

Eighth Series, Vol. IV No,22

**Friday, April 12, 1985/1907
Chaitra 22, 1907 (Saka)**

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

**Second Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

Price: Rs., 50,00

CONTENTS

No. 22—Friday, April 12, 1985/Chaitra 22, 1907 (Saka)

| | COLUMNS |
|--|--------------------|
| Member Sworn | 1 |
| Oral Answers to Questions : | 1—30 |
| *Starred Questions Nos. 406, 409, 410, 413 and 414 | |
| Written Answers to Questions : | 30—28 ⁰ |
| Starred Questions Nos. 405, 407, 408, 411, 412 and 415 to 424 | 30—48 |
| Unstarred Questions Nos. 2755 to 2806, 2808 to 2836, 2838 to 2891, 2893 to 2909, 2911 to 2932 and 2934 to 2969 | 48—276 |
| Papers Laid on the Table | 280—285 |
| Assent to Bills | 285 |
| Statement Re Import-Export Policy for 1985-86 | 286—289 |
| Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh | 286 |
| Statement Re. Decision on Tripartite Committee's Report for Review of Industrial Dearness Allowance Formula for employees of the Central Public Enterprises | 289—291 |
| Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh | 289 |
| Election to Committees | 291—293 |
| (i) Tea Board | 291 |
| (ii) Cardamom Board | 291—292 |
| (iii) Central Silk Board | 292 |
| (iv) Marine Products Export Development Authority | 292—293 |

*The Sign † marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

(II)

COLUMNS

Matters Under Rule 377

293—299

- (i) Need to establish electronic industries at Jabalpur or Katni in Madhya Pradesh

Shri Ajay Mushran 293

- (ii) Demand for taking over the Bhakra Control Board by the Centre

Shri Birbal 294

- (iii) Need to declare 14th April a holiday in memory of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

Shri R. P. Suman 295

- (iv) Growing unemployment in the country

Shri Krishna Pratap Singh 295

- (v) Financial assistance and other relief to the drought affected people of J and K State

Shri G. L. Dogra 296

- (vi) Disputes over the rival tenancy claims between the farmers of Ballia (UP) and Bhojpur (Bihar)

Prof. K. K. Tewary 296

- (vii) Air Pollution in Visakhapatnam (A. P.)

Shri S. M. Bhattam 297

- (viii) Need to conduct elections to local bodies on Schedule

Shri Mool Chand Daga 298

Demands for Grants (General), 1985-86

299—356

- (i) Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal

299—331

Shri Dilip Singh Bhuria 299

Shri Kali Prasad Pandey 300

Shri C. Janga Reddy 302

Shri Vasant Sathe 306

| | COLUMNS |
|--|----------------|
| (ii) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers | 331—356 |
| Shri M. Raghuma Reddy | 333 |
| Shri Dalchander Jain | 342 |
| Shri Bharat Singh | 344 |
| Shri Manoj Pandey | 347 |
| Shri R. P. Das | 352 |
| Bills Introduced | 356—363 |
| 1. Ban on Religious Conversions Bill | 356—359 |
| By Shri B. V. Desai | 356 |
| 2. Regulation of Admission to Medical and Engineering Colleges and Opening of New Institutions Bill | 360 |
| By Shri Eduardo Faleiro | 360 |
| 3. Compulsory Vocational Education Bill | 360 |
| By Shri Eduardo Faleiro | 360 |
| 4. Constitution (Amendment) Bill | 360—361 |
| (Amendment of Article 316, etc.) | |
| By Shri K. Ramamurthy | 360 |
| 5. Constitution (Amendment) Bill | 361 |
| (Amendment of Article 74, etc.) | |
| By Shri K. Ramamurthy | 361 |
| 6. Constituent Assembly Bill | 361 |
| By Shri K. Ramamurthy | 361 |
| 7. Import and Export Trade Bill | 361—362 |
| By Shri K. Ramamurthy | 361 |
| 8. Ceiling on Marriage Expenses Bill | 362 |
| By Shri Mool Chand Daga | 362 |
| 9. Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill | 362 |
| (Substitution of Section 3) | |
| By Shri Mool Chand Daga | 362 |

| | COLUMNS |
|--|----------------|
| 10. Prevention of Social Disabilities Bill | 363 |
| By Shri Mool Chand Daga | 363 |
| 11. Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill | 363 |
| (Omission of Section 309, etc.) | |
| By Shri Mool Chand Daga | 363 |
| Constitution (Amendment) Bill | 363—382 |
| (Omission of Article 44)—Withdrawn | |
| Motion to Consider | |
| Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas | 364 |
| Shri Harish Rawat | 366 |
| Shri A. K. Sen | 367 |
| Shri G. M. Banatwalla | 375 |
| Indian Tobacco Company Limited (Taking Over of Management) Bill | 382—402 |
| Motion to Consider | |
| Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan | 382 |
| Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao | 391 |
| Shri Harish Rawat | 393 |
| Shri Ram Pyare Panika | 395 |
| Shri Satyagopal Misra | 397 |
| Prof. Narain Chand Parashar | 400 |
| Shri Mohar Singh Rathore | 401 |
| Papers Laid on the Table | 402 |

LOK SABHA

Friday, April 12, 1985/Chaitra 22, 1907
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

[English]

Shrimati Dil Kumari Bhandari (Sikkim)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : One more addition to the Opposition.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Semi-Opposition.

MR. SPEAKER : She is on my side.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : More and more Chief Ministers are sending their wives to the House.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, they are monopolising the representation.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I, hope, their relations are becoming sweeter and sweeter.

MR. SPEAKER : You were one of them.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : No chance of his becoming a Chief Minister.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Fire in Durgapur Steel Plant

*406. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY† :
SHRI S. M. BHATTAM :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a big fire broke out in the Durgapur Steel Plant on 16 March, 1985;

(b) if so, the area of the plant affected by fire;

(c) the items that have been burnt and damaged by the fire;

(d) the estimated loss as a result thereof;

(e) the causes of the fire; and

(f) whether any enquiry has been conducted in the matter and responsibility fixed for the outbreak of the fire ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (f). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). On 16th March, 1985 a fire broke out in the storage yard of M/s. Elektrim M/s. Desein and M/s. Crompton Greaves Limited-contractors engaged in the construction of the 2 × 60 MW Captive Power Plant at Durgapur Steel Plant. The open storage yard of the contractors near the construction site was affected by the fire.

(c) Based on a preliminary report submitted by M/s. Elektrim-M/s. Desein and M/s. Crompton Greaves 398 tonnes of equipment of M/s. Elektrim-M/s. Desein consisting of items of turbogenerator, electrical equipments, instruments, boiler, electrostatic precipitator, electrical cables and spares and 700 tonnes of equipment of M/s. Crompton Greaves, consisting of power cables, control cables, control panels and other accessories are reported to have been damaged by the fire.

(d) All the plant and equipment for the captive power plant are under the custody and direct responsibility of the contractors and are insured till erection and handing over to Durgapur Steel Plant. The contractors have indicated that their preliminary/provisional assesment of damage is Rs. 4.87 crores to M/s. Elektrim-M/s. Desein and Rs. 6

crores to M/s. Crompton Greaves. However, a final assessment of damage would be known only after they submit their claims to the Insurance Companies.

(e) The enquiry committee could not establish any definite cause of the fire.

(f) Yes, Sir. The contractors have been held responsible for the out break of fire.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, the statement is conspicuously vague in some matters. You are aware that nearly the entire country and, Particulary, West Bengal, is plagued with power crisis. Here, the captive power plant for the Durgapur Steel Plant was being constructed; suddenly a fire broke out and the entire machinery was damaged. As per the preliminary enquiry, the loss is to the tune of Rs 10.87 crores. As yet the final estimate has not been made.

In reply to part (e) of the Question, it is stated :

“The enquiry committee could not establish any definite cause of fire.”

Now, a fire breaks out, the property worth Rs. 10.87 crores is damaged in an area where nearly the entire country and, particularly, West Bengal and the Durgapur Steel Plant is plagued with power crisis and it is stated that the enquiry committee could not establish the cause of fire.

Again, part (f) of my Question reads :

“whether any enquiry has been conducted in the matter and responsibility fixed for the outbreak of the fire.”

