	
			Football	23	-	
			Cycling	06	03	
			Wt.Lifting	04	03	47
17.	Meghalaya	Shillong	Athletics	05	09	
			Archery	09	-	
			Football	28	-	51
18.	Manipur	Imphal	Athletics	10	09	
			Football	21	-	
			Hockey	-	16	
			Cycling	08	05	69
19.	Chandigarh(U.T.)	Chandigarh	Athletics	-	08	
			Basketball	-	10	
			Volleyball	-	09	
			Hockey	-	16	43
20.	H.P.	Bilaspur	Athletics	03	04	
			Volleyball	07	-	
			Boxing	06	-	20
21.	Goa	Margaon	Athletics	04	04	
			Football	19	-	
			Boxing	06	-	33
				567	247	814

STATEMENT-III

*Sports Authority of India
Special Area Games*

S.No.	Name of the Centre	Discipline	No. of Boys	No. of Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mizoram					
1.	Aizwal	Boxing	20	-	20
		Judo	9	7	16
					36

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Manipur				
2.	Imphal	Boxing	12	-	12
		Judo	15	6	21
		Wrestling	15	-	15
		Weightlifting	-	18	18
					66
	Kerala				
3.	Alleppey	Kayaking	10	7	17
		Canoeing	5	-	5
		Rowing	15	2	17
					39
4.	Tellicherry	Gymnastic	7	7	14
5.	Delhi (Associate Members-5)	Archery	4	1	5
		Cycling	7	4	11
		Fencing	11	-	11
					27
	Uttar Pradesh				
6.	Allahabad	Gymnastics	11	11	22
					22
	Bihar				
7.	Ranchi	Hockey	13	5	18
					18
	Orissa				
8.	Jagatpur	Rowing	5	5	10
		Canoeing	4	-	4
		Kayaking	4	3	7
					21
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands				
9.	(A) Port Blair	Kayaking	5	5	10
		Canoeing	4	-	4
		Rowing	-	6	6
		Cycling	14	10	24
					44
	(B) Car Nicobar	Athletics	1	-	1
		Football	19	-	19
					20
			210	97	307
					307

STATEMENT-IV*List of the Disciplines*

1. Athletics
2. Hockey
3. Volleyball
4. Basketball
5. Football
6. Badminton
7. Wrestling
8. Gymnastic
9. Table Tennis
10. Swimming
11. Judo
12. Boxing
13. Weightlifting

14. Fencing
15. Cycling
16. Archery
17. Water Sports (Kayaking, Canoeing & Rowing)

Demolition of Historical Monuments

1342. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the historical monuments 'Sheela Lekh' are being destroyed/demolished in "Dhar" Bhoj Shala of M.P.; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to preserve these historical heritage inscribed in Sanskrit and Pali languages?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No "Shila Lekh" (inscription) is being destroyed/demolished in Bhoj Shala, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Question does not arise.

Land Acquired by Army in J&K

1343. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of land acquired by the army in J&K so far;

(b) whether the compensation has been paid to the owners;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the area of land taken by army on rental basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) 11,420.459 acres of land has been acquired in Jammu & Kashmir so far under the J&K Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1958 and J&K Land Acquisition Act, 1990 (svt).

(b) and (c). Compensation for the above acquired lands has been paid except for the following areas for the reasons stated therein :

(i) 1007.469 acres - for want of Assessment reports as per the J & K RAIP Act from the State Government authorities indicating the amount of compensation payable.

(ii) 894 acres - final award under J&K LA Act had not been declared by the State Government authorities. However Rs.9,76,34,600/- has been paid as on account payment.

(iii) 32.176 acres - Assessment report from the State Government received in February 96 and is under examination in Ministry of Defence in consultation with Director General, Defence Estates

(d) 30726.731 acres of land is held by army on rental basis.

[Translation]

Regional Cultural Centre

1344. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a regional cultural centre at Ranchi (Bihar) in order to patronise and develop tribal folk arts and culture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bihar is already one of the participating States under the North Central Zone Cultural Centre set up by the Government of India at Allahabad

[English]

Expansion of UN Security Council

1345. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States has mooted any proposal at the UN to expand the Security Council to give permanent membership to Japan and Germany in view of their global influence and power;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to counter this proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to assert India's right to permanent membership of the Security Council as a major South Asian country and the results thereof; and

(e) the countries which have supported India's candidature for permanent membership in UN Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e). The United States has supported the candidatures of Japan and Germany for permanent membership of the Security Council in the ongoing discussion at the UN on Security Council restructuring. They have not, however, taken position on the candidatures of other countries. India has called for inclusion of developing countries in any expansion of permanent as well as non-permanent member's categories. India has also stressed that on objective criteria, some countries will clearly qualify for permanent membership, India among them. India's candidature for permanent membership has been strongly taken up during bilateral discussions, as well as in the Open Ended Working Group of the UN General Assembly on Security Council restructuring. Bhutan, Mauritius, Cuba and Dominican Republic have supported India's candidature for permanent membership in statements at the UN General Assembly, while several others have supported India in bilateral discussions. A very large number of countries have called for a broad based expansion of the UN Security Council to include developing countries.

Imparting of One Year undergraduate Degree Course

1346. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of universities are imparting

one year under graduate degree course inspite of three years:

(b) if so, the rationale therefore and the names of such universities; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Osmania, Kakatiya and Kurukshetra Universities are offering one sitting undergraduate degree courses

(c) Does not arise.

Health Programme

1347. SHRI S D N R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the National and State health programmes being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) the allocation of funds made and actually spent under those programmes during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(c) the achievement made so far;

(d) whether there is any need to give more emphasis on the effective implementation of those programmes particularly in the rural areas; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the allocation and expenditure on major National Health Programmes under implementation in Karnataka is enclosed as statement-I. Besides there are some State Sector programmes which are implemented and monitored by the State Sector programmes which are implemented and monitored by the State Government directly e.g. minimum needs programme, vocational training etc.

(c) Statement-II is attached.

(d) and (e). Emphasis has been placed on effecting improvements in the health sector through a World Bank assisted project for upgrading the secondary health services in the State. The project cost is Rs.546.37 crore and it will be implemented over a period of 6 years covering the whole State. Assistance has also been made available from external agencies like DANIDA, SIDA, UNICEF, WHO etc. for strengthening various disease control programmes.

STATEMENT-I

Statement showing allocation and expenditure for major National Health Programme in operation in Karnataka State during Eighth Five Year Plan

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Name of the scheme	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97
	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion**
National Malaria Eradication Programme	318.35	318.35	241.05	241.05	476.65	476.65	432.92	432.92	849.68
National Leprosy Eradication Programme	130.00	137.20	180.00	103.29	205.00	130.86	237.00	250.98	250.00
National TB Control Programme	89.00	170.25	117.00	102.31	154.00	81.80	199.50	191.06	300.00
National Blindness Control Programme	57.35	38.68	70.44	43.81	76.96	63.07	89.39	74.32	74.44
National AIDS Control Programme	117.87	4.00	129.31	79.48	197.88	55.44	239.86	27.96	239.80
National Family Welfare Programme	3395.11	4719.11	4676.51	5602.03	6974.61	6401.41	7557.81	N.A.	N.A.

* Expenditure for 1.1.96 to 31.3.96 is still awaited

** Provisional

N.A. No Available

STATEMENT-II

Statement showing achievements under major National Health Programmes for the State of Karnataka During 1995-96

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1995-96 Achievements
1	2	3
1.	National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP)	
	(i) No. of positive cases detected and treated	0.25 million
	(ii) No. of P.F. cases detected and treated	0.03 million
	Measures for the containment of Malaria were further strengthened through supply of insecticides and drugs as under :-	
	Insecticides Supplied under NMEP	
	DDT	555 MT
	Malathion Tech.	1250 Kg.
	Larvicide	
	Senthion	7000 Litres
	Temephos	1500 Litres
	Pyrethrum Extract	1500 Litres
	Drugs Supplied under NMEP	
	Tab. Chloroquin	134 Lakhs
	Tab. Primaquin (7.5MG.)	32 Lakhs
	Tab. Primaquin (2.5 MG.)	30 Lakhs
	Quine Injection	15900 Amp
2.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	
	New Cases detected	0.22 Lakhs
	Cases brought under treatment	0.22 Lakhs
	Cases Discharged	0.34 Lakhs
3.	National T.B. Control Programme	
	New Cases detected	0.67 Lakhs
	Sputum examined	0.30 Lakhs
4.	National Programme for control of Blindness	
	Cataract operations performed	1.35 Lakhs
5.	Family Welfare Programmes	
	(i) Immunization coverage	(No. of children covered)
	D.P.T.	11.57 Lakhs
	Polio	11.59 Lakhs
	B.C.G.	12.34 Lakhs
	Measles	10.87 Lakhs
	T.T. (Preg. Women)	12.91 Lakhs
	(ii) Family Planning Coverage	(No. of cases)
	Sterilisation	3.82 Lakhs

1	2	3
	I.U.D.	3.48 Lakhs
	C.C. Users	3.74 Lakhs
	O.P. Users	1.51 Lakhs

6. **National AIDS Control Programme**

A comprehensive Scheme for the prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS is currently under implementations throughout the country. The strategies of the programme consist of (i) behaviour change by creation of mass awareness about HIV/AIDS; (ii) blood safety and rational use of blood; (iii) control of sexually transmitted diseases; and (iv) Surveillance and Clinical Management of HIV/AIDS infected persons. During the last four years of the implementation of programme, following infrastructure have been created in the State:

Zonal Blood Testing Centre	9
Modernisation of Blood Banks	42
HIV Testing facilities	10
STD Clinics	32

7. **State Health Systems Project**

For upgrading the secondary level health systems i.e. the first referral point (Community Health Centre) upwards to District Health Hospitals, State health systems project is under implementation with World Bank assistance in the State of Karnataka at a cost of Rs.546.37 crores effective from 1996 for six years.

Extradition of Criminals

(b) the reasons for delay?

1348. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pending cases relating to extradition of criminals from various countries during the last three years; and

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Requests pending for extradition of persons from various countries during the last three years is given in the attached Statement. Status of each case is indicated in the statement.

STATEMENT

List of Pending Cases of Extradition sought by Indian Govt.

S.No.	Name of the Accused	Extradition Sought from (with date)	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	R.S. Gill & Sukhvinder Singh Crime - Murder of Gen. Vaidya & Lalit Maken	USA 1987	Under consideration of USA Courts
2.	Kulbir Singh Crime - Murder	USA Novemebr, 1994	Request pending with USA authorities.
3.	Daya Singh Lahoria & his wife Kanwaljit Kaur @ Suman Sood. Crime - Murder, Kidnapping criminal conspiracy	USA Sept., 95	Enquiry Magistrate has ordered that a warrant may issue upon the requisition of the proper authorities of the Govt. of the Republic of India for the surrender of Lahoria and Sood.
4.	Amir Bhai @ K.S.M. Ammeruddin @ K.S.M. Md. Ammerudin @ Arif Bhai Crime - Criminal conspiracy & bribery.	Hong Kong Jan., 96	Reply Awaited from Hong Kong authorities.

1	2	3	4
5.	Dawood Ibrahim & others Crime - Conspiracy of Bombay Bomb Blast	UAE/ Pakistan April, 94	Govt. of Pakistan has replied that the accused are not in Pakistan. Request pending with UAE Govt.
6.	V. Prabhakaran & Pottu Omman @ Sivasankar Crime - Criminal conspiracy to assassinate Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India.	Sri Lanka June, 96	Under consideration of Sri Lankan authorities.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Tribal Belts of Rajasthan

1349. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to seek assistance from either the World Bank or other foreign agencies for irrigation projects of the tribal belts of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the estimated costs of the projects and the area of land likely to be irrigated?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No such proposal has been received from Government of Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Funds to Gujarat from CRF

1350. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Gujarat from the Central Road Funds during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) whether any amount is yet to be released to the State out of the Central Road Fund sanctioned by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the details in this regards for each of the last three years and for the current year; and

(d) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The amount allocated to Gujarat, out of Central Road Fund, During 1994-95 and 1995-96 is given below :-

Rs. in lakhs	
Year	Amount
1994-95	239.00
1995-96	139.00

(b) to (d). The position is as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)	
Year	Amount
1993-94	80.00 (already released)
1994-95	239.00 (already released)
1995-96	139.00 (already released)

The amount for the year 1996-97 will be released, after the Demands for Grants are passed by the Parliament.

Sardar Sarovar Narmada Dam Project

1351. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that the work on the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Dam Project has been stopped due to the non-cooperation of Madhya Pradesh Government in rehabilitation of the displaced persons in their areas;

(b) whether the Government have taken up the issue with the Madhya Pradesh Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). The work on the main dam of the Sardar Sarovar Project was held up due to differences between the party States with regard to the final height of the dam and the satisfactory rehabilitation of Project Affected Families. In a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the party States with the Hon'ble Prime Minister held on 15.07.1996 and 16.07.1996, the States have agreed to begin the work pari passu with resettlement and rehabilitation measures.

Barak Dam Project

1352. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded

technical clearance for construction of Barak Dam (Tipaimukh Dam);

(b) whether it is a fact that the progress of work is being hampered due to the opposition of the Government of Manipur; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for smooth implementation of the work?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Technical clearance has been granted subject to certain conditions.

(b) and (c). Work is held up in absence of agreement between the States. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Manipur.

Modernisation of Irrigation Project

1353. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Maharashtra have sent any proposal to the Union Government for the modernisation of irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Sangola Branch Canal Project Report received from the State Government in Feb. 1986, was techno-economically examined in the Advisory committee in May, 1989 for an estimated cost of Rs. 37.01 crores subject to clearance from the Ministry of Environment & Forests & concurrence of State Finance Department to be obtained by the State Government.

(c) The State Government is required to comply with the observations of the Advisory Committee

Irrigation Facility

1354. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :

SHRI MADHABA SARDAR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of irrigated land in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of irrigated land in the State of Orissa;

(c) whether it is a fact that irrigation facility is less as comparison with other States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). As per Land Use Statistics brought out by Ministry of Agriculture upto 1992-93 (latest), the percentage of net irrigated area to total cultivable area in Orissa was 25.6% as compared to national average of 27.2%. The percentage of irrigated land differs from State to State as the factors contributing to the creation of irrigation capacity, including the financial constraints, availability of water resources and cultivable land, topography, etc., differ from state to state.

(e) Irrigation being a State subject, the Government of India is pursuing the matter of increasing the area of irrigated land with the State Governments by laying stress on early completion of ongoing major & medium projects, giving priority for speedy completion of the ongoing surface water minor irrigation schemes, encouraging conjunctive use of surface and ground water, promoting greater user's participation in major & medium projects and by effective implementation of the command area development programme.

STATEMENT

Statewise Net Irrigated Area, Total Cultivable Area and its percentage at the end of 1992-93 (Provisional)

(In Thousand hectares)

S. No.	Name of States	Net Irrigated Area	Total Cultivable Area	Percentage of Net Irrigated Area to total Cultivable Area
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4029	15855	25.4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36	268	13.4
3.	Assam	572	3229	17.7
4.	Bihar	3344	11084	30.2
5.	Goa	23	198	11.6
6.	Gujarat	2642	12358	21.4
7.	Haryana	2628	3769	69.7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	99	807	12.3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	311	1049	29.6
10.	Karnataka	2194	13049	16.8
11.	Kerala	335	2444	13.7
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4775	22811	20.9
13.	Maharashtra	2470	21165	11.7
14.	Manipur	65	164	39.6
15.	Meghalaya	45	1077	4.2

1	2	3	4	5
16. Mizoram		8	584	1.4
17. Nagaland		60	648	9.2
18. Orissa		2070	8086	25.6
19. Punjab		3861	4254	90.8
20. Rajasthan		4471	25711	17.4
21. Sikkim		16	114	14.0
22. Tamil Nadu		2698	8361	32.3
23. Tripura		50	310	16.1
24. Uttar Pradesh		11322	20838	54.3
25. West Bengal		1911	5932	32.2
Total States		50035	184165	27.2
Total UTs		66	211	31.3
Grand Total		50101	184376	27.2

Source : Land Use Statistics (Latest), brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation.

Indians in Hong Kong

1355. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 3000 Indians face statelessness at the time of handing over of Hong Kong to China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government intends to take up the matter with Chinese authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). According to the statistics released recently by the Immigration Department in Hong Kong, the number of persons of Indian origin likely to be faced with statelessness at some, as yet indeterminate, future date is 3,190. These persons are defined as permanent residents of Hong Kong of Indian origin who hold British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passports but do not have any other nationality.

When Hong Kong reverts to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997, those persons who can show proof of seven years of continuous residence in Hong Kong would be entitled to permanent identity cards providing them with the right of abode in Hong Kong. Most British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passport holders are expected to qualify.

Under the present UK policy, the first two generations of offspring of British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passport holders, born after 1997, will be given the status of British Overseas Citizens (BOC). This would entitle them to British consular protection but not the

right of abode in the United Kingdom. The third generation will not be granted this status and might therefore be rendered "stateless" unless they have acquired citizenship of China or another country by then.

(c) and (d). Government have raised this matter with the British and Chinese Governments. It has been the consistent position of the Government of India that the British Government has basic responsibility towards British Dependent Territories Citizens (BDTC) or British National Overseas (BNO) passport holders and that it should take necessary steps to safeguard the status of these persons as British citizens. Senior Chinese officials have stated on several occasions that this group of persons do have the option of applying for Chinese citizenship.

Utilisation of River Water

1356. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive scheme for maximising the utilisation of river waters of the country has been drawn up;

(b) whether the Government have spotted out the areas/States which are likely to be affected by water distribution disputes during the next ten years; and

(c) measures in hand to prevent such disputes taking a serious turn on account of the rising shortage of water and the rising level of demand in different areas/States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) A National Perspective for Water Resources Development has been prepared by the Central Government for transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins which will help in maximising the utilisation of river waters. Reduction of evaporation losses in reservoirs and efficient conveyance in distribution of water also help in maximising the utilisation.

(b) With the increasing trends in population and economic generation activities in the country, the demand of water is increasing. As such, reduction in per capita availability of water may lead to disputes.

(c) Agreements and Tribunal awards on sharing of water between the basin states are binding on the parties. The states have to supplement the increasing requirement of water by conjunctive use of Surface & Ground Water.

[Translation]

Roads Falling under Cantonment Area

1357. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy to ban the roads falling under cantonment area for public transport;

(b) the number of roads in Bareilly cantonment area banned for public transport during the last three years; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) There is no policy to ban the Roads in Cantonment area for public transport. Closure/opening of streets/roads in the Cantonment area is governed under Section 192 of the Cantonments Act, 1924. Relevant Extracts of the Cantonments Act are given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c). Use of no road has been banned for public transport in Bareilly Cantonment by the Cantonment Board. There are, however, two roads in Bareilly Cantonment area over which certain restrictions on movement of traffic have been imposed on the ground of security as these roads pass through Military areas. One of these roads pass through Jat Regimental Centre. This is an internal road on A-A land primarily used by the personnel and vehicles of Jat Regimental centre. A civil suit filed by members of public in this case in sub-judice.

The other road pass through Army Services Corps. Animal Transport Battalion Area. Movement of heavy vehicles in restricted on this road due to frequent movement of heavy vehicles is restricted on this road due to frequent movement for training and exercise of the animals.

On both these roads pedestrian and cyclist traffic is allowed and heavy vehicles are not allowed.

STATEMENT

192. Closing and Opening of Streets:

(1) (Board) shall not permanently close any street or open any new street without the previous sanctions of the (Officer Commanding-in-Chief, the Command or the Director).

(2) (The Executive Officer) may, by public notice, temporarily close any street or any part of a street of repair or for the purpose of carrying out any work connected with drainage, water supply or lighting or any other work which it is by or under this Act required or permitted to carry out :

Provided that where, owing to any works or repairs or from any other cause, the condition of any street or of any water-work, drain, culvert or premises vested in the (Board), is such as to be likely to cause danger to the public, the (Board) shall -

(a) take all reasonable means for the protection of the adjacent buildings and land and provide reasonable means of access thereto;

(b) cause sufficient barriers or fences to be erected for the security of life and property, and cause such

barriers or fences to be sufficiently lighted from sunset to sunrise.

COMMENTS

(1) Street - Order prohibiting heavy vehicles to ply on portion of road - Public notice issued prior to prohibition inviting objections - order issued for security of people for maintenance of peace and property-Held-Municipality had jurisdiction to issue and implement order.

(2) Public Road - It includes road side land.

[English]

Medical College

1358. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether to the proposal of setting up of Medical college at Pariyaram Cannanore, Kerala has been cleared;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the college is likely to commence functioning;

(d) whether funds proposed to be advanced by HUDCO to Pariyaram Medical College had been withheld; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Permission of the Central Government was given on the 17th July, 1995 under the provisions of Section 10 (A) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 to Academy of Medical Sciences, Pariyaram, Kannur for setting up a medical college.

(c) As per report submitted by the Director, Academy of Medical Sciences, Kannur, Medical College had started functioning.

(d) and (e). The Government has no information.

Innovation of New Vaccine

1359. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the innovation of some new kind of vaccine for treating AIDS, Malaria, epilepsy and several other diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said vaccines have since been tested;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the time by which the commercial production of these vaccines are likely to be started to make the same available in the market for sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (e). Scientists are making efforts to produce newer/ innovative vaccines which are inexpensive and with less adverse reactions for control/ eradication of diseases like Leprosy, Japanese Encephalities, Malaria, AIDS, Rabies, KFD etc. There is, however, no information about development of any vaccine against epilepsy.

Studies are being carried out both in India and abroad to conduct field trial of the new vaccines as and when developed. Commercial production of the vaccines can start only after the efficacy and safety of the vaccines are established.

[Translation]

Ex-servicemen

1360. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes in operation for the welfare of ex-servicemen;

(b) whether various State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings are following the reservation policy in various employments for the ex-servicemen;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to make the soldier welfare boards more effective;

(d) whether Government have any proposal to increase the pension of Ex-servicemen; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Central Public Sector undertakings provide 14.5 percent reservation in Group 'C' and 24.5 percent reservation in Group 'D' posts to ex-Servicemen. Barring the States of Bihar, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya and Uttar Pradesh, all other State Governments have made varying percentage of reservation for ex-Servicemen.

(c) The State Governments have been requested to implement the recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Standardisation and revitalisation of the Departments of Sainik Welfare in the States/Union Territories.

(d. and (e). Government have set up the Fifth Central Pay Commission. The terms of reference of the Pay Commission inter-alia include examination of the existing pension structure of Central Government

employees including Armed Forces Personnel and to make recommendations relating thereto which may be desirable and feasible.

STATEMENT

The important welfare schemes for ex-Servicemen are as under :-

- (i) Ex- Servicemen are provided free medical treatment in the Military Hospitals.
- (ii) Ex-Servicemen suffering from serious diseases are given financial assistance equal to 60% of the total expenditure, for treatment in Civil hospitals and have not availed similar assistance from other sources
- (iii) Ex-Servicemen can avail of Canteen facilities from the nearest CSD canteens.
- (iv) Children of Defence Personnel killed or permanently disabled in action who are studying in institutions under the Department of Education, are granted complete exemption from tuition fee and other fee levied by the institution.
- (v) Reservation of 25 seats in MBBS and one seat in BDS have been made for the wards of Ex-Servicemen killed or disabled in action or during peace time due to attributable causes
- (vi) Two seats in each of the six IITs are reserved for children of the Defence/para Military Forces personnel killed or permanently disabled in action.
- (vii) Twenty five percent seats are reserved for wards of serving and retired Armed Forces personnel in Sainik Schools.
- (viii) 50% concession is provided in air fare for travel in domestic flight of Indian Airlines to recipients of gallantry awards of Param Vir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra, Ashok Chakra & Kirti Chakra; permanently disabled officers and dependent members of their families; and to the war widows of post Independent era.
- (ix) 75% concession in rail fare for travel in II class is available to war widows.
- (x) 35 War memorial hostels have been constructed to provide accommodation to wards of war bereaved and disabled personnel to enable them to pursue their studies. Kendriya Sainik Board also provides education grant to the children staying in these hostels.

- (xi) Financial assistance is provided from Raksha Mantri's Discretionary fund to old and infirm ex-Servicemen and their widows in indigent circumstances.
- (xii) 238 Sainik Bhawans/Rest Houses spread all over the country have been established for ex-Servicemen.

2. In addition, various State Governments are also providing a number of facilities/concession to ex-Servicemen.

[English]

Bye-Pass on N.H. No.31

1361. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of work completed till date in respect of construction of Falataka to Pundibari Bye-pass road on National Highway No. 31 and bridge on river Torsha; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) The progress of Falakata-Pundibari Bypass Road on National Highway No.31 and bridge on river Torsha as on 31.3.96 is as follows :-

Bypass Road	40%
Torsha Bridge	45%

The target date of completion is March, 1998.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Kerala

1362. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for setting up of new Kendriya Vidyalayas in Kerala during 1996-97 academic year;

(b) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas to be sanctioned during 1996-97;

(c) the places identified for setting up of such Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(d) the time schedule if any, for completion of the job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). No. Kendriya Vidyalaya has been sanctioned during 1996-97 in Kerala.

ASI Museum

1363. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is not a single site museum of ASI in the North & Eastern States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any indepth survey/excavations were under-taken at places like Pragjyotishpur (Guwahati) and Sibsagar in the recent past;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to do so; and

(e) the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is no site museum of ASI in the North-Eastern States.

(b) ASI establishes site museums where large scale excavations are conducted and good amount of antiquities are found. These relics are preserved alongwith the excavated remains near the site.

(c) The Department of Archaeology, Government of Assam, have conducted excavation at Ambari in Guwahati in recent past. The excavations have revealed ancient settlements having structures and historical antiquities. In Sibsagar explorations have been conducted by the State Department of Archaeology in the recent past.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation for Roads

1364. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that allocation of funds for road network in the country has been on decline;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the Eight Five Year Plan;

(c) whether Government propose to enhance allocation for road network in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. The roads, other than National Highways, fall within the jurisdiction of respective State Governments. As regards National Highways, the allocation of funds for development as a

percentage of total plan outlay is on decline from 1.4% in the First Plan to 0.6% in the 8th Plan.

(c) and (d). Efforts are being made for obtaining enhanced allocation of funds for National Highways. However, it depends on the availability of resources at the National level.

Import of Medical Equipment

1365. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI PINAKI MISRA :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has directed the Director General Health Services (DGHS) to investigate into the import of medical equipment amounting to Rs.5000 crore by various hospitals by availing illegally and unauthorisedly duty free imports; and

(b) if so, the details of the findings and the persons apprehended in connection therewith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per the order of the Delhi High Court, an enquiry into the issue of Custom Duty Exemption Certificates in certain cases is being conducted by the Chief Vigilance Officer of this Ministry. The matter is subjudice.

Child Mortality Rate

1366. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the child mortality rate in the country is very high;

(b) the main factors responsible therefor;

(c) the state-wise position during last three years; and

(d) the specific steps proposed to be taken to reduce and then to stop the child mortality rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per the Registrar General of India the estimated death rate for children in 1993 was 23.7 per 1000 children in the age group 0-4 years. Prematurity, acute respiratory infection, diarrhoeal diseases and vaccine preventable diseases are among the major causes of death in children. Illiteracy, poverty and inadequate infrastructure development and access to health services are some of the factors which contribute to child mortality.

(c) The estimated child (0-4 years) mortality rate for 1991, 1992 and 1993 for major States are given in the attached statement.

(d) Under the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme immunization, Prophylaxis against vitamin A deficiency, appropriate management of diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections and essential newborn care are being provided to prevent morbidity and mortality in children.

STATEMENT

Child mortality (Age-Specific death rate for the age-group 0-4 years) major States, 1991-93

	1991	1992	1993
Andhra Pradesh	21.3	20.0	17.1
Assam	32.4	30.5	36.1
Bihar	22.0	26.8	25.3
Gujarat	23.3	23.7	20.7
Haryana	23.0	22.8	20.3
Karnataka	23.6	21.7	20.0
Kerala	4.3	3.9	3.4
Madhya Pradesh	44.5	38.5	36.9
Maharashtra	16.3	15.9	14.1
Orissa	39.0	33.4	33.7
Punjab	17.0	17.4	16.1
Rajasthan	30.9	33.6	26.2
Tamil Nadu	16.1	15.3	13.6
Uttar Pradesh	35.6	37.8	32.9
West Bengal	20.6	18.4	17.0

Source : Sample Registration System

[Translation]

Procurement of Uniforms and Blankets

1367. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether uniforms, blankets etc. were procured for soldiers from March 1, 1996 to date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount spent thereon during the above period;

(d) whether the Government have received complaints against their inferior quality;

(e) if so, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (f). The procurement of uniform and blankets for the soldiers of Indian Army is made on continuous basis throughout the year. The details of the procurement of uniform and blanket made from 1.3.96 to 30.6.96 from Addl. Director General (ordance Factories) and Handloom Sector (ACASH) and Trade is as under :-

S.No.	Item	Quantity (Nos.)	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Shirt Plain Weave Polyester Cotton	90,506	2,12,68,910
2.	Trouser Plain Weave Polyester Cotton	1,04,745	3,08,99,775
3.	Blanket	1,94,423	5,76,62,475
4.	Boot Ankle DVS	2,38,454	10,37,27,490
5.	Socks Men OG	6,84,996	3,76,23,620

The defect reports during last three years from the user units in respect of some of the items given above were received and were investigated by Director General Quality Assurance. The Defects in the uniform were in the nature of colour fading, colour not matching. As far as Boots are concerned, the defects was in the nature of separation of sole. Based on the findings of the defect Report investigations, Army authorities have advised inspection staff to keep strict watch on quality and to advise Ordance Equipment Factory, Kanpur, to improve quality standards.

[English]

Super National Highways

1368. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have invited bids to construct Super National Highways in the country under public-private joint venture programme,

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

(c) the total investment required for the purpose and sources of funds thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir. However, National Highways Authority of India and invited global tenders from private sector for carrying out the feasibility studies

for the proposed Super National Highways. In response, 22 bidders, Indian as well as Foreign, submitted their proposals.

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

[Translation]

Women Development Corporation

1369. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Women Development Corporation has since been set up in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the names of districts where it has been set up; and

(c) the details of work undertaken by the Corporation, till date?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Gujrat Women Economic Development Corporation Limited is working in the entire state of Gujarat.

(c) The Corporation has taken up the following schemes for the empowerment and economic development of women :

- (i) Skill training schemes for women in various trades;
- (ii) Credit scheme for women through nationalised banks for starting income generating activities;
- (iii) Margin money assistance to women's industrial cooperatives;
- (iv) Assured marketing facility for women's co-operative societies;
- (v) Awareness generation schemes; and
- (vi) marketing facilities for women entrepreneurs/ women co-operatives etc. by organising exhibition-cum-sale at different places in the country.

[English]

Nuclear Programme

1370. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to Indian Express dated April 14, 1996 under the caption "US Report says India willing to go-slow on Nuclear Programme";

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the Press report; and

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

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

(b) and (c). The news report is not correct.

[Translation]

Private Sector in Road Development

1371. KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to encourage private companies to participate in road development projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above mentioned scheme will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Madam. The Government has decided to involve private sector in road construction on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Necessary amendment in the National Highways Act, 1956 for allowing private sector participation in the development of National Highways has already been carried out in June, 1995 for the purpose and the scheme is already in implementation stage.