In reply to that, the answer is :

“Yes, Sir. The contractors have been held responsible for the outbreak of fire.”

My first question is, if the enquiry committee could not establish any definite cause of fire, how do they hold the contractors responsible for the outbreak of fire ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I am grateful to the hon. Member for the interest he has taken in this matter. We fully share his concern about the outbreak of fire in this particular Plant. It is not the first time it has happened. This is the third fire that has broken out :

Now as far as the plant is concerned, there is no damage whatsoever to the Durgapur Steel Plant. The fire broke out in the stockyard which belongs to the two contractors M/s. Electrim/M/s. Desein and M/s. crompton and greavers who are the contractors of Durgapur Steel Plant.

Now the first thing that I did When I learnt about the occurrence of this fire was to ask the Secretary of the Department, Shri Khosla and the Chairman of the Steel Authority of India to proceed to the site with a team, within 24 hours. They went there and the enquiry has not been able to find out the cause of the fire although we know that the first fire was caused by welding sparks and the second was a case of sabotage.

In this particular matter, what worried us was that previous Committees had made some recommendations and these recommendations are tabulated here. If the hon. Member likes, I could give the to him. Unfortunately, the recommendations were not implemented. We have asked the contractor as to why this is not done also why the management did not pursue this particular matter.

With regard to the loss, again the loss is not to the Government. The loss is to the two contractors. There is loss of equipments. We have been assured that it would be supplemented very shortly and there will be no conspicuous delay in regard to the completion of the plant.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : My second question is, as hon. Minister has himself said this is not the first time. This is the third time. Two enquiries revealed that at least one fire was due to sabotage. Although the loss is not to the Durgapur Steel Plant, it is a loss to the entire country. It is a loss of equipments, delay etc.

So my specific question is whether the Government suspects any conspiracy to subvert and delay the power plants in my area wherever we require captive power for development purposes.

Another question I would like to put is why the recommendations made by the previous Committee have not been implemented by the Durgapur Steel Plant and what action has been taken by you for their

failure to make the contractors adhere to the recommendations made by the previous Committee.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I have already replied to this point earlier. First of all, in this particular case we have no evidence as of any conspiracy or planned sabotage. If anything comes to light, we will take the House into confidence.

As I said earlier, we are ourselves quite concerned with the recommendations of the Committees in 1983 and 1984 which were not taken seriously by the contractors. Then we have asked the management to find out as to who was responsible for not following this up. On receipt of this information, necessary action will be taken against the concerned officers. We take a serious view of this particular occurrence. There were three fires in the last three years which is very unsatisfactory. I can see that.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : What are the names of Members constituting the Committee and what are the terms of reference of the Committee, what are the causes for the outbreak of fire and what recommendations have been made to prevent such outbreak of fire ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I do not have the names of Members of the Committee but the recommendations of the 1983, 1984, and 1985 Committees are here. They are somewhat lengthy. If you permit me, Sir, I would read them out or I can lay the information on the Table of the House.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Lay it on the Table.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Durgapur Steel Plant is running with a low capacity utilisation due to industrial unrest ? Also is it not a fact that the main cause for this is the fact that the CPM-led union workers are creating all sorts of troubles and are trying to sabotage the production in the name of obsolete plant so that they can augment their process not to produce steel but to produce mud ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I would like to state that it is not correct that in Durgapur there is any special problem

with the employees to whichever union they may belong. We have improved the relations with all our workers and we are getting cooperation from them. This will be clear from the fact that the man-days lost have reduced substantially in Durgapur as well.

SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : May I, through you, Sir, ask one question, namely, whether the goods which have been lost due to fire were imported and if so, how long it will take to replace them and whether this will delay the date of completion ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : No, Sir. We expect that the delay might be not more than a month or two. The contractor has assured this. I have a list of the items of equipment that were damaged. The items are a few items of turbo-generator 18.19 tonnes, Unit I; a few items of electrical equipment, Unit I four tonnes and Unit II 10.2 tonnes; some instruments Unit I 23.8 tonnes and Unit II 36.2 tonnes ..

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What is the value ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : The total cost is about Rs. 10 crores. Some of them are imported and some of them are not.

SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Are they readily available in stock—those which are imported ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : They are not in stock. But the responsibility will be that of the contractor to get these as soon as possible.

Educated Unemployed Benefited under Self Employment Guarantee Scheme

*409. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA† :
SHRIMNTI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the number of unemployed educated persons benefited throughout the country, under Self-Employment Guarantee Scheme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the targets fixed under the scheme have been achieved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(Statement)

(a) to (c). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Scheme for providing Self-employment to the Educated

Unemployed Youth which was introduced in the year 1983-84. State-wise progress under the Scheme for the year 1983-84 is given in *Annexure I* and the latest available data for the year 1984-85 is given in *Annexure II*.

The target was almost fully achieved in 1983-84. The full picture for the year 1984-85 will be available only after some time.

Annexure-I

Progress under the Scheme for providing Self-Employment to the Educated Unemployed youth for the year 1983-84 (as on 31-3-1984) as per the Report Received from State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/UTs. | targets for 1983-84 | No. of applications recommended by DICs | No. of Applications sanctioned by banks | Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|------------------------|---------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 20,000 | 25401 | 14781 | 2936.00 |
| 2. | Assam | 6,700 | 10944 | 8021 | 1540.44 |
| 3. | Bihar | 29,000 | 36766 | 14230 | 2278.64 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 11,200 | 19585 | 10497 | 1538.88 |
| 5. | Haryana | 5,300 | 9682 | 6189 | 998.99 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 2,000 | 6126 | 2465 | 449.69 |
| 7. | Jammu and Kashmir | 1,800 | 2399 | 1416 | 287.95 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 12,100 | 27667 | 12307 | 1960.00 |
| 9. | Kerala | 15,100 | 20967 | 13091 | 2110.00 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 17,500 | 39243 | 18786 | 2857.80 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 20,800 | 52009 | 24579 | 4024.28 |
| 12. | Manipur | 1,000 | 1462 | 991 | 179.82 |
| 13. | Meghalaya | 400 | 632 | 353 | 75.09 |
| 14. | Nagaland | 250 | 253 | 189 | 39.25 |
| 15. | Orissa | 8,600 | 9722 | 6823 | 1306.62 |
| 16. | Punjab | 7,700 | 15856 | 9047 | 1689.60 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 10,000 | 23414 | 15054 | 2365.30 |
| 18. | Sikkim | 100 | 28 | 15 | 3.65 |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 17,500 | 33472 | 21247 | 3316.00 |
| 20. | Tripura | 900 | 962 | 696 | 97.33 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 36,000 | 47585 | 36857 | 5382.85 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 25,500 | 41967 | 23680 | 4481.92 |
| 23. | A. and N. Islands | 100 | 112 | 66 | 15.22 |
| 24. | Arunachal Pradesh | 200 | 62 | 36 | 6.91 |
| 25. | Chandigarh | 500 | 599 | 325 | 56.50 |
| 26. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 100 | 174 | 54 | 10.71 |
| 27. | Goa, Daman and Diu | | DIC was not in operation | | |
| 28. | Mizoram | 200 | 179 | 196 | 42.61 |
| 29. | Pondicherry | 450 | 470 | 414 | 40.0 |
| Grand Total | | 2,50,000 | 427738 | 242405 | 40154.00 |

Source : Ministry of Industry (Data Provisional)

Annexure—II

Progress report under the Scheme for providing Self-Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth for the year 1984-85 as per the reports received from States/ Union Territory Administration as on 28.3.1985.

| Sl. No. | State/U.Ts. | Target (1984-85) | No. of applications recommended to banks by DICs | No. of applications sanctioned by banks | Amount (Rs. in lakhs) | Position as on |
|---------|-------------------|------------------|--|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 15,100 | 24,295 | 9550 | 1300.00 | 15.3.85 |
| 2. | Assam | 8,200 | 6,424 | 3528 | 73.60 | 28.2.85 |
| 3. | Bihar | 14,500 | 19,453 | 8220 | 1461.84 | 31.1.85 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 10,700 | NR | 3392 | 620.64 | 28.2.85 |
| 5. | Haryana | 2,500 | 3,138 | 2065 | 413.04 | 31.10.84 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 6,300 | NR | NR | NR | — |
| 7. | Jammu and Kashmir | 1,400 | 1,500 | 400 | 61.98 | 18.3.85 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 12,500 | 13,087 | 3084 | 498.01 | 28.2.85 |
| 9. | Kerala | 13,300 | 12,494 | 3490 | NR | 28.2.85 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 25,000 | 22,335 | 6839 | NR | 15.3.85 |
| 11. | Manipur | 1,000 | 1,459 | 1015 | 186.13 | 28.2.85 |
| 12. | Meghalaya | 400 | 297 | 294 | NR | 28.2.85 |
| 13. | Nagaland | 200 | NR | NR | NR | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------|------------------------|----------|----------|-------|---------|----------|
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 19,100 | 24,233 | 6317 | NR | 15.3.85 |
| 15. | Orissa | 7,000 | 5,063 | 2179 | 523.73 | 31.1.85 |
| 16. | Punjab | 12,000 | 6,813 | 5100 | 2008.00 | 28.2.85 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 15,000 | 19,739 | 7784 | NR | 11.3.85 |
| 18. | Sikkim | 50 | NR | NR | NR | --- |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 21,700 | 27,584 | 10767 | 1951.04 | 9.3.85 |
| 20. | Tripura | 700 | NR | NR | NR | --- |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 37,600 | 4,843 | 1474 | 218.62 | 31.1.15 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 24,100 | 36,097 | 5581 | NR | 15.3.85 |
| 23. | A and N Islands | 100 | NR | 22 | 4.80 | 31.12.84 |
| 24. | Arunachal Pradesh | 50 | 82 | +2 | 9.17 | 31.1.85 |
| 25. | Chandigarh | 300 | 176 | 200 | 82.50 | 28.2.85 |
| 26. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 100 | 67 | 59 | 11.59 | 28.2.85 |
| 27. | Goa, Daman and Diu | 300 | NR | 288 | 57.08 | 31.12.84 |
| 28. | Mizoram | 200 | 200 | 105 | 22.61 | 28.2.85 |
| 29. | Pondicherry | 400 | 316 | 329 | 41.92 | 25.2.85 |
| Total | | 2,50,000 | 2,29,695 | 82124 | 9496.30 | --- |

NR : Not Reported

Source : Ministry of Industry (Data Provisional).

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : I would like to know from the Government as to what is the percentage of utilisation of these loans which are given to the educated unemployed and what are the criteria for the selection of the beneficiaries, whether the youth belonging to the weaker sections of the society are given due weightage or whether the unemployed youth registered with Employment Exchanges are given due weightage.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The target under this scheme, self-employment for the educated unemployed, is two and a half lakhs per year and the amount to be distributed is about Rs. 400 crores—to about two and a half lakhs of unemployed educated youth. The criterion is that it should be distributed to the educated class who do not belong to the affluent class. Here I want to make this very clear that it is a guideline that has been issued by the Reserve Bank of India, the Ministry of

Industry and the Finance Ministry that the benefit of the loan from the banks and also the subsidy should flow to the weaker sections, particularly, the educated unemployed youth who belong to the weaker sections.

There is a task force. This task force is identifying the educated unemployed youth and this task force consists of the District Employment Officer, the General Manager to the District Industries Centre, the Credit Manager of the District Industries Centre and an officer from the Lead Bank also and two officers from the banks. These two officers are to be selected from among the banks of the District. There is a District Advisory Committee wherein an MP is also there and an MLA is also there...

(Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No. no.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Please allow me to answer. This is not so far as identification—it is only with regard to supervision...

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : You please hear me patiently.

MR. SPEAKER : You can object later on, but first listen to him. He may clarify later on.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : In every district there is a District Advisory Committee....

SOME HON. MEMBERS : We have never heard of that.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : In some States we have given instructions when there were demands from MPs, MLAs and other people's representatives that there should be some supervisory machinery. There instructions have been given...

MR. SPEAKER : You can again ask certain whether these committees do exist or not.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I will ask certain that.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Let him send a copy of the circular to all the MPs for their information....

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : At least in UP we do not have these committees.

MR. SPEAKER : You will find out the authenticity.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : I would like to ask whether they have received reports that the officials of the banks and the DIC have indulged in corruption in selecting the beneficiaries for the scheme and also will the Government find out ways so that corruption is eliminated and the benefits go to the deserving persons ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : The full amount should go.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Is it also a fact that the ruling party in the States of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and

Karnataka have seen to it that these benefits are given only to the active members of the ruling party.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : It is only in the Congress-run States it is being misused....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. *

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : In Opposition-run States they are better administered than in the Congress-run States. It is best utilised only in the Opposition-run States.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Let us also know in Haryana which Party is in power ?

MR. SPEAKER : You claim it, Sir ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : This scheme is to be implemented by the State Governments. There are complaints coming from various States also saying that there is an element of corruption. But all these complaints are of a general nature. But we have given instructions to the concerned authorities to see that corruption is eradicated. Not only that as a Minister from the Central Government I have been touring the country and this assistance is being given at public functions there also I am making inquiries. Wherever there are complaints immediately I ask for an inquiry.

So far as complaints from West Bengal, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are concerned we have been receiving the complaints but I am appealing to the concerned State Governments not to have a partisan view. The benefit should go to the deserving people. That is the intention and objective of the scheme.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I would like to inform the Minister that let alone be the member of advisory committee in my own constituency when this loan was being distributed and the former Minister of Finance was present I was never invited

there. So, what is the possibility of the government's partisan attitude I do not know.

Then, Sir, the Table that the Minister has given here does not contain the figures of Delhi. Is Delhi outside the purview. I would like to have the figures of Delhi. (*Interruptions*) Now, Sir, coming to my supplementary I would like to know while setting up a target whether the number of educated unemployed in each State is taken into consideration, namely, the States where the number of educated unemployed is higher than others do they get any priority in the allocation.

Sir, I am a little confused about accounting and I want an answer about it. In each year the target is 2.5 lakh of people. It is the same for this year. But I find that in 1983-84 Rs. 401 crores were disbursed and in 1984-85 upto three months Rs. 95 crores have been disbursed.

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am quoting from here. I want to understand that while the target remains 2.5 lakh for each year how is it that in the 1984-85 budget you allocated originally only Rs. 25 crores and in the revised budget Rs. 149 crores and again in this year's budget you have kept only Rs. 65 crores. How these three figures correspond with the same target? Does it show that because it was an election year Rs. 149 crores were given in the revised budget—though in the disbursement I do not find all that—and now because elections are over Rs. 65 crores have been sanctioned this year?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, the hon. Member asked why the figure of Delhi has not been given. This is the first question asked by the Hon. Member. This scheme is applicable to a city where the population does not exceed 10 lakhs, that is, one million. Delhi's population is more than 10 lakhs. That is why the figure is not there.

Secondly, she asked about the set up of the Advisory Committee. It is for the State Government to implement it and to set up such committees. She belongs to West Bengal. Her State Government could be asked by the Hon. Member to set up these Advisory Committees,

AN HON. MEMBER : Let the other State Governments set up such advisory committees.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The hon. Member from Andhra Pradesh is getting up. I request the hon. Member to request his State Government to set up the Advisory Committees.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Have you given suggestion to State Governments that Advisory Committees associating MPs. should be set up? Could you please clarify on this point? Has your Department asked them to do it?

MR. SPEAKER : You are all the time interrupting, Madam. It was too complicated a supplementary; it was too lengthy; it was not a question at all. Because she is lady member I allowed it; otherwise I would have called the next Member.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Have you given advice to the State Government?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The hon. Member asked whether the number of unemployed graduates will be considered at the time of allocation. This is one of the factors to be considered along with backward areas and other things. All these will be considered.