[English]

Enrolment Capacity of Kendriya Vidyalaya System

1372. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of schools sanctioned, number of posts of teachers and enrolment capacity of the Kendriya Vidyalaya system during the academic year 1995-96, State-wise; and

(b) the total number of teachers actually in service and the total number of students actually on the rolls during the academic year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). There were a total 838 Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1995-96 including 22 New Kendriya Vidyalayas opened during 1995-96.

As against sanctioned strength of 34,065, 31,017 teachers were in position during 1995-96

Information regarding enrolment capacity and actual number of Students enrolled during 1995-96 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

National Malaria Eradication Programme

1373. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Governments of Assam and Maharashtra have submitted a proposal to the Union Government for application of the National Malaria Eradication Programme in the States including tribal and hilly areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) is already in operation throughout the country including Assam and Maharashtra with increased input in tribal and hilly areas.

100% Central assistance under NMEP is already being provided to the State of Assam since December, 1994 which covers the whole of Assam including tribal and hill areas of the State. Maharashtra State is being assisted under the National Malaria Eradication Programme on a 50:50 sharing basis between the Central and State Government.

Besides, for the purpose of intensification of Malaria Control Activities in the tribal areas of seven peninsular States including Maharashtra, A Malaria Control Project for obtaining external assistance is currently under formulation.

AIDS Control

1374. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Health Organisation are providing assistance to control AIDS in the country;

(b) if so, the assistance received during the last three years from each of the organisation;

(c) the amount released to the State Government during the above period, State-wise;

(d) the percentage of annual allocation utilized over these years;

(e) the reasons for failure to ensure better utilization of WHO funds;

(f) whether the Government are aware that in Mumbai, cases of Toxoplasma (brain lesions) are occurring more frequently as compared with other parts of the world; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e). The World Health Organisation had agreed to provide Technical assistance estimated as US \$ 1.5 million for the AIDS Prevention and Control programme currently under implementation throughout the country, over a period of five year (1992-97). The World Health Organisation, under this assistance, provides National and international consultancy, equipment and material for implementation of the programme.

(f) The occurrence of Toxoplasma in Mumbai is more frequent than in any other part of the country. The data relating to other countries the world over is not available for comparison.

(g) The toxoplasma is one of the opportunistic infections of HIV/AIDS. For the prevention and Control AIDS, a comprehensive programme is currently being implemented throughout the country including Mumbai.

Relations with South-East Asian Countries

1375. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts to strengthen further the relations with South-East Asian countries during the last two years; and

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

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

(b) Details country-wise are attached in the given statement.

STATEMENT

Regional

At the regional level, India is currently a Full Dialogue Partner of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and has been invited to participate in the deliberations of the ASEAN Regional Forum which was created to discuss peace and security related issues in the region. EAM is currently in Jakarta to attend the meetings connected with the ASEAN and ARF.

Singapore

1. The then PM Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao visited Singapore in September 1994. During the visit, 12 corporate agreements and an MoU on Foreign Office Consultations were signed. A business delegation also visited Singapore during his visit.

2. PM Goh Chok Tong of Singapore visited Calcutta in January 1995 to attend the centenary celebrations of Confederation of Indian Industries (CCI). During his visit, he also had useful bilateral meetings with PM

Rao. An agreement on Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology was signed.

3. At the invitation of Prime Minister Rao, Senior Minister and former PM of Singapore Lee Kuan Yew visited India in January 1996.

4. Singapore has emerged as the 4th largest investor in India in 1995 according to FDI approvals. (Source : (SIA)

5. Projects in the pipeline involving Singapore companies include the Bangalore information Technology Park, Bangalore International Airport project etc.

6. Singapore Government had taken the initiative in holding the first-ever Global Indian Entrepreneurs Conference (GIEC) from June 19-21, 1996 bringing together Indian and Indian origin business people from across the globe. Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram, visited Singapore from June 19-20 and delivered the keynote address at the GIEC. During the visit, he also met the Singapore Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Information Minister.

7. An Exhibition titled "Alamkara - 5000 years of India" was jointly inaugurated by the HRD Minister Shri Arjun Singh and BG George Yeo, the Singapore Cultural Minister in July 1994. An executive programme for the years 1996-98 for cooperation in the field of Arts, Culture & Archives is under consideration.

Malaysia

1. The then Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao visited Kuala Lumpur in August 1995. This visit gave a fresh impetus to bilateral economic relations. A 25-member business delegation accompanied the Prime Minister. Several MoUs and Agreements were signed and new areas of bilateral cooperation identified.

2. Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia has been recently awarded the Jawahar Lal Nehru Award for International Understanding for the year 1994.

3. Minister of International Trade and Industry Dato Seri Rafidah Aziz visited India in April 1995 for bilateral consultations and to identify new areas of cooperation.

4. Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs visited Kuala Lumpur in May 1996 for bilateral consultations during which he called on Foreign Minister Badawi.

5. Commerce Secretary visited Malaysia during March 1996. Apart from meeting Malaysia's business community, he delivered the keynote address in a seminar jointly organised by FICCI and its Malaysian counterpart.

Thailand

1. H.E. Banharn Silpa-archa, prime Minister of Thailand will pay an official visit in Septemebr this year.

2. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand is likely to visit Union Territory of A&N in December 1996.

3. A Joint Commission exists between the two countries and the last meeting was held in Bangkok in January 1996 when then EAM visited Thailand.

4. Bilateral negotiations are scheduled to be held from July 31 to August 2, 1996 for the conclusion of Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPA).

5. The first round of negotiations to conclude an extradition treaty was held in Bangkok in November 1995. The second round is likely to take place in September this year.

6. India has taken part in the ongoing celebrations in Thailand for the Golden Jubilee of the accession of the Throne of His Majesty the King of Thailand in the form of a Festival of India which will culminate in early 1997 with the holding of an exhibition of Holy Relics of Lord Buddha.

7. India and Thailand have an MoU on Cooperation between ICCR and International Studies Centre of Thailand (ISCT). Under this MoU, an Indo-Thai colloquium was held in March 1996 in New Delhi.

8. Bilateral Cooperation in science and technology is in the form of a collaboration programme between CSIR and Thailand Institute of Scientific & Technological Research (TISTR). Electronics Design Laboratory (EDL) was set up at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok with GOI assistance.

9. The Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of Thailand, led an eight-member delegation of MPs to India from January 31-February 7, 1996. The delegation had a useful meeting with the Election Commission of India.

Brunei

1. India and Brunei have established air links with the inaugural flight of Royal Brunei Airlines linking Bander Seri Begawan, the capital of Brunei with Calcutta in November 1995.

2. The two countries have a Joint Committee at senior officials level which has met twice in the last two years to undertake a comprehensive review of bilateral relations. The first meeting took place during the visit of the Bruneian Permanent Secretary in their Foreign Ministry in February 1995. The second meeting took place during the visit of Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs in May 1996.

3. Brunei has allowed India to set-up a mobile Telemetry, Tracking and Telecommand Station to monitor the performance of GSLV.

4. A visit by the Director, Brunei Investment Agency (BIA) is being planned to facilitate Brunei's investments in India.

5. Smt. Sukhbans Kaur, then Minister of State for Tourism visited Brunei in October 1995. The visit was

planned in the context of Brunei India Tourism Promotion festivals.

Philippines

1. There is a pending invitation to President Ramos from PM to visit India. Dates are being worked out.

2. A Buyer-Seller Meet was organised in Manila in April 1996 which was attended by over 60 representatives of companies and business establishments.

3. A Joint Business Council exists between the two countries, last meeting held in Manila in October 1995, and has targeted increasing bilateral trade to US\$ 500 million by 1998.

4. Technical Cooperation : Under Colombo Plan, 43 slots have been allotted to the Philippines for the financial year 1996-97. This is the highest number of allotment so far given to the Philippines. During 1995-96, 52 nominations were received against 40 slots allotted to the Philippines.

5. Two Indian Naval Ships-Khanjar and Saryu made a goodwill visit to Manila during August 1995.

6. A Group from National Defence College led by Major General SC Mehra and consisting of 14 other cadet officers from India and other countries visited Philippines from June 19 to 24, 1995.

7. A Memorandum of Understanding on enhanced cooperation in the field of renewable energy between India and the Philippines was signed on February 26 by the Ambassador and the Philippines Energy Secretary (Minister).

8. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, then External Affairs Minister met Philippine Secretary for Foreign Affairs Domingo L. Siazon Jr. at UNGA Session in New York in October, 1995.

9. A contract for the sale of 75,000 mts of rice by Mineral and Metal Trading Corporation, (MMTC), of the Government of India and the National Food authority of the Philippines has been finalised. Earlier STC had supplied 25,000 mts of rice to the Philippines in September, 1995.

Vietnam

1. Then Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao visited Vietnam in September, 1994. During his visit, four agreements in this field of (i) Avoidance of Double Taxation (ii) Foreign Office Consultations (iii) Consular and (iv) Defence, were signed. New areas for bilateral cooperation were identified.

2. As decided during PM's visit to Vietnam, a Joint Working Group (JWG) was established under the aegis of the Joint Commission (JC). It met in January 1995 in New Delhi and December 1995 in Hanoi. The meetings reviewed progress of cooperation in various fields and identified new areas.

3. A photographic exhibition by Binoy Behl was organised in Hanoi for a period of one month in March/April 1995.

4. A Vietnamese Cultural Week was organised in New Delhi in early September 1995. Vietnamese Vice Minister for cultural also visited New Delhi during the period.

5. The 7th Meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission was held in New Delhi in February 1996 which had detailed discussions on various areas of cooperation between India and Vietnam.

6. A fresh loan of Rs. 900 million on soft terms was extended to Vietnam during the 7th India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting to encourage export of project related equipment/machinery.

7. A Multipurpose Small Industries Training Centre was set up in Hanoi under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme at a cost of Rs. 1.5 crores in August, 1995 which imparts training in six trades.

8. We have also offered to supply textile machinery worth Rs. 1.6 crores for training purposes under ITEC Programme. The despatch of the machinery is under process.

9. During 1995, training slots for Vietnamese under ITEC Programme have been increased to 100 and they have been utilized quite satisfactorily.

10. Scholarships under Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) for long-term studies have also been increased from 14 to 20 in 1995. A special arrangement was made to admit one Vietnamese national in the Film and Television Institute, Pune.

11. An MOU in the field of Mining was also signed April, 1995.

12. A new agreement for cooperation in the field of Science and Technology has been signed with Vietnam in February, 1996.

13. An MOU on cooperation in the field of Health and Traditional Medicine was also signed in February, 1996.

Indonesia

1. Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister met President Soeharto at the 11th NAM Summit at Cartagena, Colombia in October, 1995.

2. Mr. Abdul Latief, Manpower Minister of Indonesia visited New Delhi in January, 1995 to attend the Labour Conference.

3. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, External Affairs Minister visited Indonesia to attend NAM Coordinating Bureau Meeting at Bandung in April, 1995.

4. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, External Affairs Minister met Indonesian foreign Minister Ali Alatas at UNGA Session in New York in October, 1995.

5. Two Indian Naval ships INS SARYU and INS KHANJAR took part in the international fleet review organised by Indonesia as part of "Sail Indonesia-95" to commemorate 50th Anniversary of Indonesian Independence.

6. Jawaharlal Nehru Indian Cultural Centre in Jakarta organised many events in 1995 including a talk by Dr. Sunil Kothari, lecture by Dr. Baladas Ghosal, participation in exhibition on contemporary art, performance of 17-member dance troupe of Ms. Chandralekha, participation of Prof. Rasheeduddin Khan in seminar on "Islam and Global Community" in November, 1995, visit of dance troupe of Smt. Usha Venkateshwaran and visit of a 12-member Kathak dance troupe of Mrs. Kumudini Lakhia.

7. An exclusive Indian trade exhibition was organised in March, 1996 in Jakarta in which 65 Indian companies participated.

8. A meeting of the Joint Business Council (JBC) was also held during the exhibition and an office of the FICCI was also opened in Jakarta.

9. Many other visits at Ministerial and official level were also undertaken.

Laos

1. Foreign Minister of Laos visited India in August, 1994 when two agreements i.e. a Cultural Agreement and an MOU on Economic and Technical Cooperation were signed.

2. In November, 1995 we received two important delegations from Laos. One was led by the Laotian Agriculture Minister and the other one was a Defence delegation.

3. In January, 1996 Shri Pranab Mukherjee, External Affairs Minister visited Laos. First Cultural Exchange programme (CEP) between India and Laos was signed during the visit.

4. We contributed a sum of US\$ 30,000 towards flood relief fund of Laos in September, 1995.

5. In May, 1996, India delivered a consignment of 1,000 Metric Tons of rice worth Rs. 1.26 crores to Laos to help overcome its food shortage.

6. We have sent two teachers at our cost to teach English to the Lao Army officers.

Cambodia

1. First Prime Minister of Cambodia, Prince Norodom Ranariddh Visited India from 28 January to 01 February, 1996. During the visit a Cultural Agreement with Cambodia was signed.

2. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then External Affairs Minister visited Cambodia in January, 1996. During the visit an MOU on Economic and Technical Cooperation with Cambodia was signed.

3. India gifted a consignment of 2,000 Metric Tons of rice at a cost of US\$ 480,000.

4. The number of ITEC slots for training of Cambodian nationals has been increased from 15 to 20 in 1995.

5. We have also extended the term for one year of one Indian doctor deputed to Cambodia under India's ITEC Programme.

Setting up a Training Institute

1376. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has submitted any proposal for setting up of a training institute for personnels working in the field of Inland Water Transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto with the details of funds provided, if any?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A project titled "Kerala Marine Engineering Institute" Thevara, Kochi was submitted to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) by the Government of Kerala in 1995.

(b) The Institute is proposed to be set up as a Maritime Autonomous Society of Water Transport Deptt., Government of Kerala. Its objective is to impart theoretical and practical training to fresh candidates and present crew of Marine Inland vessels, harbour, crafts, fishing trawlers, dredgers, barges etc. and grant diploma/certificates for Maritime trades. The Government of Kerala has sought financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 291.50 lakhs from the IWAI for setting up of the institute and its operation for the first three years viz: 1995-96 to 1997-98.

(c) The proposal of the Government of Kerala is being examined alongwith similar proposals received from other State Governments. In the Annual Plan 1996-97, under central schemes for IWT sector, a provision of Rs. 20 lakhs has been made for the purpose of setting up crew training centres.

[Translation]

Ahir Regiment

1377. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Ahir Regiment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of Technical/Management Institutes in Maharashtra

1378. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a good number of proposals are pending with the Government for setting up new Technical/Management Institutes in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons for their pending clearance; and

(c) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) to (c). Under the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Act the Council is empowered to grant permission to start technical institutions and for introduction of new courses for which the Council has framed Regulations laying down, inter alia, the mechanism for this purpose. Out of 166 proposals received from the State of Maharashtra for starting 108 institutions in Engineering & Technology and 58 institutions of Management the Council has already approved 16 institutions in Engineering & Technology so far.

Submergence of KUB Project

1379. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people likely to be affected due to submergence by Krishna Upper Bank project;

(b) whether necessary steps have been taken to help those affected people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) 1,26,574 people are likely to be affected due to submergence by Narayanpur Dam and Almati Dam of Upper Krishna Project Stage-I. The Project is receiving financial assistance from the World Bank.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to develop 105 resettlement colonies for oustees of Narayanpur Dam and Almati Dam of Upper Krishna Project

Stage-I. The progress achieved till March, 1996 is as under :-

(i) Resettlement colonies	60 Nos.
(ii) Open Wells	52 Nos.

(iii) Bore Wells	162 Nos.
(iv) Drinking Water Supply	15 Nos.
(v) Roads	104.72 Km.
(vi) School Buildings	49 Nos.
(vii) Panchayat/Community Halls	46 Nos.
(viii) Temples	71 Nos.
(ix) Mosques	15 Nos.
(x) Compensation paid	Rs. 198.389 crores
(xi) Persons rehabilitated	24517 Nos.

The estimated cost of rehabilitation & resettlement plan including land compensation is Rs. 1314.06 crores.

Dredging Machine Out of Order in J & K

1380. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Dredging Machine at Baramulla in J & K has not been working for last ten years and due to accumulation of silt, rains are creating havoc in the valley; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. However the floods in the Jhelum Valley are not due to nonfunctioning of the Dredger alone.

(b) Government of J&K is examining a proposal to undertake overhauling of old dredging machine so that dredging operations could be resumed.

[Translation]

Auranga Reservoir Scheme

1381. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Union Government had accorded approval to Auranga Reservoir Scheme of Bihar;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the said scheme so far;

(c) whether the Government propose to commission this project; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Auranga Reservoir Scheme was approved in June 1983.

(b) Anticipated expenditure upto March 1995 was Rs. 18.40 Crores.

(c) and (d). The commissioning of the project depends upon the allocation of funds by the State Government.

[English]

Motor Vehicles Act 1988

1382. SHRI SARRAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have amended the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received by the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Motor Vehicles Act 1988 was amended in 1994 vide Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 1994. This was published for general information in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section I on 12th September, 1994 as "The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 1994, No. 54 of 1994".

(c) and (d). Amendment in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is a continuous process and number of suggestions/representation have been received from various organisations/Departments, State Governments as well as from the individuals viz., All India Motor Transport Congress, Transport Departments of Government of Tamil nadu, Govt. of West Bengal, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, etc. These suggestions/representations have been referred to a sub-committee reviewing the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 for their consideration.

CBI Enquiry on Indira Gandhi Canal Project

1383. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to conduct a CBI enquiry into the gross financial irregularities and case of corruption that took place in the country's ambitious "Indira Gandhi Canal Project" during the last five years; and

(b) if so, the date on which it is likely to be initiated and the plan of action in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). No gross financial irregularities have been reported by Government of Rajasthan necessitating such an enquiry.

Small Pox

1384. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many

districts in Uttar Pradesh have been under the jaws of small-pox epidemia recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent and eradicate the epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). India was declared small pox free by an International Commission for Assessment of Small Pox Eradication in April, 1977. The Position continues to be the same.

Ban on Private Practice

1385. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some states have banned the private practice by Government doctors;

(b) if so, the name of such States;

(c) whether the doctors are provided with some other facilities in lieu of their banning private practice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). The State Government were requested to take steps to phase out the system of private practice by medical personnel in Government service. State-wise data on ban on private practice by Government doctors is not available. However, Central Government doctors are not allowed to do private practice. As a measure of compensation, Non-Practice Allowance is being given to such doctors.

Pass percentage of Results Declared by CBSE

1386. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any decline in pass percentage of Class X and Class XII results declared by the CBSE in Delhi in June, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present pass percentage as compared to the pass percentage of the last three years;

(d) whether the CBSE has made it mandatory to clear all the five subjects in class X;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have received any representations against the CBSE decision; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). The information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) regarding Pass percentage of Class X and Class XII results declared by the Board in the Delhi Region is given below :

Year	Class X	Class XII
1993	50.5	64.9
1994	55.9	68.0
1995	49.6	65.6
1996	48.3	68.9

(d) to (g). In order to bring about uniformity with other Boards in the country, the CBSE have adopted a revised pass criteria requiring the class X candidates to pass in all the five subjects of external examination conducted by the Board with effect from March, 1995 onwards. Opinions were expressed in some quarters against the above mentioned decision by the Board decided not to make any change in the revised pass criteria.

[Translation]

Facilities to Sainiks/Ex-Servicemen

1387 SHRI KACHARUBHAU RAUT :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more facilities-concessions to the sainiks/ex-servicemen and their widows; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Improving the facilities/concessions admissible to ex-Servicemen and their families is an ongoing process. Government have set up Fifth Central Pay Commission. The terms of reference of the Pay Commission inter-alia include examination of present structure of emoluments, pension, conditions of service and also the variety of allowances and benefits in kind that are presently available to Central Government employees including Armed Forces Personnel and to make recommendations relating thereto which may be desirable and feasible.

Diseases in Rainy Season

1388. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether every year hundreds of persons die of Cholera, blood dysentry, diarrhoea and brain fever in Vananchal region of Bihar during rainy season;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any concrete programme to prevent this and other States also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Information has been sought from the State Government.

(b) to (d). Chief Secretaries of all the States/Union Territories have been requested to review arrangements to avert the outbreak of epidemics during the vulnerable period. The Union Government provides technical support through the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi in investigating outbreaks and taking remedial measures.

In addition the following measure are also normally taken by health authorities to check these diseases :

1. Provision of safe drinking water.
2. Improvement of food and personal hygiene.
3. Safe disposal of human excreta.
4. Appropriate Health Education.
5. Surveillance and monitoring.
6. Distribution of chlorine tablets and ORS packets.

[English]

Setting up of K.V. at Tellichery in Kerala

1389. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on setting up of Kendriya Vidyalaya at Tellichery in Cannanore district, Kerala has been completed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The sponsoring authority has not provided requisite land and temporary accommodation as per norms for opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Tellichery.

Construction of Bund by Bangladesh

1390. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of his Ministry was drawn by

Members of Parliament to the construction of a Bund on Dharla River by Bangladesh authorities in Burimari Village of Lalmonirhat district, Bangladesh, during the period from January 1, 1994 to June, 30, 1996.

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

(c) whether the matter was taken up by the Government with the Bangladesh authorities; and

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

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

(b) to (d). the construction of a bund on river Dharla by Bangladesh started in the last week of March, 1994. This bund is located at village Burimari, Distt. Lalmonirhat, the Indo-Bangladesh border. Immediately on learning about the construction, the Border Security Force of India protested to Bangladesh Rifles at the commandant level on 26th & 28th April, 1994 and requested suspension of work pending our examination of the possible adverse consequences for India from the short circuiting of the loop through the construction of the bund. The matter was also taken up formally with the Government of Bangladesh in May, 1994. The Government of Bangladesh has clarified that the short circuiting of the loop in the river Dharla would in no way adversely affect the Indian territory or the inhabitants thereof. Site inspection by relevant authorities of our Ministry of Water Resources on 8th June, 1994 also did not reveal occurrence of any adverse impact in our territory. The Ministry of Water Resources have also not received any report from Government of West Bengal regarding any adverse impact in the State due to Bund.

Research proposals lying unattended due to financial crisis

1391. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the research works under different universities of the country are currently facing difficulties due to non-availability of funds from the University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). UGC provides requisite financial assistance to various Universities and Colleges for execution of research projects in various subjects & disciplines. It is, however, not always possible to accommodate all proposals due to financial constraints.

National Waterway No. 2

1392. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken a study on the development of inland water transport facilities in National Waterway No. 2 (the Brahmaputra);

(b) if so, the finding thereof;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government on these findings;

(d) whether the Government propose to procure hover-craft for cargo transportation on National Waterway No. 2; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A study was carried out during 1990 by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA) through a consultant to identify the development to be carried out on the river Brahmaputra. This project report recommended development of river Brahmaputra for navigation in 4 phases depending upon traffic projections. The development includes maintenance of fairway, provision of cargo handling facilities including terminals etc. The declared stretch is being developed for shipping and navigation accordingly, in consonance with traffic.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Edible and Synthetic Colours

1393. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have since examined the report of the Technical Committee concerning the ban on the use of edible colours in the preparation of traditional sweets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry have issued any directions in this regard to Ministry of Food Processing Industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether FPI are yet to implement the directions issued in this regard; and

(f) if so, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The main recommendations of the Expert Group are :

- All the permitted synthetic colours, under Rules, may be considered safe provided these are consumed within the prescribed acceptable daily intake limits;

- Keeping in mind the international development in the food processing sector there is a need for indepth examination of the provisions relating to the use of synthetic colours in food items.

(c) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Child Welfare

1394. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the statement of Prof. Winer that in India, the reasons for not investing money in child welfare is not poverty but caste prejudices and values of the policy makers of the country; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and measures being taken by the Government to remove these obstacles?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Constitutional and legal provisions do not permit caste prejudices and values to play a role in Government policy making. The National Policy for Children (1974) makes a special provision to ensure equality of opportunity, special assistance to be provided to all children belonging to weaker sections of the society, such as children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and those belonging to the economically weaker sections. Therefore, the child welfare schemes and measures have been accordingly formulated for implementation.

Kendriya Vidyalayas

1395. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. ANODIA :
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU
YADAV :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in States at present, State-wise;

(b) the locations in Gujarat where Kendriya Vidyalayas are proposed to be opened during 1996-97;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Governments for opening of more Kendriya Vidyalayas during the year 1995-96 and upto June 30, 1996; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) Statement-I showing State-wise number of Kendriya Vidyalayas.

(b) No Kendriya Vidyalaya is proposed to be opened in Gujarat during 1996-97.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. State-wise number of proposals received by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is enclosed as a statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise distribution of Kendriya Vidyalayas

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Number of Kendriya Vidyalayas
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44
2.	Assam	48
3.	Bihar	57
4.	Gujarat	41
5.	Haryana	25
6.	Himachal Pradesh	18
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	26
8.	Karnataka	28
9.	Kerala	25
10.	Madhya Pradesh	91
11.	Maharashtra	54
12.	Manipur	05
13.	Meghalaya	07
14.	Nagaland	06
15.	Orissa	30
16.	Punjab	36
17.	Rajasthan	52
18.	Sikkim	01
19.	Tamilnadu	29
20.	Tripura	05
21.	Uttar Pradesh	119
22.	West Bengal	48
23.	A&N Island, Port Blair	03
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	10
25.	Chandigarh	06
26.	Delhi	34
27.	Goa, Div. Daman	05
28.	Pondicherry	02
29.	Mizoram	01
Total		856

1	2	3
Outside India :		
30.	Moscow (Russia)	01
31.	Nepal (Kathmandu)	01
Total		858

STATEMENT-II

State wise number of proposals received from State Govt. for opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas which have not been finalised

S.No.	Name of State	Proposal received by K.V.S.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	04
2.	Assam	01
3.	Bihar	17
4.	Gujarat	02
5.	Haryana	04
6.	Himachal Pradesh	12
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	01
8.	Karnataka	03
9.	Kerala	10
10.	Madhya Pradesh	32
11.	Maharashtra	02
12.	Orissa	07
13.	Punjab	04
14.	Rajasthan	08
15.	Tamil Nadu	01
16.	Uttar Pradesh	21
17.	West Bengal	05
18.	Meghalaya	01

[English]

National Health Corpus Fund

1396. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a National Health Corpus Fund to provide free medical facilities to the poor, who suffer from chronic ailments, on the lines of the Karnataka model;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since considered the proposal;

(c) whether the proposal has been successful in Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be introduced in the remaining states and Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). There is a proposal to set up a National Illness Assistance Fund under the Department of Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to provide assistance to the poor in getting specialised medical treatment for life threatening illness.

(c) The scheme is at a nascent stage as it was introduced only last year and has still to take off fully.

(d) Since the scheme is in the primary stage of consideration, no time limit for its introduction in the country can be set.

[Translation]

Computer Training to soldiers

1397. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI SATYADEO SINGH :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to launch an ambitious scheme to impart computer training to Indian soldiers at a large scale; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Computer training is imparted to various categories of personnel in the Army on a regular basis. There is no plan to carry out training on computers on a large scale.

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

[English]

Various Wings of NCC

1398. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of units of various wings of National Cadet Corps working in the country; State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to establish more units of National Cadet Corps;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) to (d). There is no proposal to establish more units at present, since the existing units are adequate to handle the present cadet strength.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Directorate	Army Units	Girls Units	Navy Units	Air Units	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36	07	07	07	57
2.	Bihar	35	05	01	02	43
3.	Delhi	08	06	02	02	18
4.	Gujarat, Diu & Daman Dadra Nagar Haveli	24	05	03	03	35
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	06	02	01	-	09
6.	Karnataka & Goa	36	04	06	06	52
7.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	26	06	05	01	38
8.	Madhya Pradesh	39	06	03	03	51
9.	Maharashtra	43	08	05	03	59
10.	NER (Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland & Tripura)	24	12	02	04	42
11.	Orissa	18	01	03	01	23
12.	Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh	40	09	05	08	62
13.	Rajasthan	25	04	02	04	35
14.	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andaman & Nicobar	39	06	07	06	58
15.	Uttar Pradesh	96	18	04	04	122
16.	West Bengal & Sikkim	37	07	02	04	50
	Total	532	106	58	58	754

Vocationalisation of Higher Education in Assam

1399. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allotted to Assam for vocationalisation of higher and secondary education in the State during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount released and utilised, year-wise during the above period;

(c) the time by which the rest of the amount is likely to be released; and

(d) the number of vocational institutes with their locations under Centrally sponsored scheme functioning in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, grants are released to the State Governments including Government of Assam on the basis of proposals received from them.

During the last three years, the position of funds released and utilised by the State Govt. of Assam is as follows :

Year	Amount released	Amount utilised (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	291.54	100.94
1994-95	164.42	76.78
1995-96	108.52	Utilisation not received.

(d) So far 350 vocational sections in 150 schools spread over all the districts of State are functioning.

Modernisation Programme for MIG-21

1400. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to modernise the MIG-21 aircraft;

(b) if so, whether a team of experts is scheduled to visit Moscow for the same; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c). A contract has been concluded with the Russians for modernisation of the MIG-21 BIS aircraft in the IAF inventory. The contract, for design and development on two MIG-21 BIS aircraft of the IAF, provides for positioning

of a Project Team in Russia. The responsibilities of the Project Team include, inter-alia, programme management, co-ordination of activities of vendors to ensure incorporation of user requirements in the design and development phase. Accordingly, a team of officers and airmen is being positioned in Russia for the entire duration of work. In order to start the work as per the contractual schedule, a part of the team has already been sent to Moscow.

Admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas on Fake Transfer Certificates

1401. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of admissions had been made in Kendriya Vidyalaya New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi and Meerut during preceding three session on allegedly fake transfer certificates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). Three cases in Kendriya Vidyalaya, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi and ten cases in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Punjab Lines, Meerut of admission on fake transfer certificates have been reported. Four employees involved in these admissions have been transferred out of Kendriya Vidyalaya, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi as a preliminary step. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has already instructed the Assistant Commissioner concerned to conduct a detailed inquiry into the matter.

Naval Academy at Ezhimala

1402. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Naval Academy at Ezhimala in Kerala;

(b) whether the State Government has handed over land to the Union Government for the academy;

(c) whether all the infrastructural facilities for the first phase has been completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The State Government is providing various infrastructural facilities required for the construction of the Naval Academy Project. These

include water and electricity supply, roads and bridges, dredging of the back waters etc. There has been a marginal delay in completion of the infrastructural facilities.

[Translation]

Salaries to DTC Employees

1403. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DTC employees are still not getting their salary in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of employees who have not been paid their salaries indicating the number of months;

(c) whether Government have any plan to provide additional funds to DTC in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the DTC employees are likely to be paid the arrears in respect of dearness allowance and bonus; and

(e) the measure taken/proposed to be taken to ensure timely payment of salaries to the DTC employees in future?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). DTC has been incurring heavy losses for the last so many years and its internal resources are not sufficient to liquidate its committed liabilities in time. As a result, there has been some delay in disbursing salaries to the employees. However, all the employees of DTC have been paid their salary upto the Month of June, 1996.

(c) to (e). The Government has taken various measures to provide sufficient funds to DTC depending upon the availability of budgetary resources and DTC is also making all out efforts to generate more funds to enable it to liquidate its committed liabilities.