So, this also is being considered when making allocation. Regarding disbursement, she has given the figure as Rs. 401 crores. That was the sanctioned amount, Rs. 401 crores, in 1983-84, for 2,42,000 unemployed people. Out of that Rs. 268.44 crores have been actually disbursed. Then you may question why it is so less. But there, when you are disbursing these amounts, you have to see many things. When you set up a small industry first of all, the land has got to be acquired. Then the building has to be constructed. Then the machinery has to be acquired. So, there was some delay in those things. As I said already, a sum of Rs. 268.44 crores has already been disbursed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a committee consisting of Industries officers at district level which identifies the unemployed graduates and sends its recommendations to the banks to

grant loans to them. But it has been noticed that none of the unemployed graduates, whose names were recommended by this committee, has been given loan. On the contrary, loans are given to those persons who are in collusion with the officers of the banks or those who give Rs. 3000, out of Rs. 6000, to the employees of the banks. Only such persons are granted loans. Such is the standing of MPs that if an M. P. recommends some case, the application for the loan is turned down on the plea that the case has been recommended by an M.P. ... (Interruptions) ... In this way the bank officers are including in corrupt practices and they do not care for anyone, be it a situation or a collector or a District Industries Officer or any other officer. They do not care for anyone and thereby they are doing great injustice to the people.

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I share the concern of the hon. Member. Here, there have been some complaints. Wherever there are specific complaints we have to take action. And, we have taken such action also.

Regarding the question why in the Budget there is scaling down, in the first year we have provided certain amount. The sanctioned amount, she mentioned, is Rs. 401 crores. Now, the subsidy that could be given is only 25 per cent. You can give only 25 per cent subsidy. That is only 25 per cent as per the rule. We can give only subsidy to the tune of 25 per cent, and not more.

If you are going to give Rs. 25,000 as loan, then the subsidy element will be Rs. 6,250 or so. Now, that has been scaled down further. This year we have made a provision of Rs. 65 crores. Last year, the provision was Rs. 175 crores. Then in the revised estimate, it has been scaled down to Rs. 149 crores. Even then if more funds are required, we are going to make available and adequate provision will be made for this purpose.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chandrasekhara Murthy.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : When the elections are over, the Government's responsibility is also over.

AN HON. MEMBER : It is a question of combating corruption in the banks.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : They do not get loans. Kindly get them justice.

MR. SPEAKER : I think the whole House is unanimous on the matter. There is need to amend the whole procedure again. We would have to discuss this matter in some other way. This should be looked into. The hon. Minister works with promptness but the laxity is there at the lower level. This would have to be looked into.

[English]

We will have to discuss it sometime afterwards. We will see to it. He does a good job. I know he exerts so much, but still we have to find out something much more in this. Mr. Chandrasekhara Murthy, we will take this up in the half-an-hour discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : This should be discussed under Rule 193. This is a very important question for the whole country.

MR. SPEAKER : If time is available, we shall discuss it under Rule 193.

[English]

Production in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

*410. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of pressing modern machinery and equipment into service in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. the target of production was not reached; and

(b) if so, whether there is any alternative proposal before Government to achieve the target of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(b) The main reasons for SCCL not

achieving the targets have been weak management, a large number of strikes and heavy absenteeism and delay in the implementation and commissioning of new projects. At the instance of the Central Government, the following steps have been taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and SCCL to improve the working of the Company

(i) A selected officer has been appointed as Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Company and two new functional Directors viz. Director (Technical) and Director (Planning) have been appointed on the Board of the Company. Another functional Director in-charge of Personnel is proposed to be appointed shortly.

(ii) The Planning, Monitoring and Vigilance Departments are being strengthened.

(iii) In order to improve industrial relations, a scheme for the participation of workers in the management at different levels is being evolved; the grievance machinery has been strengthened and discipline is being strictly enforced.

(iv) Modern technology and equipment are being introduced in the new projects, in collaboration with foreign export wherever necessary.

[Translation]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the production in the Singareni Collieries Company Limited is going down steeply. Science and technology are advancing fast in the country but the production in this sector is decreasing. What steps do Government propose to take to increase production ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Singareni Collieries are regarded as one of the best collieries in our country, but for the past 4 years its production has stagnated at 12 million tonnes and *vis-a-vis* the target, it is going down year by year and now it has decreased at least by 4 to 5 million tonnes. The supply of coal to the whole South India for power, cement and small scale industries has gone down and this is causing loss.

The reason for this situation is that the top management *i.e.* posts of Chairman, Managing Director of the company has

remained vacant for the past several years *i.e.* the company remained topless.

AN HON. MEMBER : Topless's !

MR. SPEAKER : Have you ever been to the sea beach ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : So this is what you mean by topless ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a matter of experience.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, every six months practically the Chairman is changed. Sir, you may find topless is good in some other sphere, but definitely not in industry.

AN HON. MEMBER : In the industries it is bottomless.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Bottomless is worse.

MR. SPEAKER : He is coining new words.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Unfortunately, the labour relations in Singareni Collieries worsened so much that you would be surprised to know that in a year there are 365 days but there have been more strikes than the number of days in a year.

In 1983-84, the number of strikes was 400.... (*interruptions*). It is possible.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Just as on the same day there can be three walk-outs in the House, similarly, there can be three strikes on the same day.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : They were following you there.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not given opportunity to Shri Datta Samanta for the fear that he may not stage a walk out.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This was in spite of the fact that Datta Samant did not go there.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : In that case there would have been one strike,

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Then, Reddy is responsible to a large extent.

In 1984-85, there were 395 strikes.

Therefore, the first thing that I did was to go to Singareni coalfields. I met the Chief Minister in Hyderabad also and apprised him of the situation. I am glad to say that he assured me that they would deal with the situation firmly. A Managing Director selected in consultation with the Andhra Pradesh Government has been appointed; Technical Directors have been appointed. I went to Ramagundam and Kothagudem; I met the employees myself directly in a public meeting and addressed and talked to them. I told them that we were willing to involve them in day-to-day management in advisory capacity, so that there is a feeling of belonging and causes for strike and bad labour relations are removed. I am hopeful that the situation in Singareni will improve.

[Translation]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : May I know the number of workers killed and injured in accidents in the Singareni Coalfield during the last three years, how many workers have been given *ex-gratia* payment and the amount given to each worker? What is the amount of the family pension given?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : These details are not with me at present. I shall sent them to you.

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : The Minister has stated that to improve the management, Government have appointed three Directors, two Functional Directors and one Managing Director and he thinks that this is going to improve the situation. Secondly, there is a proposal for the worker's participation, in the management. I would like to know whether the proposal has been considered, details worked out and whether it is going to be implemented soon.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Yes, Sir; they are being worked out, they are in operation already. We have told the unions that we will take their representatives on the advisory committee; I announced it there myself; they have been taken. Details are being worked out and they are showing results.

MR. SPEAKER : I would take the risk now and ask Datta Samat, the master craftsman in strikes, to put a question.

SHRI DATTA SAMANT : No worker would like to go on strike repeatedly unless there are some basic precipitating causes. As the Minister has given the number of strikes more than the days of the year, I would ask a specific question. What the average salary paid to these workmen? Secondly, you have met the workers and found out the causes of their dissatisfaction. What are the causes that the Minister has found out during his visit? The participation of workers in the management is a failure in this country. The workers should participate in the management, but what about shares? These announcements have been there unnecessarily for the last ten years. This is just academic propoganda. I would like to know, whether the Minister is going to work out the details for proper participation by the workmen. I would like to have specific answers to my three questions.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, the first thing, *i.e.* as far as minimum wage in Singareni Collieries is concerned, it is one of the highest in the country in coal industry. And it is Rs. 1200 per month. It is the minimum and the average comes to Rs. 1600 per months. It is one of the highest in any public sector undertaking in the country in coal industry. This is one of the reasons why the people feel that they can work for a few days and they can afford to have a holiday.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : There must be contract labour and temporary labour also.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Secondly, I identified the causes. When I went there I found this. In the name of radicalism, the so called people who formely used to call themselves Naxalites (because that was a popular word then), now call themselves radicals. Now, what does this radicalism mean? Whom are they trying to protect there? Are they trying to protect these well-paid employees? Sir, there are a few extremists in some pockets who go on sporadic strikes to pressurise.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Somewhere they are called mafia also.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : They have become mafia. Unfortunately, the established trade unions find themselves helpless before these so called extremists. Therefore, I had to tell the established trade unions that their own credibility is at stake. The only way out is to involve them. If there are any genuine disputes, they can be settled by talking across the table with the management. The fault is with the management also. As I said, if there is no management, if there is no chairman, no managing director and if every three months, he is being changed, then with whom they can negotiate. It was a chaotic condition. But now this has been settled. There is a chairman and there is a managing director and there are technical directors and planning directors. All this has been done and as I said, now in two months, there is a result, there is a better atmosphere I am hopeful that with the support of the Government of Andhra Pradesh in law and order matters, if we are firm with these ruffian elements, production in Singareni will improve.

Raids by Tax Authorities

*413. **SHRI H. M. PATEL :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that recently the number of raids by income-tax and other tax authorities has greatly increased;

(b) if so, the extent of success achieved in a summary form;

(c) whether Government are also aware of the adverse effect the raids have on diamond exports; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to avert the fall in export of diamonds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). During first three months of 1985, Income-tax Department conducted 1356 searches resulting in seizures of prima facie unaccounted assets valued at Rs. 7.75 crores approx. Drive against evasion of excise duty has been intensified and during January-March, 1985,

1616 cases were detected involving an estimated amount of excise duty of Rs. 37.59 crores. Customs searches were conducted for detection of under-valuation and consequent evasion of duty to the extent of Rs. 21.39 crores approximately.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : The question was whether Government are aware that recently the number of raids had abruptly increased. The answer would have been correct only if they had given the number of raids during the previous three months or during the previous six months or any figure like that. You have merely given the figure for the last three months, which shows that the number is 1356 and it is large enough. But it is not easy to see whether that number is more or less than whatever was the case before. Secondly, I would like to know this. You said, 'prima facie unaccounted assets valued at Rs. 7.75 crores.'

Will the Minister please say, according to his previous experience, what was the amount involved, because 1356 searches have produced only Rs. 7.75 crores ? I see from a newspaper report in the month of March 1985, which says : "Tax evasion of Rs. 100 crores detected." It refers to the same thing, viz. income-tax raids, customs duty raids and excise raids. So, I would very much like to know in respect of previous cases prior to this first quarter, i.e. whatever raids were conducted and whatever evasion was discovered, suspected, prima facie evasion was found : how many of those were actually proved to be evasion, and what was the extent of evasion which was proved, and what was the amount actually recovered ? I ask this because it is the public and general information that not more than 10 or 12 people in a year actually get penalised. Therefore, I would like the Minister to tell us what precisely is the position.

This is not a second question. This is a question arising from the three answers that have been given. Secondly, he says one thing about customs duties : about customs, he says that customs searches revealed evasion of duty amounting to Rs. 21.39 crores. Is it a fact that as a result of this customs duty evasion, customs officers take action to

prevent the release of goods which arrive for industrialists, and because of all these raids, they do not release them; and as a result, create more difficulty and virtual stoppage of production? Is it part of R. B. orders that your searches should result in actual stoppage of work, and so on? Or, do you only confine yourself to the cases in which evasion has been detected, and not penalize the industry for fresh goods that may arrive in Customs?

Then, you have given the third point...
(*Interruption*) I have not put all the questions.

MR. SPEAKER : You have been a Minister yourself, Mr. Patel. This is not the way. I do not except this from you. I think you were just answering as a Minister yourself. That is all.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The corresponding figures for the corresponding period are not available. I have asked for the figures, and I will definitely inform the hon. Member; I will place them before the House. I have asked for all the figures in the morning. So far as the delay...

SHRI H. M. PATEL : To say that my question was not relevant because I ask for previous figures, seems to be very strange. It is very relevant because it is only then one can see why I had put the question, *viz.* why have the raids suddenly increased. Let me put just put one question. No more than that.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : He is perfectly correct. In the morning itself, I had asked for the figures, and they are collecting them. I will furnish them. They will be laid on the Table of the House. I am in agreement with the hon. Member, and I have already done it; and they will be placed before the House.

So far as the delay in disposal is concerned, it is not the case of the Government that delay will be caused in the disposal of the goods. It is not the intention, and instructions have been given that as per the law, they have to dispose them of quickly, and no delay should be caused. And further, at the cost of repetition, I may give information to the hon. Member that such incidents will not be there in future.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : He has not given

a full answer to the income-tax part of my question. I will not press it. I also want to know another thing. He said that it does not happen about customs duty raids that goods coming along are delayed.

That is not a fact. But I will suggest that he should make further enquiry to see whether they do or do not take similar action. Is there any code of conduct prescribed for the searching officers when they make these searches. These are not only in the case of income tax but industry also—excise as well as customs. It involves industrialists. Do they treat them with the utmost discourtesy treating them as if the crime has been proved or an offence has been proved? Do they not get the benefit of the fact that until it is proved, they should deem to be innocent. (*Interruptions*) No, there is no need to discuss this. I am not suggesting anything more than that. Normal, reasonable courtesy should be extended to them until the crime is proved. Whatever action you have to take, you are entitled to take that; certainly you take it. But I want to know whether this has happened or not because there are stories to this effect. Then I want to mention about the effect on diamond industry. You said, no. Is it not a fact that diamond trade went on strike for a considerable period of time after these raids took place?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : So far as violation of the seizure rules concerned, I may say, if there is any specific instance brought to the notice of the government, definitely we will take action against those people. But no rule could be violated. They have to conduct raids as per rules and guidelines; and if there is any violation that is brought to our notice, definitely the assurance will be given that we will take action. So far as the hon. Member's question whether the government are aware of the adverse effect the raids have been having no diamond export is concerned, I want to bring it to the notice of the House that during the course of the raid on a diamond shop what had happened actually was this. The packages were found containing diamond in a shop. When these people conducted the raid and seized the diamond, the contention of the shopkeeper was that it belonged to somebody; and that somebody did not leave even a picce of

document to show that it belonged to him. The contention of the association is that this practice was going on should not come in their way; this should be allowed to continue. I will leave it to the kind attention of the hon. members and to the nation through this House whether it could be possible to allow these people to continue this sort of business; and for the information of the House, I can say, even a chit giving the name and address of the person who has kept that diamond there was not mentioned; and expectation of the association is that we should not take action. Now, whether it is possible it is for the House to consider.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : I think this lecture was totally unnecessary to me. My question is : whether government are also aware of the adverse effects of the raid on the diamond trade. You could have said, yes or no or there is no adverse effect.

MR. SPEAKER : I think he has explained something which is beneficial.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Where was it necessary to give this lecture ? I understand that.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I must express my appreciation of what the Minister of State said just now that he asked for information only this morning. You are aware that 10 days are there. You are the custodian of the House; you must protect us. Ten days before we have to give a notice. In fact, it is one month; we have to struggle very hard in the ballot one month before the question comes up.

MR. SPEAKER : Have you heard about that : better late than never ?

SHRI G G SWELL : No, Sir. I think now we should be earlier not later than never. I should suppose whenever a question goes to the Minister, he should be aware of what the implications are; he should give direction to the Ministry what kind of information he wants and not come to the House at the last moment saying that I had for the information.

The other day we had that experience in this House when the question was about China and the Minister did not have information with regard to oil production in China.

Now, what I would say is that, after more than one thousand raids you had netted only a little over Rs. 7 crores. This is a proverbial labour of the mountain producing a mole hill.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Mosquito, mosquito !

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I would like to know—this is a loss to the nation—whether it is a fact that 1,700 crores of rupees till today has been the loss of the Government because of the various injunctions given to the smugglers who had never paid this money to the Government. And, I would like to know whether the position in the country is such that smugglers are holding our tax and customs officers to ransom, some of them have been enticed, some have been blackmailed, and some of them have even been murdered. How do you propose to deal with it and what action has been taken ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I share the hon. Member's concern about the smugglers. I want to bring to the notice of the House what is happening in some of the courts in the Calcutta High Court. There and it is better the hon. Members from West Bengal take cognizance of this—are 78 contempt cases against one Customs Collector of Calcutta. What is the reason ? There *ex parte* injunctions have been given without hearing the Government, the Collector, and ** injunctions were given, without hearing the parties and even some of the people who belonged to some other big towns also, metropolitan towns, can open one shop or one office there is Calcutta and they can obtain an injunction. Likewise, I fully agree with the hon. Member that it is happening and we are taking action also.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : How to come out of the situation ? Because the Department also has come out with remedial measures.**

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I have already noted it. I have taken cognizance of it. That will not go on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : How can only show his concern. He cannot cast aspersions. I have taken note of it.