[English]

Public Sector Road Transport

1404. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study conducted by the Government, a good number of Public Sector road transport undertakings have recorded losses during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the names of such undertakings and the amount of loss suffered and the names of those earned profits during the period, State-wise;

(c) the main reasons for such losses; and

(d) the measures proposed to improve their working?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The performance of State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTUs) is reviewed by the Planning commission each year at the time of the finalisation of the Annual Plan. In accordance with a study confined to 46 Public Sector Undertakings, whose resources form part of the State Plan resources conducted by the Planning Commission in September, 1995; there has been a steady improvement in the overall indices of physical performance viz. vehicle productivity, bus staff ratio, staff productivity and fuel efficiency. However, financial position of SRTUs has not shown any improvement. A statement indicating the profit/loss of various SRTUs during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 (estimated) is attached.

(c) In accordance with the study, losses of SRTUs have been attributed to the following :-

- (i) Operations on uneconomic obligatory routes.
- (ii) Operation on routes falling on bad roads causing high cost of maintenance.
- (iii) Concessions to students, physically handicapped Government Servants etc.:
- (iv) Uneconomic fares.

(d) The Planning Commission have been emphasising the following measures to be taken for meeting the overall performance of SRTUs :-

- (i) Improvement of productivity by better management and control;
- (ii) Improvement of maintenance facilities and thereby resulting in improved fuel efficiency;
- (iii) Appropriate tariff revision;
- (iv) containment of staff.

STATEMENT

Net Profit/Loss of State Road Transport Undertakings

(Rs. in crores)

State Road Transport Undertakings	1994-95 Latest Estimate	1995-96 Estimated
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	+ 6.50	- 88.83
2. Arunachal Pradesh	- 3.84	- 4.63
3. Assam	- 21.74	- 17.40
4. Bihar	- 42.59	- 38.39
5. Goa (Kadamba)	- 2.71	- 2.45
6. Gujarat	- 102.33	- 100.05
7. Haryana	- 11.50	- 23.05
8. Himachal Pradesh	- 32.44	- 36.57
9. Jammu & Kashmir	- 20.96	- 24.06
10. Karnataka	- 90.49	- 99.10

	1	2	3
11. Kerala	- 18.29	- 22.37	
12. Madhya Pradesh	- 31.67	- 39.40	
13. Maharashtra	- 10.84	- 12.49	
14. Manipur	- 2.18	- 1.86	
15. Meghalaya	- 1.51	0.39	
16. Mizoram	- 5.27	- 5.25	
17. Nagaland	- 8.64	- 5.59	
18. Orissa	- 3.84	- 2.28	
19. Punjab Roadways	- 10.31	- 14.10	
20. PEPSU	- 2.96	- 10.64	
21. Rajasthan	+ 23.95	+ 18.98	
22. Sikkim	- 3.10	- 3.36	
23. Tamil Nadu	- 33.77	- 57.30	
24. Tripura	- 4.51	- 5.04	
25. Uttar Pradesh	+ 2.33	+ 18.07	
26. Calcutta	- 20.75	- 20.22	
27. North Bengal	- 5.80	- 7.93	
28. South Bengal	- 5.43	- 5.75	
29. D.T.C.	- 68.27	- 87.00	

Inter-State Roads

1405. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for the construction of some Inter-State Roads connecting Orissa were under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take up the construction of some of those roads during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No. Sir.

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

Irrigation Projects

1406. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the medium and major irrigation projects completed during the last three years. State-wise;

(b) the names of the medium and major irrigation projects which are lagging behind the scheduled time of completion, State-wise, particularly in the State of Maharashtra;

(c) the reasons for the delay, project-wise and State-wise;

(d) names of the ongoing irrigation projects financed by the World Bank and review of progress achieved under each project and assistance released; and

(e) the steps proposed for effective monitoring of the ongoing projects and to ensure that the projects approved do not incur time and cost overrun?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) 7 Major and 28 Medium Irrigation Projects have been completed during the last three years i.e. 1992-95 Statement-I giving the names of these projects. State-wise, is enclosed.

(b) At present 109 major, 198 medium irrigation projects are lagging behind their scheduled date of completion. Statement-II giving names of these projects is enclosed.

(c) The most important factor for delay in execution of projects is inadequate budget allocation. Other factors are change in the scope & designs of the projects during execution, problems in acquisition of land, rehabilitation & resettlement, contractual problems, agitation by the local people etc. These are common to all the projects.

(d) Statement-III giving names of the on-going irrigation projects financed by the World Bank and assistance utilised is enclosed.

(e) The Central Water Commission has been entrusted with the monitoring of selected major & medium irrigation projects in the country. For intensive monitoring, it has opened number of Field Units in different States. The Planning Commission has also started earmarking of outlay for important projects. Review meetings on on-going World Bank aided projects are held to review the progress and to resolve the bottle-necks faced by the State Governments for their effective implementation.

STATEMENT-I

List of Major and Medium Projects completed during the last three years i.e. during 1992-95

I. Major Projects

KERALA :

1. Periyar Valley
2. Pamoo
3. Chitturpuzha
4. Kuttradi

RAJASTHAN :

5. Harishchandrasagar (Kalisindh)

UTTAR PRADESH

6. Urmil Pam
7. Gandak Canal

II. Medium Projects:

GOA :

1. Keldiya
2. Dekadong

GUJARAT :			1	2	3
3.	Sukhbhadar		4.	Pulivendla Branch Canal	IV
4.	Machhundri-II		5.	Somasila	V
5.	Und (Divapur)		6.	Singur	V
6.	Aji-II			ASSAM	
7.	Kalubnar		7.	Dhassiri	V
8.	Uben		8.	Bordikerai	V
9.	Demi-II		9.	Integrated Kollong	V
	HIMACHAL PRADESH :		10.	Pahumara	AP 1978-80
10.	Sein Valley			BIHAR	
	JAMMU & KASHMIR		11.	Western Kosi Canal	III
11.	Rajal Lift		12.	Bagmati	V
12.	Rajesh Lift		13.	Subernarekha	V
13.	Kashtigach Canal		14.	North Koel Reservoir	V
	MAHARASHTRA :		15.	Durgavati Reservoir	V
14.	Hatuwadi		16.	Barnar Reservoir	V
15.	Lower pus		17.	Konar Diversion	V
16.	Belpara		18.	Tilaiya Diversion	V
	RAJASTHAN :		19.	Bateswarasthan Pump Ph. I	V
17.	Bhimsagar		20.	Ajoy Barrage Siktia	V
18.	Som Kandar		21.	Gumani Barrage	V
	TAMIL NADU :		22.	Dakranala Pump Ph. I	AP 1978-80
19.	Kalavarepalli Das			GOA	
	WEST BENGAL :		23.	Salauli	IV
20.	Soli Div.			GUJARAT	
21.	Soli Resorvsir		24.	Damanganga	IV
22.	Sorebhum		25.	Panam	IV
23.	Mouterjora		26.	Sabarmati i	IV
24.	Petloi		27.	Karjan	V
25.	Lipeniejora		28.	Sukhi	V
26.	Golamarjora		29.	Sipu	AP 1978-80
27.	Parge		30.	Watrak	AP 1978-80
28.	Ramnandratur			HARYANA	
			31.	Gurgaon Canal	III
			32.	Jawahar Lal Nehru Lift	V
			33.	Sutlej-Yumuna Link Canal	V
			34.	Ravi Tawi Lift Irrigation Complex	V
				KARNATAKA	
			35.	Bhadra	I
			36.	Tungabhadra Dam and LBC	I
			37.	Tungabhadra HLC	II
			38.	Kabini	II
			39.	Malaprabha	III
			40.	Harangi	III
			41.	Hemavathi	AP 1966-69
			42.	Upper Krishna Stage I	IV

STATEMENT-II		
<i>List of Major & Medium Projects Lagging Behind Schedule</i>		
S.No.	Name of Project	Plan in which Started
1	2	3
	<i>Major</i>	
	ANDHRA PRADESH	
1.	Nagarjunasagar	II
2.	Sriramsagar, Stg. I (Pochampad)	III
3.	Vamsadhara Std. I	IV

1	2	3	1	2	3
43.	Karanja	V		MANIPUR	
44.	Bennithore	V	85.	Thoubal	AP 1978-80
45.	Hippargi Barrage	V		ORISSA	
	KERALA		86.	Potteru	IV
46.	Kanhirapuzha	III	87.	Rengali	IV
47.	Pazhassi	III	88.	Upper Kolab	V
48.	Kallada	III	89.	Upper Indravati	AP 1978-80
49.	Muvattupuzha	V		RAJASTHAN	
50.	Chimoni	V	90.	Indira Gandhi Nahar Stg I	II
	MADHYA PRADESH		91.	Jhakan	III
51.	Tawa	II	92.	Mahī Bajaj Sagar	IV
52.	Mahanadi Reservoir	IV	93.	Som Kamla Amba	V
53.	Kolar	IV	94.	Indira Gandhi Nahar Stg II	V
54.	Pairy	IV		UTTAR PRADESH	
55.	Sindh Phase-I	IV	95.	Sarda Sahayak	III
56.	Jonk	IV	96.	Lakhwar Vyasi	
57.	Bansagar	V	97.	Madhya Ganga Canal	V
58.	Bargi (Rani Avanthibai Sagar)	V	98.	Sarju Nahar (Left Bank Ghagra Canal)	V
59.	Upper Wainganga	V	99.	Eastern Ganga Canal	V
60.	Kodar	V	100.	Rajghat	V
61.	Barriarpur LBC	V	101.	Jamrani Dam	V
62.	Hasdeo Bango	AP 1978-80	102.	Sone Pump Canal	V
63.	Halali (Samrat Ashok Sagar)	AP 1978-80	103.	Kanhar Irrigation	V
64.	Thanwar	AP 1978-80	104.	Bewar Feeder	V
	MAHARASHTRA		105.	Maudaha dam	V
65.	Khadakwasla	II	106.	Chitaurgarh Reservoir	V
66.	Krishna	III		WEST BENGAL	
67.	Bhima	III	107.	Barrage and Irrigation System of DVC	I
68.	Kukadi	AP 1966-69	108.	Kangsabati	II
69.	Upper Gdavari	AP 1966-69	109.	Teesta Barrage	V
70.	Warna	IV			
71.	Upper Tapi	IV			
72.	Upper Penganga	V			
73.	Upper Wardha	V			
74.	Dudhganga	V			
75.	Waghur	V			
76.	Upper Pravara	V			
77.	Chaskaman	V			
78.	Nandur Madhmeshwar	V			
79.	Bhataa	V			
80.	Jayakwadi Stg. II	V			
81.	Surya	AP 1978-80			
82.	Bawanthadi	AP 1978-80			
83.	Isthapuri (Vishnupuri)	AP 1978-80			
84.	Tillari	AP 1978-80			

S No	Name of Project	Plan in which Started
1	2	3
	MEDIUM	
	Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Thendava Reservoir	III
2.	Kanpur Canal	III
3.	Vengalarayasegaram (Suvarenemukhi-Gomukhi)	V
4.	Vottivagu	V
5.	Madiuvelosa	V
6.	Cheyygru	V

1	2	3	1	2	3
7.	Taliperu	V	46.	Anli (Ver-II)	V
8.	Gundalevagu	V	47.	Deo	V
9.	Satnala	V	48.	Venu-II	V
10.	Jnenjnavechi	V	49.	Inader (PES)	V
11.	Yerrakalva Reservoir	V	50.	Mazam	V
12.	Meddigedie Reservoir	V	51.	Hadaf	V
13.	Tammileru	VI	52.	Guhai	
14.	Varadarajaswamy Gudi	VI	53.	Kelia	V
15.	Andre Reservoir (Chempavati)	VII	54.	Harnev-II	V
16.	Buggevanka reservoir	VII	55.	Soni	V
17.	Upper Koulasanala	VII	56.	Amipur	V
18.	Chalamalevagu near Irkapalli	VII	57.	Umaria	V
Assam			58.	Aji-III	AP 1978-80
19.	Kollanga	V	59.	Jujh	AP 1978-80
20.	Guradihin	AP 1978-80	60.	Mukteshwar	VI
21.	Barolia	AP 1978-80	61.	Und-II (Gunatit Sarover)	VII
22.	Hassipur Lift	VI	Himachal Pradesh		
Bihar			62.	Kirpaul Chand Khul	VII
Bihar			Jammu and Kashmir		
23.	Orni	V	63.	Marwal Lift	IV
24.	Batane	V	64.	Lethpora Lift	IV
25.	Torsi	V	65.	Niu Karewa Storage	IV
26.	Kans	V	66.	Koil Lift	V
27.	Jherjhere	V	67.	Rajpora Lift	AP 1978-80
28.	Bilesi	AP 1978-80	68.	Tral Lift	AP 1978-80
29.	Sonus	VI	69.	Ans Canal	VI
30.	Suru	VI	70.	Rafiabed Lift	VII
31.	Letritu Reservoir	VII	Karnataka		
32.	Bhairaua Reservoir	VII	71.	Manchanabale	IV
33.	Keso Reservoir	VII	72.	Iggalur	IV
34.	Panch Koro Reservoir	VII	73.	Votehole	V
35.	Nakati Reservoir	VII	74.	Amarja	V
36.	Sarangj Reservoir	VII	75.	Lower Mullamari	V
37.	Kansjore Reservoir	VII	76.	Maskinale	V
38.	Ramrekha Reservoir	VII	77.	Feeder Channel to Ranikere	V
39.	Upper Sankh Reservoir	VII	78.	Chulkinala	V
40.	Densingh Toli Reservoir	VII	79.	Arkavathi	V
41.	Katri Reservoir	VII	80.	Chiklihole	AP 1978-80
42.	Malwi Irrigation	VII	81.	Udthorehalla	AP 1978-80
Goa			82.	Hirehalla	VI
43.	Mandovi	V	Kerala		
Gujarat			83.	Attapady	V
44.	Hiron (S)-II	IV	84.	Karapusha	V
45.	Machhennela	V			

1	2	3	1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh					
85.	Ghunghatta	V	129.	Kasari	V
86.	Matiyari	V	130.	Kumbhi	V
87.	Bilaspur Diversion	V	131.	Kadvi	V
88.	Balar	V	132.	Jargamhatti	V
89.	Shivnath Diversion	V	133.	Aran (Pimpri Barawat)	V
90.	Piparia Nalla	V	134.	Dham	V
91.	Banjar	V	135.	Chenna Nadi	V
92.	Banki	Y	136.	Anjana Palshi	V
93.	Mand Diversion	V	137.	Tembhapuri	V
94.	Tikkar	AP 1978-80	138.	Purna (Neupur)	V
95.	Matiamoti	AP 1978-80	139.	Talani	V
96.	Choral	AP 1978-80	140.	Pendharinalla	V
97.	Dudhi	AP 1978-80	141.	Wadiwali	AP 1978-80
98.	Chandora	AP 1978-80	142.	Umarzari	AP 1978-80
99.	Bundala	AP 1978-80	143.	Deogad	VI
100.	Gomukh	AP 1978-80	144.	Dongargaon (C)	VI
101.	Kaliasote	AP 1978-80	145.	Hetawane	VI
102.	Budhna	AP 1978-80	146.	Sonwad	VI
103.	Rampurakhurd	AP 1978-80	147.	Urmodi	VI
104.	Dolawad	AP 1978-80	148.	Bori (Kipur)	VI
105.	Chhirpani	VI	149.	Shahanur	VI
106.	Bah	VI	150.	Karwappa Nalla	VI
107.	Mahuar	VI	151.	Dehali	VI
108.	Kanhargaon	VI	152.	Sankh	VI
109.	Gej	VI	153.	Nagyashakya	VI
110.	Lakhunder	VI	154.	Mun	VI
111.	Kesarteda	VI	155.	Shivana Takali	VI
112.	Dejla-Dewda	VI	156.	Patgaon	VI
113.	Barnai	VI	157.	Amaravati	VI
114.	Bandia Nalla	VI	158.	Upper Manar	VI
115.	Sagar	VI	159.	Sakol	VI
116.	Kunwari Lift	VI	160.	Pakadiguden	VI
117.	Sank - Swaranrekha Link	VII	161.	Kasarsai	VI
118.	Gopad Lift	VII	162.	Deorjan	VI
Maharashtra			163.	Bor Dahegaon	VI
119.	Haranbari	VI	164.	Masalga	VI
120.	Alandi	V	165.	Jam	VI
121.	Bahuia	V	166.	Tajnapur Lift	VI
122.	Mor	V	167.	Andhali	VII
123.	Hivara	V	168.	madan Tank	VII
124.	Manglurpur	V	Manipur		
125.	Erdha	V	169.	Singda	V
126.	Yeotimasoli	V	Orissa		
127.	Jawalgaon (Hatiz Hingni)	V	170.	Hariharjore	AP 1978-80
128.	Chikotra	V	171.	Harabhangi	AP 1978-80
			172.	Upper Jonk	AP 1978-80

1	2	3	1	2	3
173.	Baghua State I and Stage II	AP 1978-80	182.	Chhapri	VII
174.	Badanalla	VI	183.	Bilas	VI
175.	Deo	VI	184.	Sawan Bhadon	VI
176.	Baghalati	VI	185.	Parwan Lift	VI
177.	Sapuabadajore	VI			
178.	Birupa Ganguti Island Irrigation	VII		Tamil Nadu	
179.	Satiguda	VII	186.	Orathupalayam	VI
	Punjab			Tripura	
180.	Irrigation to H.P. area below Talwara	VII	187.	Gumti	V
	Rajasthan		188.	Khowai	VI
181.	Panchana	V	189.	Manu	VI

STATEMENT-III

Names of On-Going Irrigation Projects assisted by the World Bank.

S.No.	Name of Project	Date of agreement	Date of Completion	Amount of Assistance (US \$ in million)	Utilisation as on 31.3.96 (US \$ in million)
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Haryana				
1.	Water Resources Consolidation Project	6-04-94	31.12.2000	294.289	32.263
	Karnataka				
2.	Upper Krishna Irrigation Project Phase - II	16-06-89	31.12.96	169.208	150.812
	Maharashtra				
3.	Composit Irrigation Project - III	5-12-85	31.12.96	169.083	138.411
	Multistate				
4.	Dam Safety Rehabilitation Project	10-06-91	30-09-97	148.884	23.820
5.	Hydrology Project	09-06-95	31-03-2002	142.0	4.003
	Orissa				
6.	Water Resources Consolidation Project	05-01-96	30-09-2002	290.9	14.207
	Punjab				
7.	Irrigation and Drainage Project.	06-04-94	31-03-98	171.429	93.875
	Tamil Nadu				
8.	Water Resources Consolidation Project	29-04-95	31-03-2002	282.9	12.438

Ex-servicemen

1407. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ex-servicemen given employment in the country during the last three years;

(b) the steps being taken to give employment to the remaining ex-servicemen in various civil departments and public sector undertakings; and

(c) the average number of defence personnel retiring every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The number of ex-Servicemen given re-employment in the country during the last three years is as under :

Year	Ex-Servicemen re-employed
1993	16,736
1994	16,457
1995	15,400 (Provisional)

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) About 50,000 - 55,000 Armed Forces Personnel retire every year.

STATEMENT

To provide re-employment to Service personnel after their release from the Armed Forces, the Central Government have provided following reservations for ex-Servicemen in Group 'C' and 'D' posts :

	Group 'C'	Group 'D'
(i) Central Government Departments	10%	20%
(ii) Central Public Sector Undertakings including Nationalised Banks	14.5%	24.5%

In para-Military Forces, a reservation of 10% is also provided in the posts of Assistant Commandants, for ex-Servicemen. The recruitment in Defence Security Corps is primarily reserved for ex-Servicemen. Various State Governments have made varying percentage of reservation for ex-Servicemen. Resettlement of ex-Servicemen is a continuous process. The employment of ex-Servicemen depends upon the number of vacancies reserved for ex-Servicemen becoming available and the number of eligible ex-Servicemen applying for such vacancies.

Physical Fitness Centres

1408. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to

introduce a legislation to regulate physical fitness centres in the country, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Four Lane Highway No. 23

1409. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to widen the Chass-Talchar National Highway No. 23 into four lanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). There is no such proposal.

[English]

Audio-Visual Research Centre in Calicut University

1410. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned Audio-Visual Research Centre to Calicut University in Kerala;

(b) if so, the funds allocated for this Centre;

(c) the main functions of the Centre;

(d) whether the Centre is functioning satisfactorily; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 82 lakhs has been allocated to make the Centre operational.

(c) The main function of the Centre is to prepare educational enrichment programmes for telecasting through the Countrywide Classroom Programme of the Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC).

(d) and (e). The Centre was sanctioned by University Grants Commission (UGC) in 1995-96 and is at the initial stages of establishment. It is too early to evaluate its performance.

[Translation]

Hindi Computer Education

1411. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government to boost Hindi Computer Education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). To promote use of Hindi Computers, the following steps have been initiated :

Department of Electronics has evolved a project for development of Hindi Environment for Personal Computers (PCs) covering development of PC DOS and OS/2 in Hindi. The Department also provided one time financial assistance to nine different educational institutions in India for offering Post Graduate Courses in Computer Applications (PG and DCA) in Hindi. Under another project supported by Department of Electronics, a software prototype for teaching of Hindi Grammar to Primary School children was developed at banasthali Vidyapeeth in Rajasthan. An intelligent tutoring system prototype for teaching of Hindi to foreign tourists, has been developed at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and Kendriya Hindi Santhan.

NIC conducts various short-term training programmes for the benefit of Government officials for use of computer in Hindi. During 1995, NIC, Delhi, had conducted the Word processing, Data Entry (DOS Environment) and Desk Top Publishing in Hindi.

Computer Education has already been institutionalised in Schools. Hindi ROM and Word Processors are being used alongwith those in English as per availability, in the country.

Issue of Passport to Wrong Persons

1412. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of issuance of passport to wrong persons have come to the notice of the Government during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against passport officers who were found guilty in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the number of persons about whom information has been received about going abroad on such wrong passports during the last three years, year-wise?

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

(b) Details are as per Statement.

(c) Since in all these cases, passports were issued as per existing rules and the passport applications were complete in all respect with necessary documents, the question of action against any passport officers does not arise. However, all these passports were revoked/ impounded immediately by Passport Issuing Authorities upon receipt of information that they were issued to wrong persons.

(d) The number of persons who are reported to have gone abroad of fake passports during the last three years are as follows :

Year	1993	1994	1995
	130	262	290

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name	Passport No.	Date of Issue	Place of Issue
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Shri S. Ameer Farook	S-452950	22.6.1994	Madras
2.	Shri Sajid @ Zuber Mohammed Iqbal	A-694453	1.5.1991	Mumbai
3.	Mrs. Peingmala Luithui	B-286072	27.12.1991	Guwahati
4.	Shri Deen Dayal Didwania	T-688074	15.2.1983	Mumbai
5.	Navneet Didwania	T-814161	7.3.1993	Mumbai
6.	Anil Kumar Didwania	A-105842	Not known	-
7.	Manoj Kumar Didwania	R-759446	17.6.1993	-
8.	Shakti Kumar Ahmed Mohd. Musalim Shaikh @ Lamboo Shakil	S-184105	17.2.1982	Mumbai
9.	Rajendra Sadashiv Nikhalje	E-792821	27.4.1988	Dubai

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Mustafa Mohd. Umar Dosa	E-032186	20.10.1987	Dubai
11.	Mr Luingam Luithu	W-898837	28.9.1984	Delhi
12.	Mustaq Abdullah Bavani	H-407579	1.6.1990	Mumbai
13.	Muhamad Mustaq	H-119363	12.9.1991	Karachi
14.	Abdul Latif			
15.	Abdul Wahab @ Mullah			
16.	Sunder Singh	O-301995	15.6.1993	Delhi
17.	Mohd. Ameeruddin Habib	P-431284	30.6.1993	Hong Kong
18.	Salim Abdul Gani Gazi	B-918409	19.2.1987	Mumbai
19.	Abdul Rashid Mohd. Khan @ Rashid Mehmood Khan	I-069801	6.2.1991	Mumbai
20.	Shaikh Dawood Hasan @ Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar	M-110522 P-537849	13.11.1978 30.7.1979	Mumbai Mumbai
21.	Ibrahim Abdul Razak Memon	H-825080	28.11.1990	Dubai
22.	Mohd. Ahmed Dosa	C-487715 H-900874	5.6.1987 11.6.1991	Mumbai Dubai
23.	Mohd. Shahid Nizamuddin Qureshi	B-417452	22.9.1986	Mumbai

[English]

Awareness about Contraceptive Methods

1413. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether lack of awareness and misconception about the use of contraceptive methods still hamper the efforts to bring down the birth rate in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether a study conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research shows that traditional healers and trained persons could play a vital role in influencing the villagers to accept one or other method of family planning; and

(c) if so, the other points made in this study and the steps being taken by the Government to boost family welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per the National Family Health Survey (1992-93), 94.7% of currently married women aged 13-49 years in rural areas know at least one method of family planning and 94.5% know at least one modern method.

(b) and (c). A pilot study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in Muzaffarnagar district, Uttar Pradesh, showed that trained traditional medical

practitioners can influence eligible couples on family planning.

The study revealed the ways in which the traditional medical practitioners influence eligible couples. A larger study is being taken up by the ICMR.

Command Area Development Programme

1414. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided to Assam for the development of command areas under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme during each of the last three years; and

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 402.5 lakhs was provided as Grant-in-aid to Assam Government under Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme during the last three years with the following year-wise break-up :

Year	Grant-in-aid (Rupees in lakhs)
1993-94	202.61
1994-95	137.89
1995-96	62.00
Total	402.50

(b) The targets and achievements during the above period are as follow :

(Area in thousand hectares)

	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		Cumulative for the period 1993 to 1996	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Field Channel	2.03	1.50	3.353	1.088	4.963	0.528	10.346	3.116
Field Drain	3.80	0.64	3.341	1.48	4.167	0.175	11.308	2.295
Warabandi	2.48	1.00	1.5	0.35	2.75	Nil	6.73	1.35
(Rotational water supply)								

Modernisation of Armed Forces

1415. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to modernise the Army and Air Force; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Government are committed to modernisation and upgradation of the equipment of the Armed Forces to enable them to meet any threat to the nation's security. A concerted exercise is undertaken each year to determine modernisation priorities, and translate them into reality through appropriate budgetary allocations.

C. R. F. Under Parliament Resolution

1416. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since taken a decisions to implement the Parliament Resolution stipulating that from 13.5.1988, five percent of basic price of diesel and petrol will be earmarked for Central Road Fund; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Revised note for Group of Ministers has since been forwarded to Cabinet Secretariate. It is, therefore, too early to indicate any time frame in this matter.

Water Storage Capacity

1417. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there

are massive silts in most of the major reservoirs in National Capital Region and their water storage capacity is declining;

(b) if so, the details of such reservoirs in Delhi;

(c) the total financial assistance provided by the Government to various States including Delhi during the last three years, till date; and

(d) the scheme being formulated by the Government particularly for Delhi to check silting in the reservoirs?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Visit of Special Envoy to Bangladesh

1418. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any special envoy of the Government have recently visited Bangladesh to hold discussions with the new Government of that country on bilateral and other issues; and

(b) if so, the outcome of these discussions?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Foreign Secretary visited Bangladesh as Special Envoy of the Prime Minister from July 5-7, 1996. The Foreign Secretary, conveyed to the Bangladesh Prime Minister and Foreign Minister messages of goodwill from Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister which underlined our desire for addressing all issues in bilateral relations in a spirit of cooperation and mutual benefit. The Foreign Secretary also called on the Bangladesh Ministers of Finance, Commerce, Water Resources, and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and held discussion with Bangladesh officials on further steps to move forward on all issues and enhance Indo-Bangladesh relations.

Malaria Eradication

1419. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people died due to malaria during last six months in Assam and elsewhere in the country;

(b) whether the incidents of Malaria deaths are increasing in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to eradicate Malaria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) During the last six months (upto end June, 1996) 101 deaths due to Malaria have been reported from the States/UTs which include 20 deaths in Assam.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. However, the steps taken to control Malaria include :

- enhancement of the budgetary allocation for the National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP);
- grant of 100% Central assistance to the North-Eastern States since December, 1994;
- early detection and prompt treatment of malaria cases;
- Vector Control through effective use of insecticides to interrupt transmission;
- anti-larval measures to eliminate mosquito breeding sources;
- intensification of Health Education activities to create public awareness and participation in anti-malaria programmes;
- community involvement in malaria control activities.

Shipping Industry

1420. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to introduce series of measures for efficient development of Indian ships and encourage growth of shipping industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether decision has been taken to introduce electronic data interchange system for shipping out cargoes to developed countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and implications of the proposed measures on shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The Government have taken various measures during the last four years

for the development of the Indian Shipping Industry. The salient features of these are :

(i) Automatic approval is now given for :

- (a) acquisition of all categories of ships except Crude Tankers and Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs) by Private Shipowning Companies;
- (b) acquisition of ships from an Indian Shipyard;
- (c) acquisition of replacement tonnage; and
- (d) foreign investment upto 51% for mechanised sailing vessels upto 10,000 Dead Weight Tonne.

(ii) Shipping Companies have been allowed to retain sale proceeds of their ships abroad and utilise them for fresh acquisition.

(iii) Shipping Companies have been given freedom to time charter out Indian Ships to Foreign Shipping Companies.

(iv) Shipping Companies are allowed to acquire vessels through bare boat charter-cum-demise method.

(v) The Shipping Companies are now permitted to get their ships repaired in any shipyard without seeking prior approval from the Government.

(vi) Quarterly Block Allocation Scheme for repair of ships has been dispensed with entirely and Reserve Bank of India now releases foreign exchange for ship repair/dry docking and spares for imported capital goods without any value limit.

(vii) Certain Sections of Merchant Shipping Act were considered by foreign lenders as impediments to the enforcement of the rights of lenders in case of loan defaults and consequent requirement of foreclosure of the mortgage. These have not been amended to facilitate Indian Shipping Companies to raise external commercial borrowings for foreign ship acquisitions.

(viii) Age norms for acquisition of second hand ships have been relaxed to give more operational freedom for shipowners.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Government has constituted 'FDI Council' under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Commerce to oversee implementation of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in the ports and airports. At the instance of Electronic Data Interchange Council, Message Development Groups (MDG) have been formed at each port for formulation of action programme since procedures, documentation, etc. differ from port to port. Message Development Groups at each port in consultation with port users will identify the procedures and practices requiring streamlining, changes required in the existing forms, etc. to evolve a unified pattern for all ports and to promote and

popularise the use of Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (EDIFACT) messages.

It has been decided that the ports of Bombay and Tuticorin would first develop software and implement Electronic Data Interchange system and other ports would adopt from them.

Drop-out Rate at Primary Level

1421. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) that drop-out rate of students at the primary level of education in the last three years;

(b) the break up in such cases between rural and urban areas and between male and female students; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to reduce the drop out rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The percentage of drop out of boys and girls at primary stage during the last three years for which the data is available, were as follows:

Classes I-V	Boys	Girls	Total
1991-92	41.0	45.2	42.8
1992-93	40.1	43.0	41.3
1993-94	35.0	38.0	36.3

Drop out data on rural-urban basis is not collected.

(c) The measures taken by Central and State Governments to reduce drop out rates include micro-planning and community mobilisation; greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions; setting up of village Education Committees; improvement of schools infrastructure through Operation Blackboard Scheme; incentives for girls and SC/ST students such as free text

books, uniforms and scholarships; establishing and strengthening of teacher education institutions; introduction of Minimum Levels of Learning (MLL) and implementation of the Mid-Day Meals Programme.

Pending Irrigation Projects of Orissa

1422. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :
SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of irrigation projects of Orissa pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) since when these projects are pending alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa have requested the Union Government for the early clearance of pending projects; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A statement giving details of irrigation projects of Orissa pending clearance is attached.

(c) Yes, Sir. Deputy Chief Minister of Orissa has requested in August, 1995 for early clearance of pending irrigation projects of Orissa.

(d) At the time of correspondence with Dy. Chief Minister of Orissa in August, 1995, 4 major and 5 medium projects of Orissa were pending clearance. Out of them, 2 major projects namely Kanupur Barrage and Subarnarekha Irrigation and 2 medium projects Bagh Barrage and Baghalati have since received investment clearance from the Planning Commission.

To expedite clearance of pending projects, the Central Water Commission holds periodical meetings with the State Governments official wherein the progress of compliance of observations on pending irrigation projects is reviewed. It has also set up Units at different places in the country for assisting the States in expeditious appraisal of irrigation projects.

STATEMENT

Details of new major and medium irrigation projects of Orissa pending clearance

S.No.	Name of Project	District benefitted	Estimated Cost (Rs. crores)	Ultimate Irrigation Potential	Date of receipt in CWC. (hectares)	Status of Techno-economic appraisal.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Major						
1.	Rengali Irrigation Sub0Project LBC.II	-	705.15	93.500	2/96	The Project has been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in 9/96 subject

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						to certain observations. The project has been cleared from rehabilitation and resettlement angle by the Ministry of Welfare. The State Govt. is required to obtain clearance from environment angle from Ministry of Environment and Forests.
2.	Lower Indira Irrigation Project	Bolangir	191.56	38.870	4/93	The State Govt. is required to comply with the observations of Central Water Commission on Irrigation Planning and other aspects. The State Govt. is also required to obtain clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests from environment and forests angles and Ministry of Welfare for rehabilitation and resettlement plans.
3.	Lower Suktel Medium	Bolangir	171.45	29.840	9/94	-do-
1.	Telengiri	Koraput	53.8	13.830	10/85	The State Government has been advised in 11/93 to expedite the feasibility study for construction of a syphon across river Indravati to carry water to Nowrangpur area and if found feasible to forward a modified proposal. The State Govt. has not forwarded the modified proposal so far. The State Government is also required to obtain clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Welfare from forest angle and for rehabilitation and resettlement plans respectively.
2.	Manjore	Dhenkanal	37.70	10.430	8/91	The project was found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in 3/93, subject to clearance from Ministry of Welfare for rehabilitation and resettlement (R and R) Plans and forest clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The Ministry of Welfare has cleared the R and R Plan.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						The State Government is required to obtain forest clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
3.	Rukura	Sundargarh	25.21	7.650	6'93	The project has been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in 6'93 subject to clearance of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plans and forest clearance. The Ministry of Welfare has cleared the R and R Plans. The State Govt. is required to obtain forest clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Allocation for National Highways

1423. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made to assess the requirement of plan allocation necessary for construction/ maintenance of National Highways.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) the percentage of such allocation granted for National Highways to States during last three years, and

(d) the details of Government sector schemes for

passenger oriented wayside amenities along National Highways particularly in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and requirements for improvements vary at different points of time.

(c) The allocation for Development/Maintenance to various States during last three years is shown in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Under Government Sector Scheme, 17 sites in different States, including a site at Kakazichera on NH-17 in Kerala, have been identified for providing wayside amenities.

STATEMENT

Statement showing Allocation of funds for Development/Maintenance to various States during the last three years

S.No.	Name of State	Develop-	Mainten-	Develop-	Mainten-	Develop-	Mainten-
		ment works	ance works	ment works	ance works	ment works	ance works
		1993-94	1993-94	1994-95	1994-95	1995-96	1995-96
Rs. in lakhs							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4524.00	1716.42	5194.50	2145.64	4864.00	2842.89
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100.00	53.51	130.00	67.24	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	1400.00	1355.22	1485.00	1678.23	1650.00	1443.95
4.	Bihar	1920.00	1276.45	2221.00	1472.53	1980.00	1763.95
5.	Chandigarh	25.00	14.00	25.00	21.00	25.00	26.00
6.	Delhi	550.00	208.21	150.00	143.25	400.00	146.55

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Goa	570.00	225.05	454.40	385.65	643.00	205.03
8.	Gujarat	6200.00	1033.95	7098.00	1316.64	5458.00	1745.20
9.	Haryana	3200.00	513.86	5160.00	560.43	5555.00	756.70
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1200.00	881.70	1350.00	894.80	1600.00	1366.41
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	40.00	94.54	45.00	75.60	50.00	193.11
12.	Karnataka	2709.00	1234.19	3189.00	1506.78	3319.00	1768.40
13.	Kerala	3089.00	726.15	3124.95	924.10	4310.00	863.88
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1678.00	1316.28	2347.38	1696.01	2820.00	1971.52
15.	Maharashtra	2831.00	1815.54	3262.92	2150.45	3703.00	2579.33
16.	Manipur	300.00	130.47	331.93	115.20	501.00	184.64
17.	Meghalaya	470.00	231.13	500.00	270.06	680.00	426.54
18.	Nagaland	45.00	7.29	40.00	4.00	50.00	8.00
19.	Orissa	1221.00	1016.11	3557.55	1186.50	3602.00	1447.83
20.	Pondicherry	50.00	16.02	50.00	14.70	50.00	21.38
21.	Punjab	2200.00	661.30	3559.80	736.97	5910.00	770.72
22.	Rajasthan	4028.00	1339.97	4720.88	1810.83	6733.00	1860.72
23.	Tamil Nadu	3064.00	1643.67	2589.50	1702.86	1276.00	1789.94
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4879.00	1710.52	8455.68	2065.48	8842.00	2529.94
25.	West Bengal	3500.00	1760.45	3987.00	1744.02	3810.00	1731.33
	Total	49493.00	20882.00	63029.50	24689.91	67831.00	28443.96

[Translation]

Kaghvan Irrigation Project

1424. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of Kaghvan Irrigation Project of Bihar;

(b) the areas of land in each district of Bihar likely to be irrigated through this irrigation project;

(c) the expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the time by which project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No project report by the name of Kaghvan Irrigation Project (Bihar) has been received in Central Water Commission. However, a proposal from Govt. of Bihar by the name of Kadwan Reservoir Project has been received for supplementing the existing irrigation under Indrapuri Barrage at Sone River.

(b) District-wise Culturable Command Area which will be irrigated by this project is given below :

Bhojpur Distt.	-	67,347 hectares
Patna Distt.	-	9,831 hectares

(c) The estimated cost of the project was Rs. 656.60 crores.

(d) Though there is prescribed time for technoeconomic appraisal of the project, the clearance of the project depends upon how soon the State Govt. complies with the observations of the various Central agencies.

US on India's Missile Programme

1425. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn in the news-item appearing in the news-item appearing in the "Navbharat Times" dated June 16, 1996 under the caption "America Bhartiya Missailon ki Tainati Ka Virodh Karega";

(b) the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the U.S. Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the U.S. Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government have seen press reports regarding statement by the official spokesman of the U.S. State Department. Government have their assessment regarding acquisition and deployment of nuclear capable M-11 missiles by Pakistan and consider it a matter of concern.

Government are committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. Our views in this regard have been conveyed to the concerned countries. The United States Government have taken note of our views.

Pak Role in Kidnapping of American Tourist

1426. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US has given any indication that Pakistan is responsible for the kidnapping of an American tourist alongwith other foreigners, the murder of a Norwegian tourist by Al-Faran Group and the terrorist activities in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details of the statement made by the US Government in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). The State Department annual report on Patterns of Global Terrorism 1995 states that "one Pakistan-backed group Harkat-ul-Ansar is believed to be linked to Al-Faran, the group that claimed the responsibility for the kidnapping in July in Kashmir of two US citizens, two britons, a German and a Norwegian". The Report also states that there are credible reports of official Pakistani support to militants fighting in Kashmir including Pakistani, Afghan and Arab nationals," and to groups that claimed responsibility for various terrorist bombings in Kashmir.

(c) The above statements in the report on Patterns of Global Terrorism support our position that Pakistan continues to be directly involved in large scale promotion and support of terrorist activities in India, with the supply of arms, equipment, training and infiltration.

[English]

Border Trafficking in Children

1427. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made some effective bilateral arrangements with Nepal and Bangladesh to curb across the border trafficking in children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Human Rights Commission has taken up this matter with his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) There are no bilateral arrangements with Nepal and Bangladesh to curb across the border trafficking in children.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). National Human Rights Commission has not taken up with Government the matter of effective bilateral arrangements with Nepal and Bangladesh to curb across the border trafficking in children. However, NHRC in June 1995 had referred to Government the case of a minor girl named Farida, an illegal immigrant in Delhi, for repatriation to Bangladesh. The Bangladesh High Commission at Delhi were approached by the Government for her repatriation.

[Translation]

Pak PM's Statement of J & K Elections

1428. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the remarks made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan regarding Parliamentary elections held recently in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether any protest has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

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

(b) and (c). In the context of the Pakistani Prime Minister's address to the nation on 28 June, 1996, the official spokesman of MEA noted, "the tone of this address was at variance with the letter sent to our PM. We wonder which to take seriously?"

In his letter to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, PM had suggested the resumption of Foreign Secretary level dialogue between the two countries. We await Pakistan's response to our Prime Minister's letter.

[English]

Non-Permanent Membership in UNSC

1429. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have embarked on major initiative so as to ensure support for its bid to get a non-permanent seat in the United National Security Council;

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

(c) the names of the countries contacted so far and the time by which elections for the Security Council seats are scheduled to be held?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). India is a candidate for the non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council,

for the term 1997-98. The Government of India have taken several steps to apprise other Governments of our just and well-deserved candidature. These measures include approaches in various capitals and to diplomatic missions in New Delhi, presence in regional summit meetings and interaction through special envoys to foreign capitals and visitors to New Delhi. The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations is also continuously engaged in this effort, as required. All Member States of the United Nations, with whom India has diplomatic relations, have been contacted in this regard. The elections to the non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council are expected to be held in end-October 1996, during the 51st session of the UN General Assembly.

Aircraft carriers with Indian Navy

1430. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of aircraft carriers with the Indian Navy at present;

(b) whether there are plans for the procurement of more of modern aircraft carrier for the Navy;

(c) whether there are also plans for manufacturing of such aircraft carriers within the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and how the Government propose to make up the deficiency in the absence of modern aircraft carriers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The Indian Navy has two aircraft carriers viz. INS Viraat and INS Vikrant. Of the two, INS Vikrant is now due for decommissioning and, therefore, needs to be suitably replaced. INS Viraat, the other aircraft carrier, is also planned to be modernised in order to improve her fighting capability.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). In view of the imminent decommissioning of INS Vikrant, there is a proposal for outright acquisition of an aircraft carriers. There is also a proposal for construction of an Air Defence Ship to serve as replacement for INS Viraat.

AIDS

1431. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of persons suffering from HIV-I and II positive infection in the country are increasing rapidly;

(b) if so, the number of AIDS (HIV Positive cases) presently detected in Delhi and other States during the last three years, till date;

(c) the names of the hospitals in Delhi where facilities for AIDS test are available;

(d) the funds allocated to Delhi for the current year to control AIDS;

(e) whether the Delhi Government has fully utilised these funds;

(f) if so, the heads under which these funds have been utilised;

(g) whether the Government have received any complaints during this period about the misappropriation of these funds;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) With better surveillance facilities, there is an increase in the number of HIV cases being reported by States/UTs.

(b) Statement - I giving yearwise/statewise reported HIV +ve (positive) cases is enclosed.

(c) A list is enclosed as Statesment - II.

(d) to (f). An allocation of Rs. 423.39 lac has been approved for Delhi NCT for different components of the National AIDS Control Programmes such as Programme Management, Surveillance Blood Safety, STD, Training, IEC etc. The schemes are under implementation.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) (i) Does not arise.

STATEMENT - I

S. No.	Name of the State	1993	1994	June Up to 1996	
		+ve	+ve	+ve	+ve
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47	-	72	2
2.	Assam	1	1	128	16
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-
4.	A and N Islands	-	-	82	3
5.	Bihar	2	-	-	14
6.	Chandigarh	46	-	19	4
7.	Punjab	-	-	-	-
8.	Delhi	173	86	-	43
9.	Daman and Diu	-	-	8	0
10.	D and N Haveli	-	-	-	1
11.	Goa	128	33	395	57

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Gujarat		92	189	4	0
13. Haryana		35	52	16	39
14. Himachal Pradesh		2	-	-	58
15. J & K		9	-	-	16
16. Karnataka		668	693	426	325
17. Kerala		86	-	-	0
18. Lakshadweep		2	-	3	0
19. Madhya Pradesh		21	-	150	84
20. Maharashtra		705	-	828	216
21. Manipur		254	770	1231	199
22. Mizoram		11	41	-	0
23. Meghalaya		-	-	53	4
24. Nagaland		-	-	149	0
25. Orissa		4	28	111	47
26. Pondicherry		104	484	590	265
27. Rajasthan		-	29	10	18
28. Sikim		-	-	1	0
29. Tamilnadu		199	319	32	100
30. Tripura		-	-	13	0
31. Uttar Pradesh		143	88	118	72
32. West Bengal		100	82	1	0
Total		2832	2886	4440	1583

STATEMENT - II

Surveillance Centres :

1. Department of Microbiology,
University College of Medical Sciences,
Shahdara, Delhi.
2. Department of Microbiology,
Maulana Azad Medical College,
New Delhi.

HIV Reference Centres :

1. National Institute of Communicable Disease
Delhi.
2. All India Institute of Medical Sciences,
New Delhi.

Zonal Blood Testing Centres (ZBTC) :

1. Blood Bank,
G.T.B. Hospital, Shahdara,
Delhi.
2. Blood Bank,
Hindu Rao Hospital,
New Delhi.
3. Blood Bank,
LNJP/MAMC Hospital,
New Delhi.

Health for All

1432. SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL :
SHRI JAG MOHAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether target had been fixed by the Government to provide 'health for all' by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the progress made in that regard;

(c) whether the target is likely to be achieved by 2000 AD; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). A review of the achievement of goals set out in the National Health Policy, 1983, indicates that only some of the goals are likely to be achieved full by 2000 AD. These relate to the Infant Mortality Rate, Crude Death Rate, Life Expectancy at Birth, Immunisation goals for pregnant women and infants and elimination of Leprosy.

(d) The non-achievement of targets in some cases can be attributed to lack of awareness among the people in availing of health services particularly the preventive measures, remoteness of certain areas, illiteracy, poverty etc. However, the Central Government has assisted the States through extensive National disease control Programmes and by availing of external assistance to upgrade the health infrastructure in certain areas.

[Translation]

Pay scales and pensions of Defence Personnel

1433. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pay scales and pensions of Defence personnel are meagre in comparison to that of the civilian personnel in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the pay scales and amount of pension of the defence personnel; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise.

[English]

Weapon factories under Public Sector

1434. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for

the setting up of new whole weapon factories under public sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to achieve self-reliance in weapons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps have been initiated for enhancing self reliance in defence systems. The aim is to increase the percentage of indigenous content in the annual defence acquisition, through indigenisation.

C.G.H.S. Dispensaries

1435. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the number of CGHS dispensaries in Maharashtra and Assam are inadequate in comparison with the number of Central Government employees and the medical services relating to pre-natal and post-natal care are not up to the mark in these dispensaries and also in other health care units run by Government;

(b) if so, the number of deaths recorded at the pre-natal and post-natal stages particularly in the State of Assam during each of the last three years for want of proper medical facilities;

(c) whether proper medicine and health care services are also not available in these CGHS dispensaries;

(d) whether these States propose to set up more CGHS dispensaries particularly in Vidarbha region and rural areas; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to improve the functioning of dispensaries and other health care units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per statistics available, the ratio of beneficiaries per CGHS dispensary in Maharashtra compares well with the prevailing ratio in other States covered by CGHS. In Assam, however, sanction for starting 3 CGHS dispensaries at Guwahati has recently been issued, the infrastructure is in the process of being put in place and the dispensaries would start functioning soon.

(b) No pre-natal and post-natal deaths have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years in so far as CGHS dispensaries are concerned.

(c) Medicines are available in the dispensaries, and medicines which are not available are purchased from the local chemists and issued to the beneficiaries.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

(e) This is a continuous and ongoing process, and there is constant endeavour to streamline the functioning of CGHS dispensaries.

Funds to Maharashtra for N.H.

1436. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been providing assistance to the State Governments for the maintenance work on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details of such assistance provided to Maharashtra during the last three years;

(c) whether the State Government have urged Union Government to allocate more funds since the length of National Highways in Maharashtra is more than in any other State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways, released to the Govt. of Maharashtra, during the last three years, are as below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Allotment
1993-94	1815.54
1994-95	2150.45
1995-96	2579.33

(c) and (d). The funds allocated already take into consideration the length of National Highways in the State.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: PRESENTATION OF GENERAL BUDGET

12.01 hrs.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Before we go to Zero Hour, I would like to inform the House that the House would adjourn at 4 P.M. today to reassemble at 5 P.M. for presentation of the General Budget.

Now, we will take up Papers to be Laid on the Table and then, we will come to Zero Hour.

12.01¼ hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review of the working of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Ltd. New Delhi Alongwith audited accounts and the Statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers

[Translation]

2. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : 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 Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Pariyojna Nirman Nigam Limited, New Delhi, 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. 136/96]

[English]

Statement Correcting reply given on 15th July, 1996 to USQ 499 regarding Assistance to Writers and Artists

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting reply given on the 15th July, 1996 to Unstarred question No. 499 by Shri R.B. Rai regarding Assistance to Writers and Artists.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-137/96]

Annual Report and Review of the working of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration New Delhi etc. for the year 1994-95 alongwith statement for delay in laying these papers

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute

of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi, for the year 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-138/96]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All, Madras, 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 Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All, Madras, for the year 1994-95.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-139-96]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Madras, 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 Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Madras, for the year 1994-95.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-140/96]

- (7) (i) A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), 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 Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Calcutta, for the year 1994-95.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT-141-96]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahila Samakhya, Karnataka, 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 Mahila Samakhya, Karnataka, for the year 1994-95.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT-142/96]
- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bal Bhawan Society India, New Delhi for the year 1993-94.
(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Bal Bhawan Society India, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with Audit Report thereon.
(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English Versions) by the Government of the working of the Bal Bhawan Society, India, New Delhi, for the year 1993-94.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT-143/96]
- (13) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 33 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993:-
(i) The National Council for Teacher Education (Establishment and Territorial Jurisdiction of Regional Committees) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No. 28-9/95-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 1996.
(ii) The National Council for Teacher Education (Procedure to be followed by the Regional Committees) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No. F.28-4/95-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 1996.
- (iii) The National Council for Teacher Education (Procedure relating to meetings of the council and quorum for such meetings) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No. F.28-5/95-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 1996.
(iv) The National Council for Teacher Education (application for recognition the manner for submission, determination of conditions for recognition of institutional and permission to start new course or training) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No.F.28-11/95-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 1996.
(v) The National Council for Teacher Education (number of persons to be nominated to Regional Committee, their terms of office and allowance payable) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No.F.28-14/95-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 13th April, 1996.
(vi) The National Council Teacher Education (matters relating to quorum, co-options and meetings of the executive committee) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No.F.28-7/95-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 13th April, 1996.
- (14) A copy of the Notification No.28-9/95-NCTE (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 1996 establishing certain Regional Committees of the National Council for Teacher Education with immediate effect, issued under sub-section (1) of section 20 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993.
[Placed in Library See No. LT- 144/96]

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have submitted some more documents in connection with my privilege motion. I want to know as to when the same would be taken up for discussion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have received the documents furnished by you today. I will be asking the comments of the Prime Minister and then, I will come back.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make my submission relating to the serious

problem being faced by 75 lakh fishermen in the country, our territorial waters spread over 8,200 kilometers in 9 States of our country...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI A.C.JOS (Idukki) : Sir, I have given notice on an important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : I am coming to you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Idukki) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Government have given licence for deep sea fishing to the foreign trawlers. An agitation continued for two years because of issue of these licence. A Committee under the chairmanship of Shri P.Murari was constituted. There were 17 members of this House on the committee. All of us visited Coastal States and submitted a report. We had recommended cancellation of licences of foreign trawlers in that report, but that recommendation has not been implemented...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please let him complete.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Therefore, They are going on indefinite hunger-strike from 7th August on behalf of National Fishers Forum and it is proposed to block all the harbours ports of India from 10th August. There will be blockade of ports. I request the Government to implement the recommendation contained in the report submitted by us six months ago and cancel the licences issued to foreign trawlers. I may submit that the Prime Minister should let this House know as to what Government propose to do in the matter...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, you have already caught my eyes; you need not catch my ear. Otherwise, you will not get your chance.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Mr. Speaker, Sir...*(Interruptions)* It has been reported that about 27 persons have died under in debris owing to landslides and... In spite of all efforts made by Military and Police personnel only 14 bodies could be recovered and rest of them are still lying under the debris. The district administration and the police administration did not move for nearly 10 hours even after receipt of the information of the incident. The houses of many people have collapsed owing to landslides not only in Pithoragarh but in Almora District as well and the

Government have not expressed any concern in this regard. They have been provided with nominal relief of Rs. 5-10 thousand only so far. I demand that the dependents of the deceased persons should be given Rs. 2 lakhs each and arrange to rehabilitate the persons whose houses have been collapsed...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your kind notice that 14 girls have been stranded at the capital of Yemen. They were recruited by some bogus agency in Delhi. They obtained some bogus visas also and they were sent to Yemen. In the Yemen capital, Sana'a airport nobody was there to receive them. The girls telephoned to some hospital, they came but those hospital people also had no idea about them. From 3rd or 4th July onwards, these girls have sought refuge in the Indian Embassy at Yemen. There is no place for them to sleep; they have been kept in a small room in the library.

Now, the Yemen Government has taken a decision that unless the concerned agents go there, they would not permit them to come back. These agents have no passports and they also are not approaching the Embassy at Yemen. The situation is very grave. Two girls are suffering from Jaundice.

Sir, I would like to request you to kindly direct the Government to do something about it immediately. I tried to contact the Minister for External Affairs but he is not in India. He has gone to Djakarta. The officers should be told...

MR. SPEAKER : You should contact the Ministry of Labour. That is the Ministry concerned with this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, I am thankful to you.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, I am also on the same subject...*(Interruptions)* Sir, they should be brought back immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Ramalingam.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Who is benefitted, if all of you standing together?

(Interruptions)

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tiruchengode) : Please allow me to speak...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Speaker has allowed me to speak...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Comptroller and Auditor general of India has given a statement regarding the Central Government money which was allotted to the State of Tamil Nadu in 1994-95 saying that it has been*. The report of the Auditor

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

General saying that Rs.10.25 crore for sixteen schemes had been allotted by the Central Government in 1994-95. Out of this, Rs. 55 lakh only has been utilised properly and the remaining several crores has been mishandled in one year, that is, 1994-95 itself ...*(Interruptions)* if several crores could be mishandled in one year then it could be imagined how much crores would have been mishandled in five years? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kurien, I have already told that the Ministry of Labour should look into the matter. What else do you want?

(Interruptions)

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : One of the Cabinet colleagues of Ms. Jayalalitha, namely,* who is now under judicial custody for her involvement in the Saree scandal, which is among one of the sixteen schemes for which Government funds were allotted*.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramalingam, you are not supposed to read a written statement during Zero Hour.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : So, Sir, this august House would like to know as to what happened in Tamil Nadu for the past five years with the money that had been allotted by the Central Government for welfare schemes. By taking into account the statements,* an enquiry Commission may also be ordered...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not allow your other fellow Members to speak? Please sit down. I will give you a chance also.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a conference of Chief Ministers was held on 4-5 July and it was recommend in that conference that houses should be constructed at the cost of Rs.14000 to Rs.20,000 under the Indira Awas Yojana. This recommendation was made unanimously. The budget is being presented today and it is learnt that a provision of Rs. 14000 only is being made therein in this respect, why so?...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajamer) : How could you know that?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : This budget has been leaked. How has he come to know? The Finance minister is present in the House. I want to ask him whether it is a fact?...*(Interruptions)* I want to ask the Finance Minister as to whether he agree with the disclosure made by the hon'ble Member right now?

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : No, sorry, it is my mistake, I said it on my own.

In fact, a house cannot be built as the cost of Rs. 14000 in any case. The rate of bricks has gone up for Rs. 900 to Rs.1500 per thousand. The cost of cement has gone up from Rs.100 to Rs. 165 per bag. Similarly the cost of labour has doubled. So a house cannot be built at the cost of Rs.14,000 in any case. Therefore, I demand...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is enough. Your suggestion is to review the proposal. So you have made your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Betwa river of Madhya Pradesh is considered as holy river. The people believe that if one taken bath in this river he is supremely blessed. It may be true or not but the fact remains the Betwa is no much polluted today that if one takes bath in it these days, he will definitely be in trouble in the recent past lakhs of animals lost their lives because of industrial pollution in Betwa river the people had to face water crises. The water supply to Vidisha, Raisen, Gulabganj, Ganj Basada town and hundreds of villages situated on the banks of Betwa river was stopped.

Sir, this is not the first time that pollution has taken place. I raised the question of pollution in the Betwa in this very House in 1993 that just because of polluted water of industries of entire Mandideep and industries of Vidisha district Betwa river is polluted time and again. It in very sorry state of affairs that neither pollution control Board not the State Government have taken any effective steps to prevent this pollution on the 12th of this month, air in Mandideep became poisonous as a result of which 100 workers have to be hospitalised because of impairment and hundreds of other people were also affected. This industrial pollution is causing poisonous environment in the air as well as water...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I want to urge the central Government, through you, to ask the Pollution Control Board to take effective steps in this regard urgently. I would also like to say that either rules and regulations framed by in for pollution control are not being complied with or their compliance in not upto the mark. If necessary, the Government should review on pollution control plan and the Government should come out with a statement in the regard.

It may be stated that life of lakhs of people is in danger. We may face Bhopal like situation again and therefore demand that the Government should come out with a statement in this regard urgently ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udampur) : Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very important point. The issue pertains to Amarnath Yatra.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : The hon'ble Home Minister has assured us that this Yatra will take place this year also. He is new to the job and he might not be aware of many things. I would therefore, like to draw his attention towards certain important points that during Amarnath Yatra we need transport facilities, we need security and medicines, one gets a cup of tea for Rs. 12 it is very difficult to supply rations to the pilgrims the height for Amarnath Yatra is 15,000 feet. There ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will you please allow me, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : This matter has already been raised.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way. You had been a Minister too. You are a very senior Member.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The matter which you want to raise has already been raised. I have your notice here with me. I have directed the Government to look into it. I said the Ministry of Labour will look into this matter. What else do you require?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, please listen to me.

MR. SPEAKER : No, I cannot allow two people on the same issue.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The Government should react to it. Twenty days have passed. Fourteen girls have been detained in the Yemen airport. No action has been taken. I want the Government's reaction on this. The Government should respond. Even after you directed the Government they are quiet on this matter. There are many Cabinet Ministers sitting here and they should react. Let them say that action will be taken. Fourteen innocent girls are detained there.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Dasmunsi.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they should respond to it. What is the reaction of the Government on this. This matter Should not be closed like this.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a very important matter...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Fourteen innocent girls are detained in the Yemen Airport. Two of them are suffering from Jaundice but no treatment is being given to them.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kurien, what is it that you want me to do? Please sit down. I say sit down.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You should ask the government to react.

MR. SPEAKER : I have done that. What else do you want?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You can tell them specifically that you want them to react.

MR. SPEAKER : Please, sit down.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I obey you. But there should be a...

MR. SPEAKER : There is a limit

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : It is not just like any other matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Will you listen to me?

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : This is not like any other matter. At this moment fourteen girls are detained in the airport.

MR. SPEAKER : Will you listen to me?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : No, no, no, this is not like any other matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Can you listen to me?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Can you ask them to react to this?

MR. SPEAKER : I have already directed them. They will come back with the answer. How do you expect the Minister to answer instantly in the House?

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : They should come with the answer.

MR. SPEAKER : I was the Labour Minister once. I knew the problem and that is why I have given that direction. I know much more than you do about the procedure.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Twenty days have passed and nothing has happened.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dasmunsi.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise this matter through you and bring it to the knowledge of the Government.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Chaman Lal Gupta was on his legs.

MR. SPEAKER : I think he has finished.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : I am not being allowed to make my point.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dasmunsi, let him complete.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Mr Speaker, Sir I submit that Amarnath Yatra is a very sensitive matter and you should draw attention of the Government urging them to take foolproof measures to make this yatra a success. First of all we have to provide transport facilities. Lakhs of people go on the height of 15000 feet. The extremists have announced this time that they would not allow any horse or collie to go there. Therefore, Government have to take some alternative steps urgently. The people have to spend Rs. 12 for a cup of tea. They are not supplied with ration. Many private organisations want to make certain arrangements there. Let the Government allow them to do so, arrange transport facilities for them to enable the pilgrims to get ration and blankets. The people have to pay a sum of Rs.200 per night for a blanket. I request that the Central Government should discuss all these things with the State authorities so that foolproof arrangements could be made.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you an important matter. There is already an Act and established practice to provide security, accommodation and everything as per protocol to the ex-Prime Ministers. I would like to know from the Government through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, who always defend the dignity of the House and the dignity of the Members, the fate of the person who had been the Prime Minister twice according to the Oath Register of the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda. We are fast approaching the Golden Jubilee of the freedom movement. So far as I understand he has not briefed me - Gulzarilal Nanda is not in a good condition. The Government is not taking care to see as to how he is being looked after and how he is being protected. On the day the Confidence Motion was taken up, I gave a personal note to Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowdaji saying that he should immediately take care of this matter. As far as I understand, nothing has been done. I would appeal to you whether the provisions of the Act can be extended so that there is an opportunity and scope to protect even Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda under this umbrella and to see that in the last days of his, he can get this much of comfort for having fought for the freedom and for being the Prime Minister of the country twice, though for a brief period. This is my submission.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay. I think the Government should look into that and do whatever is possible.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDI UMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards a very serious problem of Punjab is in the grip of power

crisis Punjab is affected in the real sense. It is natural as well as man-made. We are sorry to note that there could be deposits in abundance in the country but the coal is not being supplied to Punjab as a result of which our thermal plants in Bhatinda and Ropar are on the verge of closure the crisis of power in Punjab is so serious that offices of Punjab are functioning under the trees. There are no fans, no air conditioners, even tube-wells in the fields are not operating

Sir, it is well known fact that Punjab contributes 60 percent foodgrains in the national pool and now, when Punjab is in the grip of power crisis, power should be supplied from the Central pool. But it is not being done. We, all Members of Punjab, met the Prime Minister. We are grateful to him for taking immediate action in the matter but it did not meet our full requirement, only 5 Railway rakes of coal have been supplied but there is a load of 8 rakes daily. If coal does not reach, thermal plants will be closed. The crisis will become so deep that Punjab will not be in a position to contribute 60 percent foodgrains to the central pool. I may request the hon'ble Minister, through you, that... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Complete your speech quickly. Every body has to speak.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Sir, I want to say that supply of coal should be on regular basis and recurrence of such crisis should not be there. I want to submit another point and that is regarding Thien Dam. Initial cost of Construction of this dam was Rs.85 crore which has now shot up to Rs.2650 crore. Had the work on thien dam been completed in time, Punjab would not have such faced such a serious crisis. Punjab has to suffer heavy losses away to floods, the crops are destroyed. They do not get water as well as power supply.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Mr. Spaker, Sir, I am very sorry to state that I went to see the District Magistrate alongwith people of my constituency on the 27th June, to explain to him the situation being faced by them as a result of rains and floods. After waiting for half hour amout side his residence I told him that area has been flooded, all the houses have collapsed. In spite of this, the District magistrate, Ferozabad infermed us after 8 hours that he was not proposed to see us. Then I told him that we shall resort to *Dharma* here itself. Then Shri Mittal, the District Magistrate, come out of his residence. He did not listen to the problem of the people attentively and therefore they were very much perturbed. Then I intervned and said "The people are suffering, their houses have collapsed, crops have been destroyed,

please listen to their grievances, I am their representative. I am Member of Parliament of that area." But it was also ignored. Shri Mittal, the District magistrate tore all the papers and said "go away, you can go to any one from whom you may get protection, do whatever you can do."