Royalty payable to States on Coal, Iron ore and Steel

*414. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH

GOSWAMI :

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to increase the royalty on items such as coal, iron ore and steel;

(b) if so, the rate etc. of the royalty to be paid to States on account of coal, iron ore and steel; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). Under Section 9 of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, royalty is payable by a holder of a mining lease in respect of any mineral removed or consumed by him or by his agent, manager, employee, contractor or sub-lessee from the leased area at the rate, for the time being specified, in the Second Schedule of the aforesaid Act in respect of that mineral. Section 9 (3) of the said Act empowers the Central Government to enhance or reduce the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral once during a period of 4 years.

The rate of royalty on coal was last revised with effect from 13-2-1981. To consider the question of further revision of royalty rate on coal, a Study Group was constituted in November, 1984. The Study Group will be submitting its report shortly and after considering the recommendations of the Study Group, the royalty rate on coal will be suitable revised.

The rate of royalty in respect of iron ore was last revised with effect from 12-6-1978. A Study Group was constituted to consider

the revision of royalty rate on most of the major minerals, including iron ore in November, 1984 and the Study Group is likely to submit its report by August, 1985 after which the royalty rate on iron ore will be revised, if necessary, after taking into consideration the recommendations made by the Study Group.

Steel is a ferro-alloy and final product of iron ore. This, being a metal, is not specified in the Second Schedule of the MM (R and D) Act, 1957 which covers only minerals. No royalty is, therefore, payable on Steel and, therefore, the question of revision of rate of royalty on steel does not arise.

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH

GOSWAMI : The question of royalty is a big bone of contention between the States and the Centre and in view of that it has come in the Press that royalty on crude oil has already been trebled—from Rs. 61 it has gone up to Rs. 185—I would like to know from the Minister whether in view of the feeling in some States of being deprived and being discriminated against, in view of these feelings prevalent in some States, whether the Government will come forward and consider, at a very early time, the question of increasing the royalty on these items commensurate with the prices.

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Production Cost of different kinds of Steel

*405. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the production cost of different kinds of steel, plant-wise just before the announcement of recent price hike;

(b) the reasons for difference, if any, between the production cost of steel plants in private and public sectors; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to minimise such difference and also to reduce

the production cost so as to make steel available to consumers at cheaper rates ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The production costs differ from plant to plant due to differences in raw material costs and different product-mix, working conditions and capital related costs.

Steps beina taken to reduce the production costs of public sector steel plants include higher capacity utilisation, improvement in technological processes and better maintenance and economy in expenditure.

Pilferages from warehouse of Collectorate of Customs, Bombay

*407. SHRI NATAVARSINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of pilferage have been reported from the warehouse of Collectorate of Customs, Bomfay located at 400, Veer Savarkar Marg, Bombay;

(b) if so, the total value of goods pilfered so far;

(c) whether this warehouse is located in a residential locality and the warehouse has since been declared "Residential area" from "General Industrial area" by Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not shifting the goods from the warehouse to some industrial/commercial area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government had notified sometime back its sanction for the change in use from "General Industrial" to "Residential"; but the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay is reported to have not taken cognizance of the change so far.

(d) Collector of Customs, Bombay is making efforts to locate suitable alternative accommodation,

Insurance Claims for Damages caused during Riots in Delhi

*408. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of parties which got more than one crore as insurance claim for the damages caused due to November, 1984 riots in Delhi; and

(b) whether the damages have been scrutinised properly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to information furnished by the General Insurance Corporation, no party in Delhi has been paid by any of the 4 subsidiaries of G.I.C., more than Rs. 1 crore by way of insurance claims for the damages caused due to November, 1984 disturbances.

However, it has been reported that the fire claims of M/s. Mohan Machines Ltd. had been assessed by the duly licensed surveyors and loss assessors for an aggregate amount of Rs. 1.21 crores (against an insurance cover of Rs. 4 crores) out of which Rs. 79.50 lakhs has been paid 'on account' by the National Insurance Company Ltd. Further processing of these claims is under way for the balance amount involved.

(b) The claim was duly scrutinised by the company and 'on account' payments made after securing the requisite approval of the Board of Directors of the National Insurance Company.

Steps to Check Clandestine Trade in Narcotics at Cochin and Trivandrum

*411. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cochin and Trivandrum have been identified as two major transit ports for clandestine trade in narcotics;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the quantity of the drugs with value seized at these and other transit ports in the country during the last one year till date and how

does the figure compare with the quantity (with value) of the drugs seized during the previous year;

(c) the measures taken by Government to identify and liquidate the channels through which the clandestine trade in narcotics is carried on in the country;

(d) the coordinating agencies to check the abuse and illegal trade in drugs in the country; and

(e) whether Government have made any assessment with regard to their effectiveness or otherwise in checking the clandestine trade in narcotics ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reports received and seizures made do not indicate that Cochin and Trivandrum are two major transit points for clandestine trade in narcotics.

A statement indicating the number of cases and the quantity of drugs seized, while being attempted to be illicitly imported/exported, is enclosed.

As regards value, the illicit market price of narcotic drugs varies widely depending upon various factors like purity, place of sale, local demand and supply position, etc. There being no authentic price for such clandestine transactions, no precise value can be furnished.

(c) The various enforcement agencies have further intensified their intelligence and preventive activities to identify and stem the channels through which drug-trafficking takes place.

(d) and (e). The important enforcement agencies to check illegal trade in drugs in the country are the State Police and Excise authorities, Central Bureau of Narcotics, Border Security Force, Central Bureau of Investigation, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the Customs and Central Excise Department. Action regarding prevention of drug-abuse is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare.

Their effectiveness in checking clandestine trade in narcotics is kept under constant review for appropriate action.

Statement

Statement showing the Details of drugs seized at the Ports including Land Borders During the years 1983, 1984 and 1985.

| | 1983 | | 1984 | | 1985 (upto 31.3.85) | |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | No. of cases | Qty. (in kgs.) | No. of cases | Qty. (in kgs.) | No. of cases | Qty. (in kgs.) |
| Opium | 126 | 3875.410 | 99 | 3430.341 | Not | available |
| Heroin | 46 | 117.153 | 49 | 175.927 | Not | available |
| Morphine | 3 | 2.897 | 7 | 5.200 | Not | available |
| Ganja | 63 | 14840.847 | 71 | 10423.055 | Not | available |
| | | | (2)* | *(2.500) | (1)* | *(134.595) |
| Charas | 189 | 3194.351 | 109 | 3801.565 | Not | available |
| | (4)* | *(1,664) | (1)* | *(516.502) | Not | available |
| Cocaine | 2 | 0.095 | — | — | Not | available |
| Other Drugs | 5 | 58.600 | 91 | 1639.498 | Not | available |

Figures for 1984 and 1985 are provisional.

*Figures indicate the number of cases and quantities of the drugs seized in Cochin and

Inclusion of Cardamom Plantations in the Priority Sector

*412. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to include cardamom plantations in the priority sector for the purpose of bank financing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Medium and long term development Loans for all plantation crops including cardamom plantations are already treated as priority sector advances.

(b) Does not arise.

Ratio of Government Revenue and Taxes

*415. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the collections of wealth tax, gift tax and estate duty (abolished in this year's budget) constituted just half per cent of the total revenue collected by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the year 1983 under each head;

(c) whether the cost of collection is more than the revenue collected; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider abolition of the wealth tax and gift tax also which have remained unproductive ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Financial Year 1983-84, out of total revenue of Rs. 25738.18 crores, the collections from wealth-tax, gift-tax and estate duty amounted respectively to Rs. 93.31, Rs. 8.84 and Rs. 26.46 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production target of E.C.L.

*416. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES

AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Eastern Coalfields Ltd. has fallen short of the production target;

(b) if so, by how much; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to increase the production ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The coal production target and actual production in ECL for the year 1984-85 is given below :

(In million tonnes).

| Target for 1984-85 | Actual production in 1984-85 (provisional) | Shortfall against target |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 25.10 | 23.11 | (—) 1.99 |

(c) Several steps have been taken to increase coal production which include improving infrastructural facilities, sanctioning of new mines, improving productivity of men and machinery and controlling absenteeism.