Respected Chandra Shekhar ji has said that if some body in the country is insulted, he is Member of Parliament only. I did not want to raise this matter in the House. I met hon'ble Home Minister and told him that the District Magistrate. Shri Mittal tore my all papers and Challenged me "you go and do, whatever you can do. I told the hon'ble Home Minister that I have been insulted. When I met him again after two weeks, I was told that he will get the report after six months...*(Interruptions)* the hon'ble Home Minister said that he will get the report after six months...*(Interruptions)* The District Magistrate has insulted me. He said, "Go away and do, whatever you can do, harijan Members of Parliament have lost their senses." Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection and want to know from the hon'ble Home Minister the action taken by him in the matter.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I share your sentiments. Let the Government ask for comments.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Katheria, I have already told...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What I have said is that the Government should expedite the matter.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Katheriaji, I have asked the Government to furnish the report at the earliest.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhanduka) : Mr. Speaker, it involves dignity of Members of Parliament...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am informing you that I have been told that the report will be received after six months. What is this, a Member of Parliament has been insulted...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, The District Magistrate has stated that Harijan Members of Parliament has lost his senses and the Hon'ble Minister of Home affairs says that the report

will come after six months what does it mean? I would like the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to give his reaction right now. At present the state of Uttar Pradesh is under the President's rule and the Ministry of Home Affairs is running the administration of that State. Where is the question of six months. He can call for the report immediately. This plea is unacceptable...*(Interruptions)* A clear cut allegation is being levelled. This is very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Gupta, would you like to say something on this?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : The hon. Member approached me and recorded his complaint against the District Magistrate of Ferozabad which is his Constituency and complained about his misbehaviour with him. I told him that on the basis of his complaint, I have to obtain a report from there...*(Interruptions)* I do not know what he was saying. I could not catch him.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying this with full responsibility that I was told that he will get the report after six months...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Katheria was saying that you told him that you will get the report in six months' time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Who said that?

MR. SPEAKER : What he is saying is that you will get the report in six months' time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Where from he got it?

[Translation]

who has said, six months? I have not said so...*(Interruptions)* I shall call for the report expeditiously. I have nowhere mentioned six months.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, there are two aspects of the matter. The Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has clarified it. He has not stated that he would get the report after six months. The second aspect is the behaviour of District Magistrate, it is a question of breach of privilege you can under an enquiry into the conduct of the District Magistrate and refer the whole issue to the Privileges Committee. A complaint has been made. The Hon'ble Minister has no direct knowledge about the incident...*(Interruptions)* But if some body behaves like this with the Hon'ble Members is it not objectionable? You should intervene in this matter...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, listen to me. The Leader of the Opposition has raised a very pertinent question. Let the Home Minister get it enquired into and give the report to me. After going through the report of the Home Minister, I will decide what should be done. But I do agree with Mr. Vajpayee that members of Parliament will have to be extended the courtesy that they deserve.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, it has been said those Harijan Members of Parliament has lost his senses. This is very serious matter. The leader of the opposition has state this matter shold be referred to the privileges committee...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will see. The Chair will protect the privileges of the Members of this House, I can assure you that.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Now, Sir, allow me to raise a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Only one issue in Zero Hour, Vajpayeeji.

[Translation]

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Malampur Industrial area has been developed in Bhind district of Madhya Pradesh. It has been observed that none of the factories set up there has installed pollution control devices, as a result of which poisonous effluence of factories reaches Gohad dam via canal from when Besoli stream originates and hundreds of villages...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Not today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, there is a stalemate in the All India Institute of Medical Science...

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow the same member put supplementaries and also raise matters in Zero Hour too. Other Members have also to be given a chance. There are so many newcomers here and they are not getting a chance. I have to distribute that way.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH : It takes lives of hundreds of animals and atleast 50 percent damage is

done to the crops irrigated by the aforesaid canal. Sir, I submit that you may kindly direct the Government to take steps to enquire into the matter to ensure that pollution control devices are installed in all the factories there.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources while replying to a question regarding floods during the Question hour, has ignored Uttar Pradesh altogether. I want to mention a very important point regarding two rivers viz Ghaghra and Sharda flowing between Lakhimpur and Sitapur. The confluence of both these rivers takes place near Mallaypur in Sitapur which causes havoc in Sitapur and Lakhimpur.

Sir, first of all I may submit that these two rivers originate from Nepal and then flow is very fast which results in continuous erosion. Second thing is that Sharda Barrage has been built in Lakhimpur, and another barrage has been built on Baharaich Katrania ghat. The water of both the barrages is released into Ghaghara as well as Sharda as a result of which of these districts are on the verge of devastation. At present, 50 lakh people have become homeless. Every Village in the area has become victim of the floods caused by them. Now Engineers will release water from Sharda Barrage which will curse floods in the entire region.

Sir, I want to say two things - one is that steps should be taken to protect this region from floods and second thing is that water from Sharda and Katrania Barrages should not be released in the aforesaid rivers because it causes havoc in the entire region. I therefore, request that steps should be taken to prevent floods in our area

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Manoranjan Bhakta.

Islands have to be given special treatment here!

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands is a Union Territory and the Central Government is having the responsibility for the good governance of the Union Territory.

Sir, there is an acute problem of unemployment in the islands and at present, particularly today, the youths of Andaman & Nicobar islands are staging a *dharana* all over the Territory, asking for the employment potentialities in the Island. There are a large number of ad hoc appointments made in Groups 'A', 'B' and 'C' in different departments. The employees have been working there for seven to eight years and they are not being regularised. The situation is such that more than thousand posts are lying vacant and these have not been filled up.

I would like to request the hon. Home Minister, who is present here, kindly to issue directives to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration so that the services of these ad hoc employees are regularised and those vacant posts are filled up immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : Now I call upon Shri T. Govindan to raise his matter. Please state very briefly and do not give the whole thing.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargod) : Sir, I am going to raise the question of Pooyamkutti Project.

The Environment and Forest Department is again putting hurdles in front of this project. The Kerala people are very anxious in getting this project cleared. I request the Government of India to reconsider the role of the Environment and Forest Department. It is putting hurdles in front of the hydro-electrical projects.

I would like the House to recall the request made by the Kerala Chief Minister and the Kerala State Government to convene a meeting of the concerned to discuss the matter and to give sanction immediately to Pooyamiutti hydro-electrical project.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Zero Hour is over.

12.35 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Committee on Estimates

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Thirty Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates for the term ending on the 30th April, 1987."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Thirty Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates for the term ending on the 30th April, 1987."

The motion was adopted.

12.37 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

(ii) Committee on Public Accounts

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 309 of the Rule of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as members of the committee on Public Accounts for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 309 of the Rule of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as members of the committee on Public Accounts for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997."

The Motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

12.38 hrs.

[English]

(iii) Committee on Public Undertakings

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):
Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):
Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

12.39 hrs.

(iv) Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) :
Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Twenty Members from among themselves to serve as members of the committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Twenty Members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) :
Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the Term ending on the 30th April, 1997 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

THE DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the Term ending on the 30th April, 1997 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

12.40 hrs.

(v) Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 5(g) of the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, Act, 1966, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, subject to the provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 5(g) of the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, Act, 1966, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, subject to the provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

12.42 hrs.

(vi) All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : I beg to move:-

"That in pursuance of Section 4(g) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 4(g) of the All

India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

12.43 hrs.

CONSERVATION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND PREVENTION OF SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.43½ hrs.

PREVENTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India Extra ordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated, 22.7.1996.

12.44 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to develop Bundi town in Rajasthan as tourist resort

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bundi is a historic town of Rajasthan. Its Bundi are well known all over the world. Painting of Bundi is appreciated throughout the world. The state Government have made effort to attract tourists through publicity but the Tourism Department of Government of India has not paid adequate attention towards this. Bundi has tourist Potential and if Central Government pays full attention towards it, Bundi can emerge on the tourist map of the country within no time. This will help in providing employment to the people and also remove backwardness from this area.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to develop Bundi as a tourist resort without any delay.

[English]

(ii) Need for completion of Survey work of Bhavnagar-Surendranagar broad Gauge line

SHRI RAJU RANA (Bhavanagar) : The survey work of Bhavnagar-Surendranagar broad gauge line was to be completed in June, 1966. But it has not been completed so far. Bhanagar is demanding a broad gauge line since last 40-45 years. The industrial growth is mostly depending on laying of broad gauge line. It is just 80 Kms of broad gauge line is to be installed. Along with ship breaking industry, re-rolling mills, plastic industry and so many other industries can be developed fast, if this broad gauge line is laid. For, transportation of goods through trains in the metre gauge line is costly because the shifting of goods from metre gauge line to broad gauge line is not a profitable business. So, through you, Sir, I request the Government to complete the survey work earliest and start the work immediately.

(iii) Need to provide financial assistance to Tamil Nadu to solve the problem of drinking water in Dindigul District

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Sir, Dindigul Mannar Thirumalai district is the headquarters of my Parliamentary Constituency. Dindigul alongwith the Assembly segments of Usilam Patti and Panchayat Union of Attur and Inlakottai Constitutencies are facing acute water problems for the past several months.

The problem is so severe that water is given once in five days that too in small quantum in Dindigul. As there in no sufficient groundwater and the available

water is saltry and contaminated because of the flow of waste of leather industry, the water is unfit for human consumption. Presently water is given from Kamaraja Sagar in Peranal to Dindigul Town. The only remedy is to get water from Vaigai dam and through pipelines to provide regular water supply.

I appeal to the Minister of Water Resources to either arrange for special grants from international agencies or from the Central Pool to solve this problem.

(iv) Need to improve the working of the National Saving Scheme

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Sir, the interest rate in Banks has been revised twice during the last year. The Reserve bank has permitted the Banks to fix the rate of interest on their deposits by themselves. Accordingly, most of the Banks including Co-operative banks have raised the interest rate for deposits. But no corresponding revision is affected in the National Savings Scheme. Due to this, a heavy drop is being experienced in the National Savings collection, especially in short terme and long term deposits where the difference is much.

Now the National Savings Agents are experiencing a difficulty in canvassing for their deposits. Previously the agents were permitted to handle receipts worth Rs.2 lakh at a time. Now these agents are permitted to handle Rs.5,000/- at a time. This affects the National Savings collection adversely.

(v) Need for an electronic Telephone Exchange at Saidpur in Ghazipur district, U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI VIDYASAGAR SONKAR (Saidpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my constituency falls under Ghazipur district. It is situated in the middle of Ghazipur and Varanasi. This is a big Commercial Centre. Telephone system is faulty here. In case a businessmen tries to contact some one on his personal telephone, he is unable to contact him but if he contacts through P.C.O. he gets the call immediately. The businessmen and people at large are facing a difficult situation.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister of Communications to get the Saidpur Exchange converted into electronic exchange and also issue instruction to enhance its capacity.

[English]

(vi) Need for improvement of shipping Services between mainland and Inter islands in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Sir, sipping is the lifeline of Andaman

and Nicobar Islands and if adequate facilities are not provided for Island-mainland and inter-Island services to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, not only the passenger traffic suffer but, at the same time, all essential commodities including the edibles, fresh vegetables etc. become scarce.

The inter-Island shipping services are extremely bad and particularly the services to Campbell Bay, Noncowry, Kundul, Pilo Miloo, Catchal, Chawra, Tresha, Car Nicobar, Little Andaman are not getting adequate shipping services to move out from one Island to another. The general Public is highly dissatisfied. The services from Diglipur and Mayabunder, Neil, Havelock are also equally bad. The ship repairing facilities are inadequate resulting into most of the ships remaining out of order. 'M.V.Chawra' ship took 5-1/2 months for annual dry-docking. The situation of inter-Island shipping is deplorable. This matter has been raised before the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, time and again, without any fruitful result.

It is, therefore, requested that Government of India should issue immediately direction to render all possible help to Andaman and Nicobar Administration to procure one more sea-worthy ship having 500 bunk and 100 cabin passenger capacity to ply between Port Blair and Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar near Indonesian border to meet the requirement of this far-flung islanders. This should be done urgently and Government should provide adequate funds for the shipping sector for procurement of some ships for Island-services.

12.50 hrs.

MOTION UNDER RULE 388

Suspension of Proviso to Rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUANCHALAM) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to Rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the Motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Bill, 1996, inasmuch as it is dependent upon the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 1996."

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Sir, I have given a notice to oppose this motion.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think the consent of the Speaker is not there.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No, Sir, it is not necessary. I have only given my name that I wish to speak on it. Under rule 388, there is no need for the consent of the Speaker. In fact, any Member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any rule may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the House. So, that rule is insofar as moving the motion is concerned and if the motion is carried, the rule in question shall be suspended for the time being.

Sir, since this Motion has to be carried, I wish now to oppose this Motion so that there can be a vote on this motion and the House can decide whether this motion should be carried and whether these Bills should be taken up. That is why I am on my legs.

[Translation]

I want to say that the proposed Bill is a fraud.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Fernandes Ji, I am sorry to say that the consent of the Speaker is required, which is not there. You can participate in the discussion later on.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, the consent of the Speaker is required for moving the motion.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : The hon. Member has the right to speak, Sir. The conditions of rule 66 are not fulfilled in this case. Therefore, this rule cannot be dispensed with. That is what he wants to say.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, the hon. Minister has moved that the rule may be suspended. So, that is where the consent of the Speaker has been secured. Thereafter, if the motion is carried, the rule in question shall be suspended for the time being. Now, if the motion has to be carried, one should know why that motion is there. For the motion to be carried, people must know why it should be carried. There has to be a pro and a con view. Then alone the question of carrying the motion arises. We will be dumb dolls who will be pressing the button and saying that we are carrying the motion. I have reservations and I have opposition to this motion. The motion has to come with the consent of the Speaker. I am a Member of the House and I have a right to oppose it before you get to know the wishes of the House. Otherwise how do you take the vote of the House?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You see the opening sentence of rule 388.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, the opening sentence of rule 388 says : "Any Member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any rule may be suspended." He has moved the motion.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he is absolutely right. It is a Motion before the House. The Speaker has given his consent so that the Motion can be moved.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : That is his motion, Sir, and he has been given the consent.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, you speak.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, it is a mere formality. If he wants a debate, he has every right to oppose it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Before the House decides whether this motion should be adopted or not, the House should know why it should be adopted. Merely on reading the motion, we cannot accept it. It is the right of the Member to discuss it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, it is only for moving the motion that the consent of the Speaker is needed. Once it is moved, it is the property of the House and any Member can speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right.

Motion moved :

"That this House do suspend the proviso to Rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the Motions for talking into consideration and passing of the Building and Other Construction on Workers' Welfare Cess Bill, 1996, in as much as it is dependent upon the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 1996."

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am opposing this motion because it is meant for bringing two such Bills here for discussion which have their own history. First of all this Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in 1988. After that a petition was filed by a committee of All India Building Construction workers before Petition Committee of Lok Sabha. The Chairman of this committee is Justice Krishna Iyer. All political parties of the country and all central organisations of the country, in spite of, their ideological differences participated in the deliberations of this committee. So the organisation filed a petition before the Petition Committee. Mr Deputy-Speaker Sir, I am going to quote from the recommendations made by the Petition Committee on 25th July 1989 before the House:

[English]

"The Committee recommends that the Bill pending in the Rajya Sabha be withdrawn and a fresh Bill be introduced so as to cater to the long-felt demands of hitherto neglected segment of the working class."

It further says and I quote:

"The Committee desires that the legislation proposed by the Campaign Committee may be examined, considered and all good features thereof may be suitably incorporated in the Government Bill."

I was mentioning about this. It further says and I quote:

"It is for the Government to ensure that the legislation which is finally created encompasses all the above features to the extent practicable."

[Translation]

On this basis and after this recommendations, the then Labour Minister Shri Bindeshwari Dubey withdrew this Bill. Thereafter a debate has been going on among the workers, the matter was discussed with the Government also and it was promised time and again that the Bill will be introduced after making necessary improvements. This Bill was brought before the elections and the people were very much agitated once again. The Committee discussed the matter and made certain proposals. Justice Krishna Iyer communicated his opinion of the Committee in this regard to all the political parties. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir Janta Dal after due deliberations mentioned two sentences in their manifesto. Then Manifesto prior to elections to Lok Sabha in 1996 stated :

[English]

"The Construction Workers Ordinance shall be revised substantially to remove anti-workers biases." It further says and I quote :

"The Construction Workers' Ordinance will be replaced by a law on the lines of the recommendations of the Petitions Committee of Lok Sabha."

[Translation]

There are 2-3 cabinet Ministers belonging to Janta Dal sitting here today. They had played active role in drafting this Manifesto. They got vote of the people on the basis of the Manifesto and the Government came into being on that very basis. A promise was made and not only that, they gave their opinion also that this Bill, which is based on the ordinance:

[English]

This has anti-workers biases

[Translation]

and today, after breaking that promise made by them the Bill which has anti-workers biases, is sought to be introduced. How far it is justified to seek suspension of rules to do so? It cannot be justified even morally. Earlier it was stated in respect of the workers, under this Bill is meant, that Government will make changes in the ordinance and a new Bill will be introduced. So how far it is justified. My second point is that some one may say that that promise was made by Janta Dal and new programme of Janta Dal is not being implemented and that they are implementing the common minimum programme of the United Front. I got a document signed by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan on 10th June, 1996.

[English]

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Common Minimum Programme of the United Front Government for your information.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now I want to draw your kind attention towards what has been stated in this connection in their programme.

13.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, the hon. Member is speaking on the merits of the Bill. At this stage, it is a matter of suspension of Rule 66. Therefore, I do not think that it is necessary at this stage.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am not on the merits of the Bill. I am saying why it is immoral to bring it.

[Translation]

Please say that recommendation of Petition committee have no value for the House. Then do not hold elections for the Petition Committee this year. If Petitions committee means taking a cup of tea in its meetings and receiving allowance between the two Session... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Fernandesji, you may take up morality later on.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am not talking about morality only. I am talking on a legal issue also. I am talking on the issue of the dignity of this House. What about the Petitions Committee of this House?

[Translation]

Please tell us as to what is the significance of the Petitions Committee which is elected by this House. If you want to say that recommendation of the Committee.

[English]

are not worth the paper on which they are written.

[Translation]

Then please disband the Petitions Committee. Why this joke is being played on us?

Now I come to Common Minimum Programme, It says:

[English]

"Some laws have been made in respect of labour in the unorganised sector. These laws will be strengthened and where necessary, new laws will be made to protect the interest of such labour, particularly, in the construction and beedi rolling industry."

[Translation]

This is their programme and today are placing this legislation before the House about which they themselves have written and made a promise that they will change it as it is anti-worker.

Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I think that it is obligatory for the House to get the recommendations of the petition committee implemented. Either they should say in the House that they will not adhere to the recommendation of the said Committee. They had prepared this minimum programme at the time of installation of this Government. Has this paper lost its significance and values. The document was sent to all of us and I would like Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to react on this because it forwarded to us under his signatures. I want him to say in the House that the text of that programme has lost its significance. Now we shall be getting same legislation which was proposed in 1988. It will contain much provision, which will be against the interest of workers.

We may look into any scheme of labourers, we shall find maximum number of labourers in the constructions sector. They are the most exploited lot Sir, may I know whether this Government which has a common minimum programme, supported by the CPM which has a minister from the CPI as for which all of us including myself have been working together for the last 10 years in the Committee under the Chairmanship of Krishna Iyer for the welfare of workers, will maintain the sanctity of the cause for which all concerned parties had of the cause launched the Labour agitations.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not the question of morality alone, it also involves the question of decisions taken by the Petitions Committee. I, therefore, request you to disallow this Motion and direct the Government to withdraw this Bill.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I have raised an objection regarding the maintainability of this matter ...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, a point of order should be given preference...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him speak first.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I defended Shri George's right to speak on the Motion because it was the question of suspension of Rules which he has very correctly quoted. Rule 388 says :

"Any member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any rule may be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the House and if the motion is carried the rule in question shall be suspended for the time being."

So, he has a right to oppose the Motion, but we must also look at Rule 66 which is being proposed to be suspended. I think, he is just not relevant there.

I will not enter into the merits of the question. He talks about CPI and CPI(M). He could have generated hostilities about us. That is a different matter.

Rule 66 states:

"A Bill, which is dependent wholly or partly upon another Bill pending before the House, may be introduced in the House in anticipation of the passing of the Bill on which it is dependent."

It is not that part which is relevant: The second paragraph says:

"Provided that the second Bill shall be taken up for consideration and passing in the House only after the first Bill has been passed by the Houses and assented to by the President."

Substantially, it is this part which is being proposed to be suspended. He or anybody who is objecting to it has to argue as to why the second Bill should be proposed before the House without passing the First Bill. There is no other point of objection in this respect. We can all go into the merits of the Bill. We can be no less forceful than Shri George Fernandes with all his

demagoguery like statement can muster. So, my point of order is, whatever he is suggesting is really getting into the content of the Bill. Therefore, I suggest that his objection is not valid and the hon. Minister should be allowed to get the motion passed with the consent of the House.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am raising this very point which he has referred to. I would be giving an answer to that and raising my objection.

Sir, under Rule 66, which has been read, a discretion has been given to Your Honour that in a given case you can permit simultaneous consideration of two Bills. It is normally prohibited. The provision says:

"Provided that the second Bill shall be taken up for consideration and passing in the House only after the first Bill has been passed by the Houses and assented to by the President."

Sir, there are two Bills before this House. One is regarding the cess and the other is regarding the conditions of service of the workers. Both the Bills have been listed today. Normally, the first Bill regarding conditions of service of the workers would be passed, it would then go to the Upper House, that is, the Council of States and then the President would assent to it. Then, the second Bill regarding cess would come after that, either in this Session or the next Session.

Now, by this motion, the hon. Minister wants you to kindly waive this condition of taking up the Bill separately after the President's assent is given, so that the two Bills can be considered together. That is the motion.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That is not stated here.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I am opposing this motion. Why? I am opposing this motion for this reason that there must be some special reason for it. The powers which have been given to the Speaker for waiver of rules are rare. It is not that any hon. Member can just stand up and ask him to kindly waive a particular rule. There must be some extraordinary circumstances and some special grounds to convince the Speaker that these are the grounds due to which the proviso should be waived in this particular case.

In this motion, no grounds have been given. The motion only says that kindly waive this rule and permit the two Bills to be considered together. Even during the speech, the hon. Minister has not given any reason. There is no reason, no ground, no logic and no rationale stating as to why this extraordinary indulgence should be granted in this particular case and why the rules should be waived.

Sir, now I am submitting as to why it cannot be waived. My friend has given many reasons which are ethical, political and social. But I am on a technical point. There are two Bills. One is an ordinary Bill regarding the service conditions of the workers.

Second one is on the imposition of a cess. A cess is a tax. A tax is defined in different forms and one of the form is levying of a cess. Now that being so, it become a Money Bill. For the purpose of Money Bill, there is a different procedure laid down in the Rules and the Constitution also. A Money Bill have been defined under Articles 109 and 110 of the Constitution of India. A Money Bill has got a different procedure. there are certain restrictions. For example, the first Bill can be referred to a Joint Committee, if the House so decides. But if you have to read Rule 74, the second Bill cannot be referred to because for the second Bill there is a restriction under Rule 74. So, these types of Bills cannot be referred. Therefore, that being so these two Bills cannot be clubbed. And why the clubbing should not be allowed, may I read Rule 74? It says:

"When a Bill is introduced or on some subsequent occasion, the member in charge may make one of the following motions in regard to his Bill namely:-

- (i) that it be taken into consideration; or
- (ii) that it be referred to a Select Committee of the House; or
- (iii) that it be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses with the concurrence of the Council; or
- (iv) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon:

Provided that no such motion as is referred to in clause (iii) shall be made with reference to a Bill [if it contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (g) of clause (1) of article 110 of the constitution;]

Article 110 of the Constitution is for Money Bill and there are so many other things. For example, the ordinary Bill can be introduced anywhere, in the Upper House or the Lower House. But the Money Bill cannot be introduced in the Upper House.

Therefore, I submit that the second Bill which is sought to be clubbed with the first Bill, is a Money Bill and the Money Bill has been defined in Articles 109 and 110 of the Constitution of India. This is a Bill for imposition of the cess. The imposition of a cess relates to Money Bill and it cannot be considered as an ordinary Bill. That is why an ordinary Bill and a Money Bill cannot be clubbed together. Therefore, I submit that even if on

other grounds Your Hounour is inclined to grant permission, on this ground that they cannot be clubbed together because the Constitution and Rules of Business provide different procedure, they will have to wait till the service condition Bill is passed and it is assented to by the President and it comes into force. Only then the cess can be levied. They cannot levy cess in advance. They cannot pass the Bill regarding cess along with this. That is my precise objection.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What have you to say?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, as the hon. Member has rightly pointed out, there are two Bills. One is Welfare Bill and the other is a Cess Bill. The Welfare Bill is dependent on the Cess Bill. We will not be able to implement the health, safety and welfare provisions for building and other construction workers, unless we have the welfare fund. Welfare fund cannot be constituted without passing the Cess Bill. Once a Cess Bill is passed, it is incumbent on the Government to go in for implementing the welfare provisions for building and other construction workers. We cannot implement these provisions without getting the Welfare Bill passed in Parliament. Sir, the Cess Bill and the Welfare Bill are closely inter-related and we would like them to be taken up together. That in why, we have moved for dispensing with the proviso to Rule 66.

Sir, these things are hanging for a long time. They are hanging from 1980 onwards. Of course, Mr. George Fernandes is the champion of the labourers. Therefore, I have come to the House for suspension of this Rule.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You are breaking the convention and your promises.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : But what have you to say regarding clubbing of the Money Bill and an ordinary Bill?

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : A Money Bill and an ordinary Bill cannot be clubbed. That is a Constitutional objection.

SHRI A.C. JOS (Idukki) : May I humbly submit, Sir, that it is not a Money Bill? How can it be a Money Bill?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The imposition of cess is there and, therefore, it becomes a Money Bill.

SHRI A.C. JOS : The Bill is enabling a welfare measure.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : All the money goes to the Consolidated Fund of India. The money collected goes into the Consolidated Fund of India. Please read the Bill.

SHRI A.C. JOS : My submission to my learned friend is, as the hon. Minister point out, that this issue has

been hanging on fire for the past eight year
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The money goes to the consolidated Fund of India.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Whatever may be the technicalities, let it be introduced in the House and let us discuss it. I too have my own reservations about the need to club the two Bills together like that. Since the Government has decided to have it like this, let it be introduced. Otherwise, it will go on and on. For the eight or ten years, this proposition has been hanging fire for one reason or the other.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : In the year 1974, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha had ruled on the Oil Industry Development Bill:

"There is no bar against any Bill of any composite or hybrid nature to be brought under Rule 17. However, I feel that it would be advisable that, as far as possible, the Bills of composite or hybrid nature should be rare and only cases where the proposed taxation and other matters connected therein are inseparable."

Therefore, it is inseparable.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : In the List of Business, it has been mentioned that item Nos. 18 to 21 will be taken up together. These Bills are for consideration. At the time of passing the Bill, each Bill is separately voted. If there are difficulties at any stage for any Bill, that can be voted out. So, there is no problem at all in taking it up for discussion. In order that it can be taken up for discussion simultaneously, it has been desired that the rule should be suspended and the Speaker permitted the Motion to be moved. So, there is absolutely no complication in this case.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : The Business Advisory Committee cannot overrule the Constitution.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Each Bill will be voted separately.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Unless the President gives the assent, this Bill regarding cess cannot be considered. The Bill regarding cess can be considered only when the first Bill is passed. When it goes to the President, the President gives his assent and then it come here. Therefore, the Money Bill cannot be considered. So, where is the question of passing it?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : The Bills have already been introduced...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You cannot say that you will continue with the same mistake. It is a Money Bill and you cannot challenge that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not challenging that.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : All the levies will go into the Consolidated Fund of India.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Have the Bills been introduced or not?

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, if the only objection is that the money goes to the Consolidated Fund of India, then my submission is that let the hon. Member move an amendment, as I have moved, saying that the money may go to the Welfare Board which is being constituted under this. So, there is no difficulty in this. If the hon. member's only objection is that it goes to the Consolidated Fund of the India and thus it becomes a Money Bill, then my submission is that let him give an amendment, as I have given, saying that it shall not be going into the Consolidated Fund of India, but it shall go to the Welfare Board.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have heard both the sides.

The question is :

"That this House do suspend the proviso to Rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the Motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Bill, 1996, inasmuch as it is dependent upon the Building and Other construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 1996."

Those in favour will please say 'Aye'.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : 'Aye'

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Those against will please say :

SOME HON. MEMBERS : 'No'.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think, the 'Ayes' have it. The 'ayes' have it.

(Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir, 'Noes' have it. We want a division.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It will be fought every inch of the way.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Once again I put the question to the vote of the House. Let the Lobbies be cleared -

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is :

“That this House do suspend the proviso to Rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the Motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Bill, 1996, inasmuch as it is dependent upon the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 1996.”

The motion was adopted.

13.25 hrs.

Division No.1

AYES

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb (Bankura)
 Ahamed Shri. E. (Manjeri)
 Ahemed, Shri M. Kamaluddin (Hanamkonda)
 Alagiri, Shri Samy. V. (Sivakasi)
 Anwar, Shri Tariq (Katihar)
 Arunachalam, Shri M. (Tenkasi)
 Baalu, Shri T.R. (Madras South)
 Balasubramoniyam, Shri S.R. (Nilgiris)
 Bangarappa, Shri S. (Shimoga)
 Barman, Shri Ranen (Balurghat)
 Barman, Shri Uddhab (Barpeta)
 Basu, Shri Chitta (Barasat)
 Bhakta, Shri Manoranjan (Andaman and Nicobar Islands)
 Bose, Shrimati Krishna (Jadavpur)
 Chandulal, Shri Ajmeera (Warangal)
 Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kantii (Dumdum)
 Chaudhary, Shrimati Nisha A. (Sabarkantha)
 Chavan, Shri Prithviraj D. (Karad)
 Chennithala, Shri Ramesh (Kottayam)
 Chittan, Shri N.S.V. (Dindigul)
 Chitturi, Shri Ravindra (Rajamundry)
 Dasmunsi, Shri P.R. (Howrah)
 Dennis, Shri N. (Nagercoil)
 Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan (Silchar)
 Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra (Birbhum)
 Gadhvi Shri B.K. (Banaskantha)
 Gaekwad, Satyajitsinh Dulipsinh (Baroda)
 Gamang, Shri Giridhar (Koraput)
 Ganesan, Shri V. (Chidambaram)
 Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodliya (Nandurbar)
 Gehlot, Shri Ashok (Jodhpur)
 Ghatowar, Shri Paban Singh (Dibrugarh)
 Giri, Shri Sudhir (Contai)
 Gnanaguruswamy Shri R. (Pariyakulam)
 Hazarika, Shri Ishwar Prasanna (Tezpur)
 Hossain, Shri Syed Masudal (Murshidabad)
 Islam, Shri Nurul (Dhubri)
 Islam, Shri Qamarul (Gulbarga)
 Islary, Shri Louis (Kokrajhar)
 Jena, Shri Srikanta (Kendrapara)
 Jos, Shri A.C. (Idukki)
 Kalmadi, Shri Suresh (Pune)
 Kamson, Prof M. (Outer Manipur)
 Khalap, Shri Ramakant D. (Panaji)
 Kondaiah, Shri K.C. (Bellary)
 Kota, Shri Sydaiah (Narsaraopet)
 Koujalgi, Shri Shivanand, H. (Belgaum)
 Krishnadas, Shri N.N. Palghat
 Kunturkar, Shri G.M. (Nanded)
 Maharaj, Shri Satpal (Garhwal)
 Mahato, Shri Bir Singh (Purulia)
 Mehta, Shri Sanat (Surendra Nagar)
 Mollah, Shri Hannan (Uluberia)
 Mukherjee, Shrimati Geeta (Panskura)
 Mukherjee, Shri Pramothes (Berhampore) (WB)
 Muniyappa, Shri K.H. (Kolar)
 Nagaratnam Shri T. (Sriperumbudur)
 Narasimhan, Shri C. (Krishnagiri)
 Nishab, Shri Vihambhar Prasad (Fatehpur)
 Nitish Kumar, Shri (Barh)
 Panigrahi, Shri Sriballav (Deogarh)
 Parasuraman, Shri K. (Chengalpatu)
 Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas (Hajipur)
 Patel, Shri Dinsha (Kheda)
 Patel, Shri Shantilal Parsotamdas (Godhara)
 Patil, Shri Shivraj V. (Latur)

Phoolan Devi, Shrimati (Mirzapur)
 Pilot, Shri Rajesh (Dausa)
 Premchandren, Shri N.K. (Quilon)
 Raghavan, Shri V.V. (Trichur)
 Raja, Shri A. (Perambalur)
 Rajendran, Shri P.V. (Mayiladuturai)
 Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S. (Madurai)
 Ramana, Shri L. (Karimnagar)
 Rao, Shri R. Sambasiva (Guntur)
 Rathwa, Shri N.J. (Chhota Udaipur)
 Reddy, Shri N. Ramakrishna (Chittoor)
 Reddy, Dr. T. Subbarami (Visakhapatnam)
 Saikia, Shri Muhi Ram (Nowgong)
 Saini, Shri Pratap Singh (Amroha)
 Sarma, Dr. Prabin Chandra (Guwahati)
 Shakya, Shri Ram Singh (Itawah)
 Shankar, Shri B.L. (Chikmanglur)
 Shanmuga Sundaram, Shri V.P. (Gobichettipalayam)
 Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore (Alwar)
 Singh, Maj. Gen. Bikram (Hamirpur)
 Singh, Shri Chandrabhushan (Kannauj)
 Swell, Shri G.G. (Shillong)
 Theerthanraman, Shri P. (Dharmapuri)
 Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)
 Tiriya, Kumari Sushila (Mayurbhanj)
 Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan (Dumariaganj)
 Topno, Kumari Frida (Sundergarh)
 Udayappan, Shri S.P. (Ramanathapuram)
 Upendra, Shri P. (Vijayawada)
 Venkatesan, Shri P.R.S. (Cuddalore)
 Venkateswaru, Prof. Ummareddy (Bapatla)
 Venugopal, Shri D. (Tirupattur)
 Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad (Bhagalpur)
 Yadav, Shri Surendra (Khalilabad)

NOES

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba (Buldhana)
 Bagul, Dr. Sahebrao Sukram (Dhule)
 Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal (Jaipur)
 Chaubey, Shri Lamuni (Buxar)
 Choudhary, Shri P.L. (Misrikh)

Diler, Shri Kishan Lal (Hathras)
 Fernandes, Shri George (Nalanda)
 Gadhavi, Shri P.S. (Kutch)
 Gautam, Shrimati Sheela (Aligarh)
 Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram (Ratnagiri)
 Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand (Shajapur)
 Gudhe Shri Anant (Amravati)
 Gupta, Shri Chaman Lal (Udampur)
 Jadhav, Shri Suresh R. (Parbhani)
 Jai Prakash, Shri (Hissar)
 Jain, Shri Satya Pal (Chandigarh)
 Jatia, Dr. Satyanarayan (Ujjain)
 Kamal Rani, Shrimati (Ghatampur)
 Kamble, Shri Shivaji Vihalrao (Osmanabad)
 Khalsa, Shri Basant Singh (Ropar)
 Lodha, Justice Guman Mal (Pali)
 Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti Navinchandra (Bombay South)
 Mishra, Shri Shyam Behari (Bihaur)
 Munda, Shri Karia (Khunti)
 Munni Lal, Shri (Sasaram)
 Naik, Shri Ram (Mumbai North)
 Pandey, Dr. Laxminarayan (Mandsaur)
 Pawar, Shri Uttamsingh (Jalna)
 Pradhani Shri Ashok (Khurja)
 Premi, Shri Mangal Ram (Bijnor)
 Purohit, Shri Banwari Lal (Nagpur)
 Rana, Shri Kashi Ram (Surat)
 Rana, Shri Raju (Bhavnagar)
 Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh (Ajmer)
 Sai, Shri Nandkumar (Raigarh)
 Sanghani, Shri Dileep (Amreli)
 Sarpotdar, Shri Madhukar (Mumbai North-West)
 Singh, Shri Darbara (Jalandhar)
 Singh, Shri Jaswant (Chittorgarh)
 Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma (South Delhi)
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)
 Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)
 Verma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh (Jalaun)
 Verma, Shrimati Purnima (Mohanal Ganj)
 Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The result of the Division
is :

Ayes : 100
Noes : 45

The Motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now the House stands
adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2.45 P.M.

13.45 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then Adjourned for Lunch till Forty-
Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[English]

14.51 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty-
One Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Item Nos. 18 to 21 will be
taken up together. The time allotted is two hours. Shri
Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF
THE BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS THIRD ORDINANCE, 1996**

**BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS BILL**

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: BUILDING AND
OTHER CONSTRUCTION WORKER'S WELFARE
CESS THIRD ORDINANCE, 1996**

AND

**BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS' WELFARE CESS BILL**

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr.
Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to move the following
Resolution pertaining to both the Bills, regarding
construction workers ordinance and imposition of
Welfare cess by the States, promulgated by the
President. I move this Resolution to seek repeal of both
the Bills. I move :

"That this House disapproves of the Building
and Other Construction Workers (Regulation
of Employment and Conditions of Service)
Third Ordinance, 1996 (No. 25 of 1996)
promulgated by the President on 20 June,
1996."

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M.
ARUNACHALAM) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to regulate the employment
and conditions of service of building and
other construction workers and to provide for
their safety, health and welfare measures and
for other matters connected therewith or
incidental thereto, be taken into
consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Deputy
Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the building
and Other Construction Workers' Welfare
Cess Third Ordinance, 1996 (No. 26 of 1996)
promulgated by the President on 20 June,
1996."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a right to speak
twice. First time to speak on the question of workers
engaged in construction activities and second time to
speak on imposition of cess by the States. I made my
separate points forcefully.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please cover them in
one speech.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Yes, Sir, now I
have no option. I have to speak only once because of
this voting. I have lost my right to speak twice. I request
the hon'ble Minister that...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please move your
Resolution and then speak.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I have already
moved. Let the hon'ble Minister do first whatever he
proposes to do.

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and
collection of a cess on the cost of construction
incurred by employers with a view to
augmenting the resources of the Building and
Other Construction Worker's Welfare Boards
constituted under the Building and Other
Construction Workers (Regulation of
Employment and Condition of Service) Act,
1996, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That this House disapproves of the Building
and Other Construction Workers (Regulation
of Employment and Conditions of Service)

Third Ordinance, 1996 (Nos. 25 of 1996) promulgated by the President on 20 June 1996."

"That the Bill to regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and to provide for their safety, health and welfare measures and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

"That this House disapproves of the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Third Ordinance, 1996 (Nos. 26 of 1996) promulgated by the President on 20 June, 1996."

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of a cess on the cost of construction incurred by employers with a view to augmenting the resources of the Building and Other Construction Worker's Welfare Boards constituted under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, more than 85 million workers are engaged in construction of building. All of them are unorganised. After completion of a particular project, they move from place to place in search of work. I want to make one thing very clear that the Government have not given sufficient benefit to the workers engaged in construction activities through this Bill. Although the Government propose to introduce this Bill for the benefit of workers but this is incomplete. They should not make banks. There is no danger to the Government at least for the present. They have Garnered 100 votes recently. My submission is that the Government should go through it again. In order to provide security to the worker and for his welfare, Ministries of Surface Transport, Urban Development, Railways and Finance should have been consulted. It would have been better if the Government had included the welfare schemes already in vogue in Kerala and Tamilnadu for the welfare of construction workers in the Bill. I do not know to which State does the hon. Minister belong. However from his looks, I can presume that he is from Kerala. A legislation already exists in Kerala and Tamil Naidu for the welfare of construction workers and welfare schemes are already in operation in those States. Had you included them. This Bill would have been better and comprehensive but he has not paid any attention towards this. He has brought it in a haste because they had mentioned it in their manifesto. It is

because they had fear in their mind about the stability of their Government. People are expecting a mid-term poll I have neither asked for Identity Card nor for allotment of new house. My friends suggested that I should have best changed the house. The Government have brought this Bill in a haste to show that they are interested carrying out same welfare schemes. It could benefit them if elections are hold in a couple of months. But it is not going to take place. They commend a Conference of Labour Ministers and suggested that they will impose cess through the promulgation of a ordinance. who will impose cess? It will be the State Governments who will levy cess and collect the same.

As stated by Sh. George Fernandes, that the money will go to the Consolidated Fund of India and Government of India will introduce a Bill in the Parliament and give the money so collected as cess to the State Governments. It will not be more than one percent. The State Governments will not get more than one percent. I feel that it will bring bad to the States. They will have to fight employers with determination. There will be agitation and stogans of "murdavad". It will result in holding Dharnas, Strikes and there could be incidents of Lathi Charges etc. The workers will be killed and relations with the employers will be spoiled. They are going to provide one percent cess to the State Governments which is not justified. How the rest of amount will be utilised? I think, it will be misused. I think a building for the Central Advisory Board of Government of India will be constructed with the remaining amounts. This money will be spent on furniture, coolers fridge, and salaries of the staff. A person of their pointing would be appointed as Chair, and some staff will be appointed. It will not be utilised for the welfare of the workers. It will be spent on construction of some building of the Central Government. They have not made any provision to provide more money to the State Governments.

What I mean to say is that this present plight of the workers is miserable. They do not get drinking water in the factories. There are no facilities of toilets and Urinals. They have to do all these things in the open on the road side. The Municipal employees harass them. The women workers do not have creche facility. There are no primary health Centres. There are no arrangements for security of women workers. They have to work under fear. A sort of casual relationship exists between employers and workers.

15.00 hrs.

They do not have job security. An atmosphere of uncertainty exists. Working hours are not fixed. The employers can terminate the services of workers any

time without any reason being assigned. The rich people of Jaipur appoint 'munim' on the more sites. They call them at any odd hour, even at midnight. They are also workers. They do not have basic amenities. There are no welfare schemes for them. The existing schemes are not adequate. Since the labourers do not have any knowledge of the accidents. This Bill has been brought forward here, but it is an incomplete Bill.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a meeting of State labour Ministers was held on May 18, 1995 under the Chairmanship of the Union Labour Minister in which it was indicated that a legislation of this nature will be introduced. Since there was neither to no provision for taking care of health and welfare of the construction workers. At that time it was stated that this legislation will be applicable to factories having 50 or more workers in them. It was also decided that a worker will get salary up Rs. 1600/- per month. Under the proposed legislation. It was a clear violation of provision of minimum wages. Is it possible for a worker to feed his entire family of 5 members if he earns Rs. 50/- a day? Even under the family planning norms fixed by the government there will be at least 5 members in a family. If some guests came in the house, should he be driven out? If the son-in-law of somebody comes, what should he do? In view of all this I want to say that the provision of Rs. 1600 per month is too meagre and against the provision of labour laws. Besides, has any levy been imposed on employers?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a labourer starts digging for the foundation of a house. The employer has simply to ask the labour to dig and the latter has to do the job at the risk of his life. He can be buried alive if the wall gives way. A provision should be made for undertaking a technical study before the workers are asked to do the digging work in order to know whether the work is hazardous or not. At least a worker should be able to make his booth ends meet. One has to feed his family members also. There is no provision in the Bill for fixing minimum reasonable compensation for a labourer who could be killed and lose his limb during the course performing his job. Their problems are not being solved because of their being in an unorganised sector. It has been stated that there will be a Central Advisory Board. The State Governments will also constitute advisory committees. There will also be the experts in the committee. A time limit from 60 to 90 days has also been prescribed for registration. There will be a Secretary to the Board and they will have Identify Cards like that of ours. All sorts of things have been said. Provision has also been made for direct negotiations for the welfare of the workers.

15.04 hrs.

(Shri P.M. Sayeed *in the Chair*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have been quite active in labour Union movement. You have organised various movements while in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. We have also been participating in these movements alongwith you. Please look into this Bill. It is not proper. The hon'ble Minister has also been participating in various movements but his attitude has changed now since he became a Minister. So long one remains in the opposition, he in all right but the moment he becomes a Minister, he changes. I have saved myself. But after making a Government of 13 parties they claimed that they will make the country paradise. In the past, poor skilled workers, who used to do excellent job were deprived of their hands on the order of the rulers of the State. Taj Mahal is an explicit example of this act. Jaipur is famous for making ideas. It has a large printing industry. Printing of sarees is done on a large scale. Bangles made of lac are manufactured there. Sarees of Jaipur are famous throughout the country. I am neither a businessman nor am I making any publicity of these articles. In winter quilts are made there with 1/4 kg cotton. In good olden days hands of such skilled workers, engaged in these works, were chopped off. Even now-a-days such incidents do occur. We read such news in the newspapers off and on. The contractors exploit the labourers engaged in construction of buildings. There are many beautiful buildings in Delhi. The workers engaged in construction are harrassed in many ways. They have their own problems. What I mean to say is that sometime they become victims of accidents and sometime they cannot afford the cost of their treatment. There is no provision to help them. The workers, who work in front of the furnace throughout the day, are prone to contract tuberculosis. Shri Parikh is a doctor. He knows all about this. We should ponder over these problems. While making improvements in the Bill, the interest of the State should not be ignored. There is no use of causing a confrontation between State and the Centre. It has been provided that the State Government will collect the cess and deposit the same in the consolidated Fund of India. Only 1 percent of the cess given by the employees will be given to the State. Is it not fully unjustified? Then in that case the Centre should collect the cess direct. The Centre will spend large amounts of the cess collected in this manner on the construction of buildings in Delhi. Therefore, it should not be only 1 percent but it should be determined on the basis of number and plight of workers in the State. The plight of workers in Rajasthan is miserable. The situation may be worse in the Bihar and U.P. this limit should be enhanced keeping in view these facts in mind. A provision should be made for rehabilitation of those workers who become victim of accidents. The

Government should ensure work and payment of wages to them. Many people come from backward areas. The Government should look after their interests. The Government should bring a comprehensive Bill after incorporating all the aforesaid points. They have got 100 votes and they need only 45 votes more. Had I known this, they would have been elected today itself. But they are lucky. They had a narrow escape, perhaps, since they respect Govind Dev Gopinath ji Bhoomyaji and Gogaji. They should have brought Money Bill and this Bill to the Home separately.

While concluding, I request this Government once again to bring a comprehensive Bill to safeguard the interests of the workers. I shall listen to the hon. Minister's reply carefully and try to convince him on taking steps in the interest of workers. I am thankful to all of you for giving me time to speak and listening to me carefully.

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

This Bill has emanated from the 31st Labour Ministers Conference recommendations in 1980. As my friend and colleague rightly pointed out, there are an estimated 8.5 million building and construction workers in the country. These workers are mostly unorganised. The industry is characterised by migratory nature of work, temporary relationship between employer and employee, long working hours, lack of basic amenities, and unsafe working conditions.

Although the provisions of certain legislations like the Minimum Wages Act, the Equal Remuneration Act, the Contract Labour Act, the Inter-State Migrants Act, etc., are applicable to the building and construction workers, a need has been felt for a long time for a comprehensive legislation for regulating their safety, health, welfare and other conditions of service in view of their vulnerability to exploitation. After consulting the various interested groups, the Government had in fact introduced the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 1988 in Rajya Sabha in December, 1988. However, its consideration was deferred on the recommendations of the Lok Sabha Committee on Petitions in the context of the suggestions made by the National Campaign Committee for National Legislation on Construction Labour. While these legislations were being examined, the National Commission on Rural Labour which had, *inter alia*, gone into the working conditions of the construction workers submitted the report to the Government on 31st July, 1991. The Commission was of the view that the main suggestion of the National Campaign Committee to constitute Construction Labour

Boards on the pattern of Dock Labour Board is not a feasible proposition in view of the widely dispersed nature of construction workers and specialised skills required and felt that the 1988 Bill was well-conceived and comprehensive which will when finally passed cater to the improvement in the working and living conditions of workers. At the same time the Commission made some recommendations for providing hutments/shelters to the workers at work-site.

The suggestions given by the National Campaign Committee and the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour have been thoroughly examined. Extensive consultations have also been held with the State Governments and the Ministries and Departments concerned. As a result, the legislative proposals contained in the 1988 Bill have been suitably modified in the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 1995 (Ordinance No. 14 of 1995) which the President was pleased to promulgate on 3rd November, 1995 as Parliament was not in session and in view of the urgency attached to the matter. In order to ensure sufficient funding for the Welfare Boards proposed to be constituted at the State level under the Ordinance to undertake suitable welfare schemes, it has been considered necessary to levy a cess on the cost of construction works and, therefore, the Building and Other Construction Workers Cess Ordinance, 1995 was promulgated on the same day as a dependent legislation. Two Bill to replace the said Ordinances by Acts of Parliament were introduced in the Lok Sabha on 1st December, 1995. Since the two Bills could not be passed during the Winter Session, 1995 and the Budget Session, 1996 of the Tenth Lok Sabha, Ordinances were again promulgated on 5th January, 1996, 27th March, 1996 and 20th June, 1996. Meanwhile, the two Bills have lapsed consequent to the dissolution of the Tenth Lok Sabha.

The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill 1996 and its complementary Bill the Building and Other Construction Workers Cess Bill 1996 to replace the two Ordinances dated 20th June, 1996 by Acts of Parliament have been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 15th July, 1996.

Sir, the salient features of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 1996 are provision to cover every establishment which employs or had employed any day of the preceding 12 months fifty or more workers in any building or other construction works; definition of appropriate Government in respect of various establishments and enabling the Central Government to notify any public sector undertaking in respect of which the Central Government will be the appropriate

Government; constitution of Central and State Advisory Committees to advise the appropriate Governments on matters out of administrations of the law; constitution of Expert Committees to advise on matters relating to framing of rules by appropriate Government; registration of establishments employing construction workers and appointment of registering officers; registration of Building Workers as beneficiaries and provision for their identity card etc.; constitution of Welfare Boards by the State Governments and registration of beneficiaries under the Fund; provision for financing and augmenting resources of the Welfare Boards constituted by the State Governments; provision for temporary living accommodation to all building workers within or near the work-site; fixing hours of normal working day, weekly paid rest day, wages for overtime, provision for basic welfare amenities like drinking water, latrines and urinals, creches, first-aid, canteens etc. for the building workers; making adequate provisions for safety and health for construction workers including appointment of safety committees and safety officers and compulsory notification of certain accidents; empowering the Central Government to frame model rules for safety measures; provision for appointment of Inspecting Staff headed by the Director General of Inspection at the Central level and the Inspector General at the State level; special provisions regarding fixing responsibilities on employers to ensure compliance of safety provisions and with regard to prevention of accidents, timely payments of wages etc.; provision for penalties for contravention, obstruction, violations and offenses taking cognizance by the Court of Offenses punishable; and protection of action taken in good faith; application of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 to Building and Other Construction Workers; and empowering the Central Government to give direction to the State and to remove difficulties arising in giving effect to the provisions of the law.

The salient features of the dependent Bill namely, the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Bill, 1996 is to provide for the levy and collection of Cess not exceeding 1 per cent of the cost of construction incurred by the employers and to make over, after due appropriation by Parliament by Law, the proceeds of the Cess collected to the Welfare Boards constituted at the State level after deducting the cost of collection not exceeding 1 per cent of the Cess collected for payment to the State Governments.

Sir, these proposals have been formulated keeping in view the peculiar nature of the construction and building works and the need for giving sufficient flexibility to the State Governments in the matter of implementation which was considered necessary by the Committee of State Labour Ministers in their meeting held on 18.5.95 with the Union Labour Minister.

Sir, coming to the point raised by my distinguished colleague that we are afraid of the election, I would like to say - as the hon. Member may be aware - that I am never afraid of the elections. I am in the House from 1977 without any interruption even for single day, that too from the same constituency.

This Government has committed to do something to the labourers, I do not know why the so-called champions of labourers who are sitting here are opposing the Bill. With these words, I request the hon. Members to withdraw the Statutory Resolution. I move the Bill for consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Hannan Mollah, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : I beg to move:

That the Bill to regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and to provide for their safety, health and welfare measures and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 15 members, 10 from this House namely :

1. Shri Basudeb Acharia
2. Shri Chitta Basu
3. Shri Sunil Khan
4. Shri M. Arunachalam
5. Shri Sanat Mondal
6. Smt. Geeta Mukherjee
7. Shri Haradhan Roy
8. Shri Tarit Baran Topdar
9. Shri Mahboob Zahedi
10. Shri Hannan Mollah

and 5 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next session;

that in other respects the rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker, may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names 5 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint committee.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to express my views on this important Bill in the House. I am not against this Bill but I want to say that this Bill has been brought forward in haste. There are many deficiencies in it and many points have not been covered in it. It will not be wrong to say that it is a half approach.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we need big hospitals, huge Railway Stations, roads made of cement, concrete, tar, large industries for the development of our society and our country. The most important factor behind all this developmental activity is construction and the labourers engaged in it. In the progress that the nation has made, their contribution is the most notable and unforgettable.

When our country became free, the freedom fighters of our country, who were responsible for the country's freedom, had cherished a dream that our nation may be prosperous, where no one should remain poor. Everyone should prosper. But what has happened during all these years. The poor have become poorer and the rich richer. In case you draw up a list of the top 100 industrialists and calculate and compare their present assets with those they had in 1947, you will find an increase of 1000 times in their capital. Where has socialism gone? It has been torn to shreds and only we are responsible for this situation. We have been talking of the poor man and much discussion has taken place in this House about him. Even elsewhere there has been much talk of getting justice to the poor man. But unfortunately the number of the poor in this country is on the increase instead of decreasing. We should make introspection in order to find out as to who is responsible for this situation. I would say that none else is responsible for it except ourselves.

If one goes through this Bill, it would be found that hon'ble Minister has not assessed the situation in the right perspective. Our colleague Bhargavji has not opposed it for the sake of opposition, he has made several suggestions. There are many loopholes in it. If you plug these loopholes, then it will benefit the poor. In that case we shall also support you and welcome the Bill. But it is not acceptable in the present form. When you talk of improving the lot of one constituent, you have to take steps to ameliorate the condition of all the workers in the construction industry. It has been stated that this Act will be applicable to those units who have 50 workers or more. That means if I have 49 workers in my unit, I can save my skin and the workers will not be benefited by this legislation. In my opinion the number of workers should be reduced to 10. Perhaps you find difficulty in monitoring if the number is less than 50, but it should be reduced.

Sir, under the Factory Act, if there are 10 working in a unit, even then the Act applies to it. A unit having 10 workers should also be covered under this legislation, only then you can provide benefit to maximum workers.

Sir, the Central Government have put the entire responsibility on the State Governments to draft the legislation but no definite time frame has been prescribed within which they should draft the legislation. There is no stipulated time limit within which all the State Governments should draft the legislation. There is no rule of law in Bihar. It would have been better if a time limit had been fixed for the State Governments also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at present every State has its own set of rules in respect of Sales Tax. In some State it is 2 percent and in the other it is 10 percent and in some other States, there is no sales Tax at all. The Central Government should not shirk their responsibility. They should supply foolproof rules to the State Governments and tell them that they were Model Rules and they are not obligatory on them but mandatory. They should formulate their own rules in accordance with these model rules. There should be rules and a stipulated time frame also. As it has not been taken care of, I am constrained to state that the Government is shirking responsibility.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the definition given herein places responsibility on the contractor instead of the establishment. My submission is that the labourers will be benefitted only if the contractor and the establishment, both are made responsible. The responsibility should not be placed on the contractor alone.

According to the bill, these rules are not applicable on the persons getting constructed their own house and they won't be covered under the purview of these rules. In villages the construction cost of a house is one lakh to one and a half lakh rupees and five to seven labourers construct such a house in 8-10 months. Hence keeping such houses out of the purview of rules is appreciable. However in some cases the houses are being constructed at the cost of crores of rupees and hundreds of labourers are engaged in construction work for several years. We have now a new class of nouveaux riches. Taking advantage of the abovementioned provision contained in the legislation, he can argue that he is getting a house constructed for residential purpose. As you know that people are spending five to ten crore rupees for the construction of the house and 100-200 labourers are engaged in this work for months together. Hence my submission is that a cost ceiling should be fixed, say, if the construction cost of the house exceeds 10 lakhs, the rules should be made applicable. A

provision should be made so as to cover the house costing 10 lakh rupees under the purview of this legislation. Hence I reiterate that there are many loopholes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the concept of compensation is also not clear. In case a labour dies while working, the compensation has been made obligatory. My submission is instead of leaving this to the contractor, the welfare board being set up should be made responsible for making payment of compensation. In case of death of the labourer, his kith and kin should not suffer on account of frequent visit to courts for years together without getting any relief rather the family should get the compensation amount within a week. How can we leave the issue of compensation to those who exploit labourers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now the Government has drafted the legislation for the welfare of workers and it has been provided that where workers would stay, houses will be constructed for them. But the houses are being built with four slabs which have no protection whatsoever. What is the definition of such a house. A good portable house costs Rs. 40-50 thousand. Contractors should build good houses. The Government should lay down specification of latrines, bathroom etc. I would like to say that cost of the house should be minimum but some standard should be followed and the houses provided to the poor should not be below that standard. A model of such house should be prepared and that should be followed, otherwise there is no use. The houses built of four bamboo sticks and slabs will be of no use. It will not provide any protection for the wind, sun or water. The contractors exploit the people. You should lay specification. All these things should be included in the Bill.

In so far as the question of safety is concerned, many multi-storey buildings being built. There is always a fear of falling down. There should be a provision of safety not as we see in the circus that if some body falls down, he does not die because he falls on the net. The provision of safety sets should be made compulsory in the multi storey buildings...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : This is very important subject...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Four members of your party still remain who want to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Alright I shall conclude after making two points...*(Interruptions)* What will be the pattern of valuation of the aforesaid fund—say one or two percent. This should also be mentioned in

the Bill so that there remains no lacunae. We have reservation on this point. The money will be collected in the name of workers and for the workers and you intend to credit it to consolidated Fund of India. It would not be proper to mix this amount with 60-70 crores rupees. This amount is meant for the labourer and it should be maintained separately. Its appropriation should also be separate. We are against amalgamation with the consolidated Fund of India because it will be diverted for other purpose. This amount is meant for the welfare of workers and it should be kept separate. The Government should assure in that they would do so.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : (Peddapalli) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome Construction Worker's Bill because I know that this is an Unorganised working class in India. Their cause has not been taken up by the Trade Unions. Shri George Fernandes is sitting here. I have also spent nearly 50 years in trade union activities. I was President of the trade Union at the time of construction of Nagarjun Sagar Dam. I know how many thousand workers sacrificed their lives during the course of construction of this dam. Several lakh acres of land is being cultivated as a result of construction of that dam. No compensation has been paid for the sacrifices made by the workers. Only a few contractors earned crores of rupees at their cost.

I welcome this Bill because construction workers are an unfortunate lot. They are working since stone age. You are aware that one needs bread clothes and shelter but unfortunately we have not done any thing to ameliorate the condition of agriculture working class. We have not done any thing for the worker who provide us cloth. The Parliament House, in which we are moving this Bill has also been constructed by the construction workers. The plight of the people who have constructed big dam is miserable.

We are ourselves ashamed because we have been working in Trade Unions. There are many trade Unions leaders like George Fernandes, Mishra ji and others sitting in the House. We have worked for organised working class before independence and after independence also but have done nothing for the 75 percent unorganised working class. It is mockery of our trade Union movement.

When I became Deputy Minister in 1972, I discussed this matter with Shrimati Indira Gandhi. We should bring forward a Bill for the benefit of the unorganised working class on the lives of the Industrial Disputes Act, an industrial organised working class gets so many benefits, such as Casual leave, sick leave, privilege leave. They start demanding bonus right in the beginning of the year. Then they start demanding increase in the bonus and so on. They are covered by E.S.I. Provident Fund Scheme and get Gratuity on retirement.

I would like to say that I myself introduced such a Bill when I was Minister of Labour. This Bill remained pending. Then I suggested that it should be implemented through an ordinance. When I was Labour Minister, I wanted to expedite the matter. There are several deficiencies in this Bill. Government should introduce official amendments to plug the loopholes. Now I am a Member of Parliament only and Shri Arunachalam has to do all this. Construction workers live below poverty line. That means their wages are less than Rs. 1100/- I would request the hon'ble Minister to remove the discrepancies pointed out by several Members. Then there is agricultural labour and their number runs into crores. There is need to bring a Bill to ameliorate their condition also 75 percent population of our country is an unorganised working class. We should think about them. For how long they would continue suffering. We talk of making our country beautiful. Just look at the faces of our people who would make our country most beautiful and then go through provision of this Bill. The construction worker should get that much wage which may create an image in him to work better. There is no provision of risk allowance. It has been stated by an hon'ble Member that now, not only so but 40 storaged buildings are coming up. This may be good achievement but what is the condition of our worker? Nothing has been provided in the Bill for precautions. Construction workers should be covered under group Insurance Scheme. In case of individual death, they should be automatically covered.

I can very well realise the difficulties faced by the construction workers. They are killed while blasting rocks. Some workers lose their eyes and other limbs but there is no provision to help them in such an eventuality. They construct buildings at the cost of their lives. I request the hon'ble Minister to move official amendments to cover all the points raised by the hon'ble Members. They should be given all the privileges to which organised industrial workers are entitled.