Clearance of Proposal of Nabard for Opening of Regional Rural Banks

*417. SHRI N. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Steering Committee of NABARD have cleared the proposal for establishment of Regional Rural Banks in East Godavari and West Godavari, Nizamabad, Rangareddy and Krishna sponsored by Andhra Bank, State Bank of Hyderabad and Indian Bank which had already been cleared by the Ministry of Finance;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have also sanctioned release of the State's share of the share capital contribution in respect of the above Regional Rural Banks;

(c) whether Union Government have issued orders notifying the establishment of the Regional Rural Banks ;

(d) if so, their location and headquarters and area of operation;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(f) the time by which the orders are likely to be notified ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (f). The Steering Committee of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development had recommended for the establishment of four additional Regional Rural Banks in

Andhra Pradesh covering five districts namely, Rangareddy, Nizamabad, Krishna, East Godavari and West Godavari.

Government have issued notifications in regard to the establishment of two Regional Rural Banks, sponsored by the State Bank of Hyderabad. The details of these two RRBs are indicated below :

| Name of the Regional Rural Banks | Date of Establishment | Head Quarters | Area of Operation |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Golconda Grameena Bank | 15.2.85 | Hyderabad | Rangareddy District |
| Srirama Grameena Bank | 21.2.85 | Nizamabad | Nizamabad District |

As regards the remaining two Regional Rural Bans (RRBs), one covering the district of Krishna and the other covering East and West Godavari districts, the Government of India have not taken any final decision in the matter. Government of Andhra Pradesh have issued the necessary sanction for investment of its share in the issued share capital of all the four Regional Rural Banks.

Enhanced Compensation for Lands Acquired for Visakhapatnam Steel Project

*418. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether lands were acquired for Vishakhapatnam Steel Project at the pegged down rates as on 1st April, 1966 and whether Courts have ordered for payment of enhanced compensation in several cases:

(b) whether Government have examined in the light of the decrees passed by Civil Courts, the issue relating to payment of enhanced compensation to the awardees who could not approach courts due to ignorance and poverty; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Lands for Visakhapatnam Steel Project have been acquired by the Government of Andhra

Pradesh under the provisions of Land Acquisition Act 1894 as amended by Visakhapatnam Steel Project (Acquisition of Lands) Act 1972. According to this Act, compensation shall be awarded by the Collector on the basis of the market value of the land on 1.4.1966 and the value of any improvements effected after that date and before the publication of the notification under Section 4(1) or market value of the land on the date of the publication of the said notification, whichever is less. It is true that the Courts have ordered payment of enhanced compensation on references sought by the land owners.

(b) and (c). The Government of Andhra Pradesh, on finding that no uniform procedure was adopted by the Courts in granting higher compensation which ordered at different rates in different cases, have gone in appeal to the High Court against the orders of the lower Courts. While in a few cases, the High Court has confirmed the orders of the lower Courts, the majority of cases are still pending in the High Court. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has also gone in appeal to the Supreme Court against the judgement of the High Court.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh had proposed in September 1983 for ex-gratia payment, outside the provision of the Land Acquisition Act, for the awardees who had not approached the Courts seeking higher and compensation. The matter was examined by the Visakhapatnam Steel Project Authori-

ties who informed the State Government that since the appeals filed against Lower Courts' Orders were still pending in the High Court, it would not be desirable to take a decision on this matter till the appeals are disposed off.

Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant

***419. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:**
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a programme for modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant in Orissa has been drawn up;

(b) if so, the details and the estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the time schedule for affecting this modernisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) to (c). The scheme for renovation and technological upgradation of Rourkela Steel Plant has been prepared and is under consideration of Government.

The scheme envisages that the rated capacity of the plant would be restored by adoption of appropriate and cost effective technologies.

The cost and time frame of completion will be known after an investment decision is taken.

Proposal to set up or Renovate Steel Plant in West Bengal

***420. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :**
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government either to set up or to renovate any steel plant in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a)

and (b). There is no proposal to set up any new steel plant in West Bengal. However, schemes for renovation and technological upgradation of the steel plants at Durgapur and Burnpur have been prepared and are under various stages of consideration.

The schemes envisage that the rated capacities of the plants would be restored by adoption of appropriate and cost effective technologies. The cost and time frame of completion will be known after investment decisions are taken.

Foreign Exchange Earnings from Export-Oriented Units

***421. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :**
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the number of export-oriented units set up in the country during the years 1982, 1983 and 1984;

(b) the foreign exchange spent on import of technology, plant equipment, component and raw material requirements; and

(c) the foreign exchange earnings from export by each of these units year-wise since 1982 till 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) 27 (Twenty seven) 100% export-oriented units approved during 1981, 19 (nineteen) approved during 1982 and 11 (eleven) approved during 1983 have commenced production and exports;

(b) Total imports by these 57 units by way of plant, equipment, components and raw material requirements until December, 1984, aggregated to an amount of Rs. 231.94 crores. Details regarding foreign exchange spent on the import of technology are not available separately.

(c) The requisite details are in the attached statement.

Statement

Statement showing Exports of 100% Export Oriented Unit which have gone into production and are exporting

Exports (value in laos Rs.)

| S. No. | Name of the party | 1981-82 | 1982-83 | 1983-84 | 1984-85 |
|--------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | M/s. A.M.D. Overseas Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi | — | — | — | 4.12 |
| 2. | M/s. Badkhhah Electronics Ltd., Faridabad | — | 6.60 | 3.72 | 2.22 |
| 3. | The Champdany Jute Co. Ltd., Calcutta | — | — | 18.66 | 225.14 |
| 4. | Delta Jute and Industries Ltd., Calcutta | — | 92.03 | 234.90 | 336.03 |
| 5. | Findex India Ltd., N. Delhi | — | — | — | 2.99 |
| 6. | Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd., Tumsar | — | — | 774.93 | 1675.23 |
| 7. | Indian Xerographic Systems Ltd., Bombay | — | 967.75 | 970.41 | 943.64 |
| 8. | India Export House Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad | — | 0.05 | 45.68 | 95.51 |
| 9. | Indus Electronics Bihar | — | — | 2.38 | 9.81 |
| 10. | Khammam Granites Ltd., Madras | 17.69 | 0.53 | 8.19 | — |
| 11. | Lavino Kapoor Cottons Ltd., Bombay | 260.38 | 129.91 | 115.22 | 138.15 |
| 12. | Nova Silk Ltd., Bangalore | — | — | 40.87 | 47.34 |
| 13. | Swiss Jewels (I) Ltd., Bombay | — | 10.37 | 4.89 | 6.88 |
| 14. | Shaw Wallace Co. Calcutta | — | 2.06 | 74.36 | 119.74 |
| 15. | The Scientific Instrument Co. Ghaziabad | — | 0.12 | — | 0.32 |
| 16. | Wheels India Ltd., Madras | 11.37 | 47.69 | 73.20 | 30.15 |
| 17. | Zuari Stainless Steel Industries Bombay | — | — | 5.75 | 10.35 |
| 18. | GKB Ophthalmics Ltd., Goa | — | — | 28.68 | 40.48 |
| 19. | Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd., Orissa. | — | — | 178.61 | 146.71 |
| 20. | Kareem Cascami Ltd., Karnataka | 53.31 | 154.82 | 215.96 | 60.07 |
| 21. | Modern Stramit (India) Ltd., Andhra Pradesh | — | — | — | 1.17 |
| 22. | Nathani Steels Pvt. Ltd., Bombay | — | — | 24.08 | 44.55 |
| 23. | Keva Fragrances Pvt. Ltd., Bombay | — | — | — | 17.42 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|---|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 24. | K.P. Export Industries, N. Delhi. | — | — | 3.32 | — |
| 25. | Nav Maharashtra Chakkan Oil Mills Pune | — | 48.65 | 140.62 | 53.73 |
| 26. | Universal Magnetic Chandigarh | — | — | 0.09 | — |
| 27. | Dyumani Chemicals Madras | 1.90 | 6.15 | — | — |
| 28. | Abiq Plastics Pvt. Ltd., Madras | — | — | 2.80 | 80.99 |
| 29. | Greeta Musical Instrument and Mfg. Co., Madras | — | 0.01 | 0.23 | 8.67 |
| 30. | Harwood Garments Ltd., Bangalore | — | 2.66 | 23.54 | 48.74 |
| 31. | H.G. Resistors Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore | — | — | 6.12 | 35.76 |
| 32. | Ligna Parquet Inds. Pvt. Ltd., Madras | — | — | 3.81 | 6.62 |
| 33. | Magnetic Information Technology Ltd., Punjab | — | — | 41.61 | 156.65 |
| 34. | Nava Bharat Enterprises Ltd. Hydera- bad | — | 733.57 | 686.82 | 570.00 |
| 35. | Indo Asahi Glass Co. Ltd., West Bengal | 5.75 | 13.48 | 12.23 | 18.81 |
| 36. | Kar Mobiles Ltd., Tumkur | — | — | — | 2.75 |
| 37. | Rol Kobo Chain Co. Gujrat | — | — | 5.24 | 15.47 |
| 38. | Speciality Fats Pvt. Ltd., Bombay | — | 91.56 | 156.50 | 5.41 |
| 39. | Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd., Bangalore | 701.00 | 1494.00 | 1753.00 | 2062.00 |
| 40. | Dastur Associates Bombay | — | — | — | 6.35 |
| 41. | South Indian Refractories Pvt. Ltd., Salem | — | — | — | 3.87 |
| 42. | Pal Bro International Surat | — | — | — | 77.71 |
| 43. | Rewdale Precision Tools P. Ltd., Bangalore | — | — | — | 4.26 |
| 44. | Composite Tool Co. (I) P. Ltd., Jamshedpur | — | — | — | 1.50 |
| 45. | Nanco Overseas Mysore | — | — | — | 1.33 |
| 46. | Gokaldas Images Bangalore | — | — | — | 8.61 |
| 47. | Poona Dal and Beans Ltd; Pune | — | — | 54.92 | 258.10 |
| 48. | Gogte Textiles Ltd.. Karnataka | — | — | — | 51.82 |
| 49. | Olympia Exports Pvt. Ltd., Kanpur | — | — | — | 2.20 |
| 50. | East and West, Calcutta | — | — | — | 1.00 |
| 51. | Pond's (India) Ltd., Pandicherry | — | — | 3.09 | 49.49 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 52. | Fibro Made Ups Co. Hyderabad | — | — | — | 20.00 |
| 53. | Gem Granites, Madras | — | — | 48.16 | 84.79 |
| 54. | The Scientific Farm Consultancy Services P. Ltd., Madras | — | — | — | 0.18 |
| 55. | Themis Chemicals Ltd., Vapi | — | — | 91.77 | — |
| 56. | Sterling Stationery Industries, Bombay | — | — | — | 0.17 |
| 57. | Arkay Exports, Ghaziabad | — | — | 73.85 | — |
| Total | | 1041.40 | 3796.01 | 5930.21 | 7530.00 |