Many hon'ble Members have pointed out that 1 percent cess is too meagre, it should be made 2 percent. It is learnt from the officials that 1 percent cess is in force for the last 20 years and if you want to change it, you have to circulate the entire proposal to all the Ministries, such as Railways, Industry and Finance and State Governments as well and then it may take 20 years before taking a final shape. I would, therefore, suggest that official amendments should be introduced and you get them passed. This matter should be discussed with the labour leaders. It cannot be passed today. We do not have time today. Therefore you can make changes after consultations.

We are thinking about amelioration of construction worker after 50 years of independence. In fact

construction worker is the real first industrial worker right from inception of the world. He has been providing shelter to the man. I would request the Government to give top priority to this problem so that construction worker may realise that atleast some thing has been done for him after 100-150 years.

We have to remove his poverty. In order to do this we will have to enhance wages of the construction worker. An all India wage Board should be set up immediately to undertake this work. A construction worker works on the 40th storey of a building but how much wages he gets. His wage is not more than Rs. 100 per day. The reason does not get more than Rs. 100. Their wages should be fixed on all India basis. Therefore an All India Wage Board should be set up so that wages could be fixed at Central, State and provincial level throughout the Country. It should be done immediately after passing this Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to give a concrete suggestion. Industrial Disputes Act is going to be implemented, it should also cover unorganised sector. We are prepared to give our views in doing so. As stated by an hon'ble Member, some houses are built at the cost of Rs. 5 crore and there is no doubt about it. But I would suggest that persons working on the project worth Rs. 1 crore should be covered under this Act. A handful of contractors exploit labourers and they are supported by inspectors. These inspectors have their own houses in every State. So Inspectors have become all in all in this sector. When I was Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, I received a notice from Inspectors of F.C.I. that they would go on strike. I told the chairman of F.C.I. to convene a meeting but he told me that these inspectors go to farmers and in turn farmers come to them. They purchase goods from the farmer who gives them maximum illegal gratification. I was told this thing in 1973. Inspectors including I.A.S. officers accept bribe. This matter should be enquired into, there is no exception. They behave in the same manner in every Ministry. So in the present case, if things are left to inspectors then on one side contractors will exploit the workers and on the other hand, they will be exploited by the inspectors. I would, therefore, suggest that you intend to constitute Board at Central level as well as at State level, you should appoint Gazetted officers to oversee the activities of inspectors.

Many hon'ble Members have suggested that several changes are required to be made in this Bill and I agree with them. We have brought this Bill after waiting for years. I want that all the points covered under Industrial Disputes Act should be covered in this Bill. A worker who works for a complete year, should be given bonus, Provident Fund and pension also. After working for a year, he should be entitled to get pension. The management should also give their contribution.

When I was Minister in the Textile Ministry then 3 percent cess was deducted. We demanded money for welfare of workers and Rs. 45 crore were given. When Janta Dal was in power in the Centre, then bonus were written off in respect of agricultural labour and weavers working in various districts. Rs. 45 crore were provided for urban areas. I asked the then Finance Minister Shri Manmohan Singh that Rs. 300 crore. Cess money on Textile was collected for welfare of the poor but you have given Rs. 45 crore only. Why should be not release more money. I was told that remaining sum has been deposited in the Treasury. Therefore I would suggest to the hon'ble Minister that cess money deposited in the Treasury will never come back. This amount should be utilised for providing them E.S.I. cover and giving them Provident Fund. These organisations should maintain and operate this account. It will remain safe with them. May I know as to what is Government's contribution towards this Fund?

When you collect 1 percent from the Construction, the Government should also contribute as this amount is meant to help the poor. Provision should also be made for compensation in the event of retrenchment. There should be a provision that if a contractor retrenches any worker after completion of the construction, then he should give retrenchment compensation to the worker for atleast three months. In case provision for retrenchment compensation is not made, the worker will not survive for more than a couple of days. You have a legislation on retrenchment with you, please enforce the same so that if the contractor removes someone, he will get retrenchment Compensation for three months.

Thirdly on completion of a building or a project, gratuity should be provided under the scheme. If we want to give to construction workers their due, then we have to extend all these benefits to them which are given to industrial workers. I think, hon'ble Minister would agree to our suggestions. In fact Industrial Disputes Act should be implemented in their case also and they should get provident fund cover, pension scheme and payment of Bonus as soon as the year comes to a close. I welcome the scheme pertaining to construction of houses for construction workers. But we should make provision to help them economically. In case, all the aforesaid steps are taken, they will have a sigh of relief.

I went abroad and delivered a speech in I.L.O. in 1959 that steps should be taken for the welfare of unorganised working class all over the world and I took initiative in 1973 and started some work in this direction. At that time I was Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour. This Bill has been deformed and should not be passed as it is. In fact it is hard labour of the construction workers which makes India beautiful. We shall how to

do a little bit for them so that their faces also look bright. There is a provision of setting up Boards in the Centre as well as States to monitor implementation of various provisions of the Bill. These Boards should not be politicised. We should seek advice of experts on the subject. Labourers dig foundations of the buildings very deep - say upto 50 feet or more - and many a time they are buried there in the process. Have you made any provision for eventualities? There are practical things which I am placing before you. I had led a union when construction of Nagarjun Dam and Sri Sailam was on where 3 lakh workers were working, several lakh people were working on the Canal sites. So I am talking on the basis of my personal experience. Sir, in my opinion this Bill should not go to the select Committee. If you want to delay its implementation, only then you can do so.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : A meeting of some leaders should be commended before this Bill is passed.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Before passing this Bill, some Members of Parliament should discuss as to what relief can be provided to construction workers. I hope, hon'ble Minister would agree. I think a meeting of officials should be called in which suggestions given by all of in should be discussed and incorporated in the Bill.

I would like to point out one more thing. I had got drafted a Bill on similar lives in respect of agricultural labour also I want that hon'ble Minister should present that Bill also. Their number runs into crores. If we do some thing for construction workers and agricultural workers, it will improve the image of our country as a whole. Their voice will...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : This Parliament House and the President House has been built by skilled workers of Jaipur. We should salute them.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Shri George Fernandes is aware that Mumbai has been built by construction workers of Hyderabad. I am talking about entire construction workers class of the whole of India.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Parliament House was built by skilled workers of Rajasthan and we know as to where brick have been used and where stone has been used....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : I agree that the many workers of Rajasthan have covered Parliament House, it has made them popular not only in India but in the whole world. They observe admiration. Now we are debating a very serious Bill. Do not pass it in this Session. A similar Bill in respect of agricultural labour should also be brought along with it. We should provide relief to entire unorganised working class.

With these words, I welcome this Bill. I hope that a meeting of 4-5 members and some officers would be convened within a week or so suggestions given by hon'ble Members would be discussed so that this Bill could be passed with necessary improvements made therein.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The debate will continue tomorrow. Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at 5 PM.

15.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till seventeen of the Clock.

17.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Seventeen of the Clock.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

17.00 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 1996-97

MR. SPEAKER : Item No. 24, the Budget. The Finance Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :

Sir,

I rise to present the regular budget for the year 1996-97.

An unusually peaceful general election produced an unusually complex mandate. It was the duty of every political party to be faithful to that mandate. Accordingly, political parties of different complexions and different ideologies have come together to form this Government. Many of them are regional parties, albeit with a national outlook. What has united us is a resolve to preserve India's secular heritage and to provide a representative Government committed to faster economic growth and enhanced social justice.

The United Front is a coalition. Before assuming office, the partners of the coalition finalised a document called "A Common Approach to Major Policy Matters and a Minimum Programme", popularly called the CMP. This historic document was released to the nation by our Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, on June 4, 1996. When I began work on the CMP I was not even a Minister. When we completed our exercise I found myself in the office of Finance Minister. Therefore, my commitment to the CMP goes beyond the office I hold. Hon'ble Members will have many opportunities this afternoon to test my commitment and they will find that

the CMP has provided the foundation and set the agenda for this Budget.

An Update of the Economic Survey 1995-96 was laid on the Table of the House last Friday. It is a slim document of no more than 21 pages and I hope it made for good weekend reading. Our conclusions are that the economic indicators point to high growth but there are significant areas of weakness. The Update has identified these areas as the fiscal deficit, sluggish agricultural growth, inadequate infrastructure, high interest rates and the trade deficit. The most worrisome is the decline in the growth of agricultural crop production to 0.9 per cent in 1995-96. The Update has also listed fiscal challenge, infrastructure challenge and employment and poverty alleviation as key issues which need to be addressed on a priority basis.

The CMP has declared that the Government will follow economic policies that will promote growth with social justice and lead to greater self-reliance. We have no use for jobless growth, nor for growth that leaves untouched large sections of the people. We will remove controls and regulations over agriculture and industry. We will keep our economy open and competitive in order to encourage more foreign trade and attract more foreign investment. We will reform the tax system. We will broaden and deepen reforms of the financial and capital markets even while strengthening independent regulators like the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Above all, we will observe fiscal and monetary prudence which is the key to low inflation and rapid growth.

- * This Budget, therefore, has seven broad objectives:
- * To remain steadfast on the course of economic reforms and liberalisation aimed at accelerating economic growth.
- * To address the concerns of the poor and provide them with basic minimum services in a time-bound manner.
- * To ensure broad-based growth in agriculture, industry and services to achieve high employment.
- * To ensure fiscal prudence and macro-economic stability.
- * To enhance investment especially in the infrastructure sectors.
- * To strengthen key interventions to promote human development.
- * To ensure viability in the balance of payments through strong export performance and larger foreign investment flows.

I shall now deal with the major areas of the economy and spell out our policy initiatives in order to achieve the objectives that I have just listed.

Agriculture and Rural Credit

The Common Minimum Programme lays emphasis on broad-based agricultural development and calls for a doubling of the flow of credit to agriculture and agro-industries, particularly to small and marginal farmers, within five years. We have evolved an integrated plan consisting of several elements for fulfilling this important objective.

First, the share capital of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) will be increased from the present level of Rs. 500 crore to Rs. 2,000 crore in the next five years. I propose to double NABARD's paid up share capital to Rs. 1,000 crore in the current year. A budgetary provision of Rs. 100 crore is being made towards the Government of India's share and the balance Rs. 400 crore will be contributed by the Reserve Bank of India.

Second, the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) which is operated by NABARD and funded by contributions from commercial banks falling short of their priority lending targets will be augmented considerably. The RIDF provides loans to State Governments for completion of projects in areas like medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation and watershed management. During 1995-96, NABARD sanctioned loans aggregating Rs. 1,984 crore to 19 States for completing 2,489 projects. During the current financial year, an additional Rs. 2,500 crore will be made available for financing rural infrastructure through the RIDF.

In addition to the RIDF, I am proposing an Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme under which the Centre will provide, on a matching basis, additional Central assistance by way of loans to the States for the timely completion of selected large irrigation and multi-purpose projects. I am making an allocation of Rs. 800 crore in 1996-97 to launch this scheme which is designed to accelerate the completion of irrigation projects where the project cost exceeds Rs. 1,000 crore and is beyond the resource capability of the States. I am also allocating Rs. 100 crore in the current financial year from irrigation projects where, with just a little additional resources, the projects could be completed and farmers could get the benefit of assured water supply. 100,000 hectares will be brought under irrigation through these schemes and I have been assured that the first crop will be harvested on these lands during one of the next four agricultural seasons. Details of the large projects and the projects to benefit 100,000 hectares will be announced by the Planning

Commission in the next few days. This programme will be closely monitored by the Department of Programme Implementation.

Fourth, to promote investment in commercial or high technology agriculture and allied activities such as horticulture, floriculture and agro-processing, state level agricultural development finance institutions are proposed to be set up. NABARD will be the chief promoter. Other national level financial institutions as well as the State Governments concerned will be requested to participate in the equity.

Fifth, it has been agreed with RBI to promote the setting up of new private local area banks with jurisdiction over two or three contiguous districts. This would enable the mobilisation of rural savings by local institutions and, at the same time, make them available for investments in the same local areas.

Finally, we have taken a number of decisions that will directly benefit the farmers. Two weeks ago, the Prime Minister announced increase in the subsidies for phosphatic and potassic fertilisers. Government have decided to extend the subsidy under the Integrated Cereal Development - Rice Programme to power tillers at the rate of Rs. 30,000 or 50% of the cost for each power tiller. The subsidy scheme on small tractors at the rate of Rs. 30,000 per tractor is presently restricted to small and marginal farmers. I am extending this scheme to all farmers. I am also enhancing the subsidy on sprinkler and drip irrigation from 50% to 70% of the cost of the system and the ceiling is also being raised from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 25,000 per hectare. In respect of small and marginal farmers, women and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, this limit is being raised to 90% of the cost of the system.

Basic Minimum Services

One of the first acts of the Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, was to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers on Basic Minimum Services. This reflects the resolve of the United Front to "advance the principles of political, administrative and economic federalism". The Chief Ministers' Conference recommended adoption of seven objectives to be attained by the year 2000. These are 100% coverage of provision of safe drinking water; 100% coverage of primary health centres; universalisation of primary education; public housing assistance to all shelterless poor families; extension of the mid-day meal scheme; road connectivity to all villages and habitations; and streamlining the public distribution system targeted to families below the poverty line.

These objectives are now being served by Centrally sponsored schemes and schemes in State Plans. Hon'ble Members will be glad to know that I am

providing an additional amount of Rs. 2,466 crore as Central assistance for State and UT plans to significantly increase the availability of funds for these schemes. From this amount, it is our intention to allocate about Rs. 250 crore to provide shelter and other basic amenities to slum dwellers. The distribution of this enhanced allocation across the seven schemes and across States and Union Territories will be determined by the Planning Commission in consultation with them.

Infrastructure Financing

The Update of the Economic Survey has highlighted the enormous challenge on the infrastructure front. The state of our infrastructure - particularly power and roads - is very poor. We cannot sustain 7 per cent growth unless we can revitalise these infrastructure sectors. Huge funds are also required for telecom, railways and ports.

Infrastructure needs long-term finance, typically 15-20 year financial instruments. However, it has not been possible to float such instruments in the Indian market so far. Hence, I am proposing the establishment of an Infrastructure Development Finance Company (IDFC). This company will be incorporated with an authorised share capital of Rs. 5,000 crore. The Central Government, the RBI, banks and financial institutions will contribute to the share capital. I am making a budgetary provision of Rs. 500 crore in the current financial year as the contribution of the Central Government. The RBI's initial contribution to the share capital will also be Rs. 500 crore. Among other things, the IDFC will act as a direct lender, as a refinancing institution and as a provider of financial guarantees. I believe that the IDFC will induce investors, both Indian and foreign, to make available long-term funds at the lowest possible market rates.

I am also proposing some tax incentives for infrastructures investment which I shall outline later.

Hon'ble Members are aware that the Central Government has already set up the National Highway Authority of India. We need a world-class national highway system in place very quickly. I have decided to provide a sum of Rs. 200 crore to strengthen the capital base of the National Highway Authority of India. The Authority will now be in a position to leverage resources for highway development from both within Indian and from outside.

Small Scale Industry

The entrepreneur-driven small-scale sector forms the backbone of our industry. I am deeply committed to strengthening this sector. The following set of measures will be put in place immediately.

- * First, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has an unutilised corpus of about Rs. 175 crore in its Technology Development and Modernisation Fund Scheme. I am now proposing that SIDBI should refinance the State Financial Corporations (SFCs) and commercial banks for modernisation projects upto Rs. 50 lakh. This will decentralise decision-making to the advantage of small-scale units seeking modernisation funds from SFCs and banks.
- * Second, refinance is now provided for the Single Window Scheme of SFCs etc for composite loans upto Rs. 50 lakh. I am doubling this ceiling to Rs. 100 lakh.
- * Third, SIDBI will participate in venture capital funds set up by public sector institutions as well as private companies upto 50% of the total corpus of the funds, provided such a fund is dedicated to the financing of small-scale industry.
- * Fourth, in order to encourage a larger number of small scale units to seek ISO 9000 certification of quality, lending institutions will be permitted to lend to the ultimate borrowers on the same terms and conditions as SIDBI's direct lending scheme. SIDBI will provide refinance assistance to these lending institutions.

Science and Technology

Science and technology is the key to economic progress and prosperity. Indian scientists and technologists have accomplished a great deal, especially in the areas of agriculture, space, atomic energy and defence. There is now need for a massive renewal of our science and technology infrastructure.

I propose to extend a matching one-time grant for the modernisation of the laboratories and institutes of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). I will match every commercial rupee that the CSIR and ICAR earn incrementally in the next two years with another rupee from the Budget.

I also propose to strengthen the Fund for Technology Development and Application which was created in 1994-95 to help indigenously developed technologies reach the stage of commercial application. The interim Budget had provided Rs. 10 crore. As a demonstration of this Government's commitment to science and technology, I am immediately making available Rs. 30 crore. The Department of Science and Technology will

announce the constitution of the Technology Development Board shortly.

Public Distribution System

The Common Minimum Programme states that the Public Distribution System will be strengthened to meet the twin objectives of price stability and making available essential articles to the poor. It is, therefore, proposed to restructure the PDS. A beginning will be made where the need is most acutely felt. The restructured PDS will serve households below the poverty line. Details of the restructured PDS are being worked out and will be announced in due course.

Pay Commission

The Fifth Pay Commission is expected to submit its report by the end of September 1996. Funds have been provided in this Budget as well as the Railway Budget to meet the anticipated expenditure. Meanwhile, I am happy that the question of granting another instalment of interim relief has been sorted out satisfactorily.

Other Welfare Measures

The Prime Minister has repeatedly declared that this Government is a Government of the poor and for the poor. Growth with social justice will be the motto of this Government. Unless the country's GDP grows at over 7% per year in the next 10 years, we will not be able to abolish poverty and unemployment. However, there is a need to identify vulnerable sections of the people and help them. The Prime Minister has identified some target groups which deserve to be helped and I am proposing some new initiatives for meeting their special needs. These initiatives will be implemented through the State Governments and as far as possible, in collaboration with non-Governmental organisations.

- * I am setting apart, initially, a sum of Rs. 5 crore to assist in the establishment of old-age homes and another sum of Rs. 5 crore to assist in the establishment of residential primary schools for poor children irrespective of caste or creed. It is intended that both these programmes should be implemented through non-Governmental organisations. The programmes will be firmed up by the Ministries concerned in consultation with the State Governments
- * Rs. 10 crore is being provided for giving assistance to States which have or will set up Women Development Corporations. An additional amount of Rs. 10 crore has been set apart for starting training-cum-production centres or schemes for destitute women in different States.

* I am creating a National Illness Assistance Fund with an initial corpus of Rs. 5 crore. Besides, Rs. 25 crore have been set apart for contributions to the corpus of State Illness Assistance Funds that we would encourage the State Governments to establish. 100% of the donations to these funds will be exempt from income tax. These funds will be used to provide assistance to the very poor for surgery or treatment for serious illness requiring hospitalisation.

* Rs. 5 crore is being provided to award an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 50,000 per family to the families of lorry and bus drivers who meet with fatal accidents. This will be implemented by the State Governments on a reimbursable basis.

* I am making a provision of Rs. 5 crore for building residential facilities for hamals - our brothers who toil day and night. This scheme will also be implemented by the States.

Government will consider a scheme of financial assistance to States who confer ownership rights in respect of minor forest produce on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and other weaker sections who work in forests.

Fiscal Discipline

The biggest challenge that we face is the fiscal challenge. The United Front Government is committed to bringing the fiscal deficit to below 4% of GDP. This is what the Common Minimum Programme says and this is what I intend to do over a period of time. One plank of the strategy is, of course, to raise more revenues. But without a credible public expenditure management policy, no programme of fiscal deficit reduction will be sustained. I believe that no one is against austerity or efficiency as such. At the same time, I accept the position that sound expenditure management is not a mere technocratic exercise but involves issues of equity, fairness and non-discrimination. In order to work out a reasonable policy in this regard, I propose to appoint a high-level Expenditure Management and Reforms Commission comprising distinguished political leaders, economists and administrators. The Commission will be given four months - and I hope no more - to submit its recommendations on public expenditure management and control as far as the Central Government is concerned. The report will be made public immediately so that we can generate an informed public debate on an issue that has a vital bearing on our economic future.

I also propose to place before the House a discussion paper on subsidies. The paper will list all

the subsidies, visible and hidden, so that there can be an informed debate and a consensus on the overall level of subsidies as a percentage of GDP and their appropriate targeting.

In the meantime, I intend to be strict in matters relating to cash management, project portfolio review, adherence to budgetary ceiling and adequacy of returns from public sector enterprises.

Hon'ble Members are aware that in September 1994 an agreement was signed between the Central Government and the RBI to phase out the system of ad-hoc treasury bills by 1997-98. The experience last year and in the current year so far has shown the difficulty of staying below the within-year limit. Nevertheless, I remain convinced that the system of ad-hoc treasury bills must be phased out. However, before this can happen we need to put in place a better expenditure control mechanism. We also need a more transparent method of defining and reporting the true budget deficit, including all forms of monetisation. I shall present concrete proposals in this regard at the time of presentation of next year's budget so that RBI can have greater autonomy in formulating and implementing monetary policy.

Insurance, Banking and the Capital Market

Earlier I made a reference to insurance in the context of long-term finances. LIC and GIC are our two premier institutions in the insurance sector. I intend to strengthen them. The strength of an insurer has to be measured by the range and quality of its services and products and by the number of people availing of those services and products. I am happy to announce that I have been able to persuade LIC and GIC to offer two new services aimed at the middle class and the poor.

LIC will offer a new pension scheme called "Jeevan Suraksha". The details of the new scheme will be announced separately but an illustration of how the scheme will work can be given. A person who subscribes to the scheme at age 30 for a period of 30 years by paying just Rs. 250 per month will get a life pension of Rs. 3,500 per month beginning at age 60. In addition, that person will get 25% of the commuted value of the pension - about Rs. 1 lakh - immediately on retirement. If the insured person dies before retirement, the spouse will be paid a substantial life-long pension. This scheme will meet a long-felt need amongst a large number of people for economic security beyond their working life. To launch this personal-cum-family pension scheme, I am proposing some fiscal incentives which I shall outline later.

Medical insurance is an area where the quality of the product can be greatly improved. Under the existing Medicare scheme, the maximum cover available is Rs.

83,000 which is further segmented into different components. This ceiling is being enhanced to Rs. 3 lakh with a single aggregate limit

Furthermore, the GIC will launch a new low price medicare policy appropriate to the vast majority of our people. Jeevan is the brand name for the LIC and we respect intellectual property rights. So we are calling this new scheme "Jan Arogya". The policy will provide a cover upto Rs. 5,000 per year with an annual premium of only Rs. 70. What is more, a family of four comprising the husband, wife and two children below the age of 25, can pay an annual premium of Rs. 240 and get cover for Rs. 20,000 for the family as a whole. GIC will soon announce the details of this scheme.

I have advised LIC and GIC to introduce modern information technology in their business. I have also asked LIC to review the premium structure based on the latest mortality tables.

An interim, non-statutory Insurance Regulatory Authority was set up in January 1996. I now propose to introduce a Bill to make it a statutory body and to empower it suitably. When I return to the subject of insurance in the next Budget, I shall address some of the policy parameters outlined in the Common Minimum Programme, including the sequence of steps for the restructuring of the insurance industry.

Reform of the banking sector has been an integral part of the process of economic reforms. The public sector banks have shown an improvement in profitability and capital adequacy and are taking steps to adopt improved technology. The entry of private sector banks has added a welcome measure of competition. Hon'ble Members are aware that in the past three years the Government provided a total of Rs. 1,1,840 crore to recapitalise several public sector banks. I am happy to inform the House that three of these banks are now in a position to return part of the capital, amounting to Rs. 747 crore, reflecting an improvement in their performance. I congratulate these banks. This re-flow of resources will help to recapitalise some more public sector banks for which a provision of Rs. 909 crore is being made in 1996-97. Some of the strong public sector banks are also planning to recapitalise themselves by accessing the capital markets directly. Hon'ble Members will be pleased to know that the State Bank of India is today a prized scrip in the market. I am also providing Rs. 200 crore in 1996-97 for restructuring and recapitalising the Regional Rural Banks.

The capital market has a crucial role to play in raising funds for new investment. Government will ensure healthy development of the capital markets through effective regulation, greater transparency and improved trading and settlement practices. Our major stock exchanges have already introduced on line

electronic trading. The commencement of a Central Depository, which is expected in the course of this year, will be a historic further step in the modernisation of the capital markets.

The present regulations governing foreign institutional investors allow investment only in listed securities. There is also a limit of not more than 5% for an individual FII and an aggregate of 24% for all FIIs in the stock of a listed company. It has been represented that these limits should be liberalised. Besides, FIIs are unable to invest in infrastructure because most infrastructure projects are set up by new companies which are not expected to be listed for some time. Having regard to these representations, I propose to raise the limit of 5% for an individual FII to 10% subject, however, to the aggregate limit of 24% for all FIIs. I also propose to allow them to invest in unlisted companies in the same manner as they are allowed to invest in listed companies. The revised guidelines are being issued separately by SEBI.

Non Banking Finance Institutions

Serious concerns have been expressed from time to time about the activities of a number of non-banking financial institutions, both corporate and non-corporate. I am happy to inform the House that, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, we have decided to bring before this House amendments to the RBI Act to strengthen the regulatory power over all kinds of non-banking financial companies.

Corporate Sector

It is widely acknowledged that the Companies Act 1956 needs to be re-written comprehensively. Some work has already been done. I intend to constitute a small drafting team comprising persons with knowledge of law, economics and company affairs to prepare a new draft and make it ready for public debate. My deadline is January 1, 1997.

In the meanwhile, I propose to introduce some urgent amendments to the present Act to provide for the following :

- * Companies defaulting on payment of interest or repayment of principal on deposits will be debarred from raising further deposits until these defaults are remedied.
- * The present ceiling of Rs. 1,000 on the claims of arrears of wages and salaries of employees in case of winding up of a company is absurdly low. This will be enhanced.
- * Mutual funds and venture capital funds will be permitted to vote in respect of their holdings in companies.

- * Non-voting shares will be permitted upto 25% of the issued equity capital. This will go a long way in meeting the demand for a level playing field.
- * Companies in the infrastructure sector will be allowed to issue shares that are redeemable after the expiry of a period of 20 years from the date of issue.

Hon'ble Members will agree with me that these changes are necessary and should be introduced right away. Next year, I shall come back to the House with a new Companies Bill.

In order to achieve competitiveness, Indian industry must be given easy access to improved technology. At present RBI accords automatic approval for technology imports subject to the requirements that royalty will be limited to 5% on domestic sales and 8% on export sales and that the lump sum payment does not exceed Rs. 1 crore. All other cases require case-by-case approval by the Central Government. Industry has represented that the Rs. 1 crore limit for automatic approval needs to be increased. Responding to this demand, it has been decided to increase this limit to \$ 2 million (equipment to about Rs. 7 crore). With this liberalisation, a large number of technology import cases will not have to come to Government.

The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) was constituted to function as the principal credit and reconstruction agency. Thanks to rapid changes, the burden of reconstruction is being shared by different stakeholders including development financial institutions and banks. I, therefore, propose to transform the IRBI into a fullfledged, all-purpose development finance institution with headquarters in Calcutta. I will soon bring the necessary changes in the statute governing IRBI. I will advise the IRBI to find suitable accommodation near the Writers' Building.

FIPB, Tariff Commission and Disinvestment Commission

In keeping with the promises made in the Common Minimum Programme, Government have reconstituted the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. The Foreign Investment Promotion Council will also be set up shortly. Together, they will vigorously promote and approve foreign direct investment in India keeping in view the objective of attracting at least \$ 10 billion every year.

In order to expedite foreign investment approvals and also increase the transparency of the process, Government have decided to expand the list of 35 industries which are eligible for automatic approval upto 51% of foreign equity. The expanded list will be announced separately by my colleague, the Minister of

Industry. At present, the automatic approval procedure is subject to the requirement that the value of foreign equity should cover the total import of capital goods. This condition was introduced in 1991 when capital goods imports were subject to import licencing. As capital goods have been free of import licencing restrictions since 1992, this condition is being dropped.

Government have also initiated action to set up an independent Tariff Commission.

Government have approved the proposal to establish a Disinvestment Commission. Any decision to disinvest will be taken and implemented in a transparent manner. Revenues generated from such disinvestment will be utilised for allocations for education and health and for creating a fund to strengthen public sector enterprises. As stipulated in the CMP. The interim Budget for 1996-97 took credit for Rs. 5,000 crore through disinvestment. I propose to take credit for the same amount. The disinvestment will be done in three tranches, approximately in September, November and January-February, this fiscal year.

Industrial Sickness

The Sick Industries Companies Act (SICA) has a narrow definition of sickness and cannot deal with incipient or potential sickness. Managements have been able to use the BIFR route to abdicate their legitimate responsibilities. Under the present dispensation workers, financial institutions, banks and Government are often the losers. I have initiated a total review of SICA and the working of BIFR and I intend to bring a new Bill in the winter session of Parliament.

Centre-State Relations

I have already made a reference to the Chief Ministers' Conference on Basic Minimum Services. The Prime Minister intends to call another conference of Chief Ministers to discuss the political aspects of Centre-State relations and federalism. At the last conference, the Chief Ministers expressed the view that many centrally-sponsored schemes should be retained as such and should continue to be funded by the Central Government. While we respect the views of the Chief Ministers, it is our desire that most Centrally-sponsored schemes should be transferred to the control of the State Governments. In the meantime States will be given greater flexibility in the implementation of these programmes. Provisions available under all other schemes will be pooled and the basic entitlement ratio will be worked out for each State. The States will be free to select for implementation, within their annual entitlement, such schemes that are more suited to their needs. The Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation is working on the revised guidelines

and procedures in consultation with the concerned Ministries and the States.

I also intend to circulate a discussion paper to Hon'ble Members on the 10th Finance Commission's recommendation to form a single divisible pool of taxes to be shared between the Centre and the States. Prima-facie, the Finance Commission's recommendation appears to be in the national interest but it will require an amendment to the Constitution. Hence, I wish to encourage a debate before a final decision is taken.

The Common Minimum Programme has promised that the Government will, within six months, bring out a detailed document that will articulate the priorities and programmes of the Ninth Plan. While a number of programmes have been initiated in this Budget, it will be our endeavour to prepare an Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan within four months. The Ninth plan will target a growth rate of 7% per annum and will articulate strategies for decentralisation of responsibilities, for raising resources and for ensuring widespread growth. The initiatives that have been taken this year will be followed by a more comprehensive programme of social and economic development with the focus on elimination of poverty.

I shall now briefly go over the Budget estimates.

As Hon'ble Members are aware details of the revised estimates for 1995-96 were presented along with the interim Budget in February 1996. I am, therefore, not going over those estimates again. The figures that I give below are the budget estimates for 1996-97 and for plan expenditure I shall compare them with the budget estimates for 1995-96.

For 1996-97, the total expenditure is estimated at Rs. 204,698 crore. Of this, Rs. 54,685 crore is gross budgetary support for the Central Plan and assistance to State and UT plans, representing a sharp increase of 13% over Rs. 48,500 crore. Non-plan expenditure is placed at Rs. 150,013 crore.

Central assistance for State and UT plans is being stepped up from Rs. 19,506 crore to Rs. 21,972 crore. The increase will provide funds to the States for implementing the seven Basic Minimum Services schemes to which I have referred earlier.

Gross budgetary support for the Central Plan is being enhanced from Rs. 28,994 crore to Rs. 32,713 crore.

All anti-poverty programmes will be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and providing them with more funds. The plan allocation for the Department of Rural Development has been increased from Rs. 1,263 crore to Rs. 2,195 crore. The plan allocation for the

Department of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Rs. 6.437 crore.

The plan allocation for the Department of Fertilizers has been increased from Rs. 205 crore to Rs. 373 crore in order to increase domestic production.

For tapping the potential of non-conventional energy sources, the plan allocation for the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy is being raised by Rs. 87 crore to Rs. 334 crore.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope Hon'ble Members will forgive the Finance Minister if he is partial to the cause of exports. After all, I cut my teeth in economic administration in the Ministry of Commerce. Promotion of exports must remain high on our agenda. Hence, I propose to provide a sum of Rs. 50 crore for the corpus of the recently established India Brand Equity Fund. I would appeal to industry and trade to contribute at least an equal amount in this financial year itself. A sum of Rs. 25 crore has been provided for critical balancing infrastructure. Non-plan provision for export promotion and market development has been enhanced from Rs. 315 crore to Rs. 460 crore. Deemed exporters will now get refund of terminal excise duty in quick time.

The plan allocation for the Department of Health has been stepped up from Rs. 647 crore to Rs. 792 crore.

The plan allocation for the Department of Education has been increased substantially from Rs. 1,825 crore to Rs. 3,388 crore. This will help in implementation of the District Primary Education Programme and the mid-day meal scheme.

This Government is committed to safeguard the interests of women and children by expanding the social safety nets. The annual plan allocation for the Department of Women and Child Development is being stepped up from Rs. 730 crore to Rs. 847 crore. The allocation for the Integrated Child Development Scheme is being increased from Rs. 588 crore to Rs. 682 crore.

The plan allocation for the Ministry of Labour has been increased from Rs. 136 crore to Rs. 188 crore. Enhanced provisions have been made for schemes relating to improvement in the working conditions and for training of workers.

In the Railways Budget presented a few days ago, Government have announced an outlay of Rs. 8,130 crore in the Railway plan for the current year with a budgetary support of Rs. 2,169 crore. Based on the ability of the Railways to meet their stipulated targets on internal resource generation, I will consider increase in the budgetary support during the course of the year for this crucial sector.

The plan allocation for the Ministry of Surface Transport has been increased by Rs. 240 crore to Rs. 1,322 crore, mainly to provide enhanced support for national highways. Schemes are on the anvil to make Kochi and Tuticorin important transshipment ports for container traffic.

There are persistent demands from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep for more flexible norms for determining the cost for funding and implementing projects. Having regard to their special needs, I have agreed to these demands. We will also ensure that the Island Development Authority is activated to accelerate development in these strategic islands.

I am happy to inform Hon'ble Members that the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is being continued in the current year.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : Sir, we want more.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, we want at the rate of Rs. 50 lakh per Assembly segment...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, let me read that sentence again...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is reading that sentence again.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I think they did not follow the implication.

I am happy to inform hon. Members that the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is being continued in the current year. Adequate funds are being made available for this scheme and the allocation. I am happy to announce, will be decided in consultation with the hon. Speaker. ...*(Interruptions)* Adequate funds are being made available for this scheme.

• The total non-plan expenditure in 1996-97 is placed at Rs. 150,013 crore compared to Rs. 123,651 crore in BE 1995-96 and Rs. 134,320 crore in RE 1995-96. Of the increment, Rs. 8,000 crore is on account of increase in interest payments, the provisions for which is now placed at Rs. 60,000 crore. The provision for Defence expenditure has been increased from Rs. 26,879 crore in RE 1995-96 to Rs. 27,798 crore. I assure Hon'ble Members that, if required, more funds will be made available in order to equip and keep our armed forces in fighting fit condition.

I have already referred to the major new initiatives for giving an impetus to agriculture and irrigation. The increase on account of higher subsidies for phosphatic and potassic fertilisers will be Rs. 1,724 crore over last year's provision of Rs. 500 crore. There is no change in subsidy for urea. The enhanced subsidies are expected to lead to a balanced use of various fertilizers for better soil health and productivity.

The provision for food subsidy has also been increased from Rs. 5,500 crore to Rs. 5,884 crore.

A provision of Rs. 449 crore has been made for writing off the outstanding interest and conversion of loans into equity in the subsidiaries of Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd., Bharat Bhari Udyog Ltd. and Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. under BIFR approved revival plans. In addition, a provision of Rs. 1,270 crore has been made for non-plan loans to public sector enterprises mainly for payment of salaries and wages to the employees.

I now turn to revenue receipts. Gross tax revenues at the existing rates of taxation are estimated at Rs. 129,453 crore. After providing Rs. 34,451 crore as the share of taxes of the States, the Centre's net tax revenue will be Rs. 95,002 crore. Non-tax revenues an important component of our receipts, have also shown healthy buoyancy. The receipts under this head, which were estimated at Rs. 29,103 crore in RE 1995-96, are expected to be Rs. 33,035 crore this year. I am confident that we can do better under some heads. I have taken credit for Rs. 2,500 crore as license fee from private operators of cellular and basic telecom services.

The net revenue receipts for the Centre, including non-tax receipts are expected to increase from Rs. 110,191 crore in RE 1995-96 to Rs. 128,037 crore in 1996-97.

In the area of capital receipts, traditional market borrowings are placed at Rs. 3,700 crore. Other medium and long-term loans are estimated at Rs. 21,798 crore. Net external assistance will be Rs. 2,461 crore. I am also taking credit for receipts from disinvestment of equity in public sector enterprises of Rs. 5,000 crore. Total receipts at the existing rates of taxation are estimated at Rs. 195,774 crore while total expenditure is Rs. 204,698 crore. I shall come to the Budget deficit and the fiscal deficit in Part B of my speech.

Now, I turn to my tax proposals. Before I do so, Sir, I shall invoke the unofficial news of All Finance Ministers. The great poet Mohamad Iqbal said :

"Shahin Kabhi Parwaz se thakkar nahi girta.

Purdam hai agar tu to nahi Khatra uthata.

The falcon never falls down tired from flying high. If you have the courage, then there is no danger of Stumbling.

The good news is there are no new direct taxes save one and even that solitary new tax, I am confident, will be almost universally welcomed.

There are pressing demands from all sections of society to raise the threshold limit for personal income-tax from the existing level of Rs. 40,000 to at least Rs. 60,000. Each increase of Rs. 1,000 in the threshold limit will cost the exchequer Rs.150 crore and, since 77.5% of this loss will be borne by the States, any major concession on this front will put a severe strain on the States' Financial resources. Besides, when the direct tax base is already narrow-only 110 lakh persons pay income-tax-no finance Minister can afford to let 20 or 30 lakhs of them go out of the net. However, I accept the need to provide relief to the assesseees in the first tax bracket namely Rs.40,000 to Rs.60,000/- especially the salaried class. I propose to do so in two ways: first, I propose to reduce the income-tax rate for the first bracket from 20 per cent to 15 per cent. This benefit will be available to all assesseees. I also propose to raise the standard deduction from Rs. 15,000 to Rs.18,000 for salaried employees having an income upto Rs.60,000 per year, making the minimum contribution to his provident fund, will now pay no tax at all. If he has no savings, he will still pay only Rs.300 per year. If she is a woman, she will pay nothing upto Rs. 60,000/-.

We owe a special consideration to our senior citizens. At present, senior citizens benefit from a special tax rebate of 40% upto an income level of Rs. 100,000. I propose to raise this to Rs. 120,000.

House-owners, residing in their own houses that have been financed by borrowing, deserve relief. The deduction of interest payments of Rs.10,000 allowed to them from their income from property is proposed to be raised to Rs.15,000.

As another relief measures, I propose to raise the limit under section 80D of the Income-Tax Act for deduction in respect of insurance on the health of the individual and his family members from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 10,000

I have already mentioned the new scheme of personal-cum family pension being introduced by LIC. In order to encourage savings in this form, I propose to allow the contribution to the pension fund to be deducted from taxable income upto a limit of Rs. 10,000 per annum. I also propose to exempt the income of such a pension fund in the LIC from the levy of income-tax.

At present, a five year tax holiday is available under section 80-IA to enterprises engaged in developing, maintaining and operating infrastructure facilities such as roads, highways, bridges, new airports, ports and rail systems. I propose to extend this incentive to

investment in irrigation, water supply, sanitation and sewerage systems.

I also propose to provide a five year tax holiday under section 80-IA of the Income Tax Act to companies exclusively created to participate in research and development activities. I am also simplifying the existing procedure for giving weighted deduction under section 35(2AA) of the Income-tax Act on sums paid for scientific research to a national Laboratory or a University or an Indian Institute of Technology by deleting the condition of approval by the outside body. Hence forth the head of the institution will competent to certify.

Infrastructure funds have become an important source of capital to finance infrastructure projects. In order to encourage such funds established to mobilise resources for financing infrastructure facilities. I propose to exempt them from income-tax. Any dividend, interest or long-term capital gains of such funds or companies from investments in the form of shares or long-term finance in any enterprise set up to develop, maintain and operate an infrastructure facility will be free from income tax.

I also propose to allow investment in approved debentures or equity shares of public companies as eligible for tax rebate under section 88 if the proceeds of such public issues are applied to create a new infrastructure facility or the generate or distribute power. In the case of such investment, the limit of Rs. 60,000 under section 88 will be raised to Rs.70,000.

Corporate tax rates have been reduced and simplified over the past few years and the results have been very encouraging with a significant increase in corporate taxes as a percentage of GDP. However, there are two issues which need to be addressed. The first is the promise made in the past that the corporate surcharge will be temporary. The other is the phenomenon of zero tax companies which, according to many observers, reflects an excessive degree of laxity in the tax regime. I propose to responds to the two issues as follows :

- (i) I am reducing the rate of surcharge on corporation tax from 15% to 7.5% and hope to take a similar steps in my next budget. The reduced tax burden will benefit all companies big and small.
- (ii) I propose to introduce a 'Minimum Alternate Tax' (MAT) on companies. In a case where the total income of the company, as computed under the Income Tax Act after availing of all eligible deductions, is less than 30 per cent of the book profit, the total income of such a company shall be deemed to be 30 per cent of the book profit and shall be charged to tax accordingly. The effective rate

works out to 12 per cent of book profit calculated under the Companies Act. Companies engaged in the power and infrastructure sectors will, however, be exempted from the levy of MAT. Sir, I will look forward to putting over 1000 companies on the MAT.

As a step towards achieving a level playing field for Indian companies vis-a-vis the foreign companies, I propose to reduce the tax on long-term capital gains in the case of domestic companies from 30 per cent to 20 per cent.

In order to encourage savings and to channelise savings into investments in priority sectors of the economy, I propose to exempt from tax long-term capital gains if the net consideration received or accruing from the transfer of the capital asset is invested in secured assets for a period of three years or, alternatively, if the entire capital gains are invested in specified assets for a period of seven years. The assessee will now have a choice of two new savings instruments.

I also propose to **allow depreciation in the case of fractional ownership of assets because of the need for joint financing of big, capital intensive projects by a consortium of financiers having fractional shares in the assets.**

In order to promote efficiency in industry, I propose to provide that unabsorbed depreciation will be carried forward for a period of eight years only in the same manner as business losses.

The practice of sale-and-lease-back of assets results in passing of very high depreciation to the leasing concerns. This needs to be curbed. Hence, I propose to provide in the Income Tax Act that in case of sale-and-lease-back transactions, the written down value of the asset, in the hands of lessee, who was the previous owner, will be treated as cost in the hands of the lessor. This measure, while not affecting bonafide transactions, will prevent loss-making concerns from indulging in unhealthy trade-off of depreciation.

I find it unreasonable that commercial properties, not used by the assessee as his business, office or factory premises, should be outside the levy of wealth-tax. Accordingly, I propose to pig this unintended loophole and levy wealth-tax on such commercial properties.

Other measures of tax relief proposed by me include-

- (i) Allowing a special deduction of Rs. 15,000 o the patient of guardian of a patient of protracted diseases like cancer or AIDS involving considerable expenditure on treatment.

(ii) Exempting under section 10(24) of the Income Tax Act the income of an Association of Registered Trade Unions.

(iii) Extending 100 per cent deduction under section 80G of the Income Tax Act to-

- (a) Donations made to Illness Assistance Funds established by the Central Government and the State Governments to meet the medical expenses of the poorest of the poor.
- (b) Donations made to State and National Councils of Blood Transfusion recently set up by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and
- (c) Donations made to the three funds established by the armed forces of the country. These are the Army Central Welfare Fund, The Indian Naval Benevolent Fund and the Air Force Central Welfare Fund. This is my way of saluting the brave officers and jawans of our armed forces.

As a part of our obligation of SAARC I am exempting from income tax the income of SAARC Fund for Regional Projects (SFRP).

In order to promote industrial development in the North-Eastern region of the country, a North-Eastern Development Finance Corporation was established in August, 1995. I propose to exempt its income from tax.

These proposals are likely to result in an improvement of revenue under direct taxes which is estimated at Rs.912 crore.

I shall now come to the proposals relating to indirect taxes.

Over the last few years steps have been taken to reform our indirect tax structure by reducing the number of rates, removing exemptions and by switching over to *ad-valorem* rates. On the customs side the peak rate of duty was reduced to 50% in 1995-96 accompanied by reduction in rates down the line in respect of all commodities. Central excise duties were also revamped and moved closer to a Value Added Tax with the introduction of Modvat for capital goods and extension of input credit facilities to almost all items necessary for the manufacture of goods. These changes have contributed to the growth in industrial production, simplified the tax structure and brought about greater transparency. They have also led to strong growth in revenues, with indirect tax collections increasing by 19 per cent in each of the Common Minimum Programme mandates the Government to continue with tax reforms and I propose to do so.

Keeping in view the twin objectives of making our industry globally competitive and providing it reasonable levels of protection in the transitional period, I propose to take measured and in the transitional period, I propose to take measured and calibrated steps in the matter of customs tariffs.

The salient features of my proposals are—

- * Reduction in customs duties on crude oil and other basic petrochemical intermediates.
- * Reduction in the rates of customs duties on raw materials and inputs such as chemicals, plastics, natural rubber and ferrous non-ferrous metals.
- * Substantial reduction in customs duties on raw materials and components required for giving a thrust to the electronic goods sector.
- * Reduction in the rate of duty on computers for giving a boost to software industry.
- * Reduction import duty on selected machinery to modernize the textiles and garment sector.
- * Removal of several anomalies in duty rates.
- * Unification of rates on similar items in order to substantially reduce disputes on classification and on rates.
- * Retention of only such exemptions which are necessary, for the present.

India has become a major producer and exporter of chemicals. This industry has shown a healthy growth in the last two years. This is an area in which India can exploit its potential of trained technical manpower and become a leading nation of the world in the production of chemicals. To achieve these objectives, I propose to take the following steps:

- * Reduction in the rate of duty on crude oil from 35% to 25%.
- * Reduction in the rate of duty on bitumen from 30% to 10%.
- * Unification of rates at 10% on petrochemical building blocks such as cumene, toluene and cyclohexane.
- * Reduction in the rate of duty on chemicals, both organic and inorganic, from 50% to 40%.

Our textile industry employs millions of people. It is necessary to modernise it and provide an environment in which it can grow rapidly and give high employment. I propose the following measures:

- * Reduction in the import duty on rayon grade wood pulp from 25% to 5%.

- * Reduction in the import duty on acrylonitrile from 20% to 10%.
- * Reduction in the rate of duty on DMT, PTA and MEG from 35% to 25%; however in the case of caprolactum the revised duty will be 30%.
- * Reduction in the rate of duty on artificial and synthetic fibres from 45% to 30%.
- * Unification of the rates of duty on nylon filament yarn, polyester filament yarn and viscose filament yarn from the existing levels of 45% and 40% and 30%.

I also propose a major restructuring of excise duties in the textile sector, extending the benefit of Modvat, to which I shall come a little later. I am confident that with these measures our textile industry will grow from strength to strength in the coming years.

Our power plants face a shortage of coals on account of growing demand and better utilisation of installed capacity. I propose to reduce the rate of duty on non-coking coal from 35% to 20%. I also propose reduction of duty on coke from the existing level for 25% to 20%.

Our plastics industry is coming of age. I propose a reduction of duty on plastics from 40% to 30%. Further, on articles of plastics I propose a reduction from the existing level of 50% to 40%.

In regard to rates of duties on drugs and pharmaceuticals. I propose to retain the zero rate of duty on life saving drugs. I also propose to reduce the rate of duty on all other allopathic medicines from 50% to 40%. In order to make available veterinary drugs commonly used. I propose to reduce the rate on specified veterinary drugs from 15% to 10%.

There has been a persistent complaint from industry that customs duty on metals is very high and this makes it difficult for downstream industry, especially capital goods, to be competitive. Industry has been demanding that the rate of duty on metals should be brought down drastically. However, realising the need to provide adequate time to our metals industry to adjust itself to global competition, I propose a modest reduction from 35% or 40% at present to a peak rate of 30% on all metals except nickel and aluminium. On unwrought aluminium and unwrought nickel I propose to retain the current level of 10% and 20% respectively. On wrought aluminium I propose to reduce the duty from 25% to 20% and on wrought nickel from 30% to 20%.

While I do not wish to tamper with the rate of duty on machinery which stands at 25%. I propose a reduction of duty on signalling and safety equipment for railways, airports, sea ports etc. from the current level of 50% to 25%.

The last three years have witnessed a tremendous growth in our electronic industry which has been the result of enterprise as well as the stimulation provided by sharp reduction in customs duties. In order to maintain this trend, I propose the following changes:

- * On raw material, from the existing 15% to 10%.
- * On components, from 25% to 20%.
- * On glass shells for colour TVs, from 30% to 25%.
- * On colour picture tubes, from 40% to 30%.
- * On computers and computer peripherals, from 40% to 20%.
- * Finished goods will however continue to attract 50% rate of duty. Which is the peak duty.

With a view to encourage sports in the country, I also propose to reduce import duty on sports goods from 50% to 30%.

In order to give relief to professional press photographers I propose to allow them to import free of duty photographic equipment upto Rs.1 lakh. A similar concession is also being extended to accredited journalists for import of personal computer, typewriter and fax machine.

Telecommunication is a growing sector and will turn out to be the life-line of our economy. The existence of an efficient telecommunication network is a prerequisite for accelerated economic growth. In order to give a boost to the efforts being made by the department of Telecommunication, I propose that the duty on parts and sub-assemblies of telecommunication equipment be reduced from 35% to 30% and on finished equipment from 50% to 40%. In order to avoid the temptation to smuggle cellular phones, pagers and trunking handsets, I propose to reduce the customs duty on them to 30%.

Upgradation of medical standards in the country is extremely important. I, therefore, propose to reduce the rate of duty on specified equipment, not generally made in India, and their parts from 15% to 10% and on other medical equipment from 40% to 30%.

Edible oils now carry a rate of duty of 30%. This is an important item of daily food for the masses and we have a chronic shortage of edible oils in the country. I propose to reduce the import duty on edible oils from 30% to 20%.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier in my speech I dwelt on the dire need to step up investment in infrastructure. I had also detailed the sectors to which I propose to make large allocations. I have to raise resources to meet these requirements. I intend to ask importers to share

the burden of building the infrastructure in this country because, ultimately, it will help raise production and enhance competitiveness. I, therefore, propose a levy of 2% as special customs duty on all imports except those that carry nil rate of duty or are imported at nil rate of customs duty for export production under the various duty free licences. This levy will not apply to gold and silver imported by eligible passengers or under special import licences. This is likely to yield about Rs.1600 crore in the current year.

Importers will be happy to know that the Reserve Bank of India is announcing today the withdrawal of the interest rate surcharge of 25% on import finance imposed in February, 1996.

I now come to my proposal regarding Central excise. A large number of countries in the world today have a value added tax system which has been recognised to be the most efficient form of commodity taxation. I am glad to note that some State governments are moving towards the value added tax system. The last few years of reforms have taken us closer to having a Central VAT, but there are still certain legal obstacles.

Our central excise structure still has 11 ad-valorem rates. The rates range from 0 to 50 per cent. Ideally there should be only four rates of excise duties — zero, a lower rate of excise duty on goods of mass consumption, a single normal rate on all other goods and a higher rate on luxury items. It is absolutely necessary for us to move towards this rate structure so that we put an end to wateful litigation and have a transparent and simple tax structure. It was not possible in the time available to me in preparing this Budget to achieve this goal in the current year. However, I propose to take the first step this year and I am confident that we will achieve a four-rate excise duty structure in another year or two.

I propose to integrate the tax on the textile sector with the mainstream of central excise duties by introducing the Modvat principle in this sector. Hon'ble Members are aware that at present excise duties are levied at the fibre and yarn stage and there is only an additional excise duty, in lieu of sales tax, on fabrics. This is one of the most inefficient ways of taxation as it results in very high duties on inputs, which encourages evasion; it does not capture value addition; and it denies the industry an opportunity of claiming Modvat input credit on capital goods, chemicals and yarn. While modernisation of other industries is taking place speedily, our textile industry has not been able to participate fully in this process because of this lopsided tax structure. I, therefore, make the following proposals.

I propose to reduce the excise duty on yarn in the case of polyester filament yarn from the current level of

50% to 40% and unify the rates on other yarn at 20%, except nylon filament yarn and cotton yarn for which the present rates of 30% and 5% respectively will be retained. In order to provide Modvat for the textile sector, I propose to impose a basic excise duty of 5% on cotton fabrics and 10% on other fabrics which will be collected at the processed fabric stage. The processors would be in a position to Modvat the duty paid on yarn imputed on the basis that yarn accounts for 50% of the value of the finished fabric. I have adopted a simple procedure of imputed value to avoid the imposition of a basic duty on grey fabrics which are manufactured by thousands of powerlooms. Such powerlooms will, therefore, continue to be outside the excise net. Composite mills and textile processors will be able to avail themselves of Modvat facilities hitherto not extended to them. This restructuring of excise duty, together with the substantial reduction in customs duties on selected machinery and on inputs for the textile sector, should provide a major boost to the textile industry. I believe that this will also simplify the calculation of drawback rates for garment exporters.

In my proposals on customs duties, I have proposed a reduction in customs duty on crude oil from 35% to 25%. This is part of a restructuring and rationalisation of the duty structure aimed at encouraging efficient refineries and enabling me to shift the duties from the input stage to the product stage. I propose to make up the loss on customs duty by adjusting the excise duty upward from 10% to 15% on all petroleum products except LPG and kerosene. The proposed changes in customs and excise duties taken together are revenue neutral and will have no impact on the administered prices of petroleum products.

Honourable Members are aware that almost all articles of mass consumption are already exempt from excise duty and a large number of other widely consumed articles carry a rate of only 10%. I propose to exempt some more articles from excise duty. They are :

- (a) Vanaspati and margarine;
- (b) Writing and printing paper supplied to all State Text Book Corporations;
- (c) Animal fats and oils;
- (d) Asbestos fibre.
- (e) Metallic ores; and
- (f) Tapioca Products.

I propose to reduce the duty on the following articles :

- (a) Tooth paste, from 20% to 10%;
- (b) Detergents, from 30% to 25%;

- (c) Cartons, boxes and bags made of paper and paperboard, from 20% to 10%;
- (d) Glassware produced by semi-automatic process, from 20% to 10%;
- (e) Glassware used for table, kitchen etc., from 15% to 10%.
- (f) Articles of asbestos cement, from 25% to 20%; and
- (g) Ceramic articles, other than glazed tiles, from 20% to 15%.

I also propose to raise the exemption limit for footwear from Rs. 50 to Rs.75 per pair.

The rates of excise duty on motor vehicles are not in consonance with the accepted classification of such vehicles. I therefore propose the following rationalisation:

- (a) Duty on motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed to carry not more than six persons, excluding the driver, will remain unchanged at 40%.
- (b) Duty on motor vehicles principally designed to carry more than 6 persons but not more than 12 persons, excluding the driver -20%.
- (c) Duty on other motor vehicles for transport of persons or goods - 15%.

There is no change in the duty on two-wheelers or tractors.

If there is one area in which a Finance Minister can both tax and please, it is cigarettes. Today, however, I shall please you only in small way by proposing modest increases in the specific duties on cigarettes ranging from about 5% to 7 1/2%. In the case of non-filter cigarettes, not exceeding 60 mm in length, popularly called mini cigarettes, I propose to raise the tax by 25% from Rs.60 per thousand to Rs.75 per thousand.

In order to encourage R&D efforts in India and concurrently in specified countries from the levy of excise duty for a period of three years. I am also rationalising the exemption from customs duty for import of equipment and consumables for R&D institutions.

I have proposed the addition of potassium chlorate, copper powder and cigarette lighters to the list of goods eligible for duty exemption under the SSI scheme. The reduction in import duties proposed elsewhere will also substantially benefit the small scale industries. In order to benefit hundreds of small scale manufacturers of matches I have decided to dispense with the physical control system operating on them and introduce the self-removal procedure freeing them from the day to day bother of control. I hope SSI match units will respond with substantial increase in payment of excise duties.

I have proposed rationalisation of rates and exemptions both in customs and excise in several of the areas. I would not like to take the time of the House by going into these details.

Our excise procedures are outdated and not in tune with the times. They need to be modified. They should encourage voluntary compliance with tax laws by the tax payers. With effect from 1st October, 1996, assessees would not longer be required to furnish copies of invoices along with the monthly returns. All that they would be required to furnish to the excise department will be a simple Return Indicating the duty paid on Self-assessment basis. Wherever possible the assessees' computers could also be linked to the Department's computers for on line assessment.

I also propose to introduce a scheme of selective audit by the excise officers and dispense with the existing scheme of routine examination and checking of returns and documents furnished by the assessees. This scheme would also come into force from 1st October, 1996.

I am sure that these changes would be widely welcomed by the manufacturers who are required to pay excise duties and I expect them to comply with the laws faithfully. However, I wish to affirm government's resolve to deal with tax evaders sternly. I am proposing suitable changes in the Customs and Excise Acts to provide for mandatory penalty, together with interest, for evasion of duties on account of fraud, collusion, misstatement or suppression of facts. Hence forth, the mandatory penalty for evasion of duty on these counts shall be equal to the amount of duty evaded. Tax evaders would also be required to pay interest starting from the first day of the succeeding month in which the duty evaded ought to have been paid and also face criminal prosecution.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1994, reminds us of the colonial era when excise duty was collected on salt. There is no excise duty on salt and hence the reference to salt is outdated. I propose to delete all references to salt.

The Modvat scheme which provides for duty credit on inputs and capital goods has been liberalised considerably over the past few years. Still, there are problems about the coverage of certain inputs and capital goods. I propose to clarify the scope of eligible capital goods by specifying the heading and sub-headings of the tariff relating to capital goods in the Modvat Rules. It is also a matter of concern that there is misuse of the Modvat credit scheme. At present, Modvat invoices can be issued by any dealer registered with the excise department and this facility is reportedly being misused. Therefore, I propose to restrict the issue

of Modavatable invoices by dealers upto two stages. Suitable provisions are also being made in the Modvat Rules for charging of interest in the case of wrong availment of Modvat credit and for mandatory penalty for misuse of Modvat facility.

The tax on services has come to stay. With a view to widening the tax base, I propose to bring in advertising services, radio, paging services and courier services under the tax net. The tax on these services will be at the rate of 5%. While this measure is expected to yield Rs. 150 crore in a full year, I am taking credit only of Rs. 70 crore in the current year.

My proposal relating to reduction in customs duties are estimated to result in a loss of Rs. 650 crore in the remaining part of the current financial year. However, by taking into account receipts from the special customs duty estimated to be Rs. 1600 crores, there will be a net gain of Rs. 950 crore in customs revenue.

In the case of excise duties, including additional excise duties, a gain of Rs. 750 crore is estimated. Of this, the States are likely to get Rs. 384 crore as their share of excise duties.

I now have something to say on behalf of my colleague, the Minister of Communications. Postal rates, some of which are last revised in 1990, do not meet even the direct cost of most of the services resulting in increasing budgetary support. Notwithstanding this, no change in the rates of ordinary postcard, letter, parcels and other postal services is being proposed. A modest increase is proposed only in respect of two services which are used for business and commercial purposes. The rate of the printed post card not the ordinary post card being increased from 60p. to Re. 1 and the registration fee is being increased from Rs. 6 to 8. It has also been decided to introduce a new category of postcard, called Competition Postcard, which alone may be used for responding to any competition organised on or through television, radio, newspapers or magazines. It is proposed to remove the unintended subsidisation of the such competitions by fixing the tariff for this category of postcard at Rs. 2. The changes will take effect from a date to be notified after the Finance Bill is passed. The revisions proposed are estimated to yield a modest revenue of Rs. 38 crore in 1996-97, still leaving a large postal deficit.

Copies of notifications giving effect to the above changes in customs and excise duties will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

My budget proposals have many implications for the expenditure side and the revenue side. However, Hon'ble Members will be pleased to know that the end result is satisfactory. The revenue deficit in 1996-97 is placed at Rs. 31,475 crore or 2.5% of GDP which is

significantly lower than Rs. 33,331 crore in RE 1995-96 or 3% GDP. The fiscal deficit comes to Rs. 62,266 crore in 1996-97, which is lower than the figure of Rs. 64,010 crore in RE 1995-96. As a percentage of GDP, the fiscal deficit is 5% in 1996-97 compared to 5-9% in the previous year. I hope to do better in my next budget and move along the path charted in the CMP of reducing the fiscal deficit to below 4%.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the end of this exercise, I ask myself what is a budget about? While it is a measure of the health of the economy, it is also a mirror to the travels and aspirations of the people, 2000 years ago. Saint Tiruvalluvar laid down the golden rule for the King's Ministers:

"Iyatralum, eettalum, Kattalum, Katta
Vakuthalam Vallath Arasu"

(To be able to increase wealth, to lay it up and guard. And also well to distribute it, marks a royal lord.)

I have made an attempt to raise resources without putting any burden upon the poor, to allocate large resources for agriculture, irrigation, infrastructure and the social sector, to provide more funds for basic minimum services, to give tax reliefs to the salaried and the middle classes and to promote savings and investment. I have strived to serve the seven objectives that I declared at the outset.

The Common Minimum Programme is absolutely right when it says that the country's GDP needs to grow at over 7% per year in the next 10 years in order to abolish poverty and unemployment. As an unknown poet said, 'the condition for being successful is to move forward. Those who tire out and give up will never attain their goal.'

"Chale Chaliye ke Chalana bhi daleele kaamrani
hai Jo thak kar baith jaate hain wo manjil paa
nahin sakte."

I believe that our economy is on a high growth curve. Wisdom dictates that we remain on that curve. In order to do so, we need more reforms, not less. We need more resources, not less. We need more discipline, not less. And we need more compassion, not less. If we remain true to the Common Minimum Programme as I believe this Government will, we shall overcome our difficulties and take India to the frontline of the nations of the world. This budget, my maiden effort, attempts to blend-I hope in the right proportions-courage and compassion, reform and restraint and growth and social justice.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with these words, I commend this budget to this august House.

18.30 hrs.

FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL, 1996*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1996-97.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1996-97."

*The Motion was adopted.***

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill

MR. SPEAKER : The Finance (No. 2) Bill has been introduced. Now the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.00 AM on 23rd July, 1996.

18.31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 23, 1996 Shrawana 1, 1918 (Saka).

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extra ordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 22.7.1996

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.