Source : Reports received from the Units.

Import of Coal

*422. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to State :

(a) whether the quality of coal in the country has gone down and coal of better quality is being imported;

(b) the details of import of coal in the country during the last three years with year/amount-wise break-up;

(c) the steps being taken to improve the quality of coal and to discontinue import of coal; and

(d) since when we are importing coal and for which industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The ash content in the washed coking coal supplied to SAIL by Coal India Limited has been showing a rising trend over past years. Low ash content coking coal with less than 10% ash is being imported by SAIL primarily to meet the shortfall between requirements and domestic availability.

(b) SAIL imported 1.38 million tonnes of coking coal in 1982-83, 0.463 million tonnes in 1983-84 and 0.665 million tonnes in 1984-85.

(c) A number of measures have been adopted by Coal India Limited to improve the quality of coking coal supplies to steel plants, including the following :

(i) Supply of raw coal to washeries

with high ash percentage and poor caking characteristics to the washeries has been minimised.

(ii) Maximum possible attention is being given to ensure better maintenance and operation of the Washerries.

(iii) Major modifications have been carried out in some of the Washerries by the installation of balancing facilities to optimise their performance.

As our coals are very difficult to wash and need a specialised treatment, as a long term measure, a separate institute for designing and constructing new coal washeries is being set up; which will ensure the adoption of the latest washing technology to suit Indian coals.

(d) Coking coal imports for steel plants has been taking place since 1978-79.

Recently Government has permitted import of coal by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board through MMTC to enable the Tuticorin Thermal Power Station to build up a buffer stock.

[Translation]

Incentive to Informers of Tax Evaders

*423. SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give attractive incentives to those informers

(including Government employees) who give reliable information about the tax evasion just as Government have decided to give 20 per cent of the total value of the goods seized from the smugglers in the case of smuggling to such informers; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Informers and Government employees are eligible for rewards up to 20% of the excise duty or customs duty sought to be evaded plus 20% of the fine and penalty levied/imposed and realised, provided the amount does not exceed 20% of the market value of the goods involved.

Grant of rewards to informants who furnish specific information in income-tax, wealth tax and estate duty cases, which result in the assessment and collection of taxes on concealed income, wealth or estate is regulated from time to time. No reward is granted to a Government employee who furnishes information or evidence obtained by him in the course of his normal duty as a Government employee.

Closure of Diamond Mines in Panna District (Madhya Pradesh)

*424. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for closing diamond mines in Panna District in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to solve the livelihood problem of the labourers of these mines rendered jobless ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Of the two diamond mines developed by the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) in Majhgawan and Ramkheria in Panna District (Madhya Pradesh) in 1967, the mine at Ramkheria was closed in 1979 on account of its uneconomic production, low yields and the exhaustion of reserves.

(b) There was no retrenchment consequent to the closure of Ramkheria mine. Those who did not opt for the Voluntary

Retirement Scheme introduced by the Corporation were absorbed at the Majhgawan mine.

[English]

Suggestions by Agricultural Association Regarding Larger Allocations for Agricultural Research

2755. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some representatives of Agricultural Association have urged his Ministry to provide for larger allocations for agricultural research especially in the field of pulses and cereals;

(b) if so, the details regarding the suggestions that have been made by the representatives of the Association; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). In the informal pre-budget meeting of the Finance Minister with Agriculturists on 11th February, 1985, there were some general observations about the need to provide more funds for agricultural development, including research. The suggestions are of a general nature and are kept in view in the formulation of Government policies from time to time.

Representation against appearance of religious materials mixed up with imported waste paper at Calcutta Port

2756. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether members of Muslim community residing in Calcutta Port area have made any representation protesting against the frequent appearance of religious materials including pages from the Quran mixed up in the bales of waste paper imported at Calcutta Port from Singapore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed against the importers;

(d) whether all religious materials were

segregated from waste paper bales before delivery of the cargo to the importers; and

(e) the names and addresses of the foreign suppliers/importers involved in such imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) the representation was that certain consignments of waste paper imported at Calcutta were found to have pages from religious books mixed up in them.

(b) On matter being enquired into, some stray consignments of waste paper imported at Calcutta were found to contain some religious material.

(c) Apart from the prohibition on import of religious books as waste paper contained in the Import Policy, a notification was

issued under section 11 of the Customs Act prohibiting import of waste paper containing pages of or material from holy books into India. Exemption from customs duty was modified to restrict its scope to certain categories of waste paper on which possibility of such mix-up was not there. As regards individual importations, where waste paper bales were found to contain religious material, appropriate action under the law, including confiscation of goods, imposition of fine and penalty was taken. In some cases, goods were ordered to be re-shipped. Off-loading at Calcutta of consignments still on board was dis-allowed.

(d) Yes, sir.

(e) A list of names and addresses of foreign suppliers/importers involved in such imports at Calcutta is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Names and addresses of Foreign suppliers and Indian Importers involved in such imports

| Importers Name and Address | Foreign Suppliers Name and Address |
|--|---|
| 1. Sanjay Paper Chemical Industries Ltd., 33A, Jawaharlal Nehru Road. Calcutta | 1. HI-RIL (Singapore) PTE. LTD., Still Road, P.O. Box No. 384, Singapore-9142 |
| 2. Emami Paper Mills Ltd., 18, R.N. Mukherjee Road, Calcutta-700001 | 2. R.N. Awasthi Trading Co. Singapore. |
| | 3. M/s. Minerva (Singapore) Pvt. Ltd., Singapore |

Need to Modernise Handloom

2757. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an immediate need to modernise handloom;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to give due importance to handloom; and

(c) if so, the details of the provision made for handloom under the new textile policy during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Seventh Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised. However, an amount of Rs. 348 crores has been proposed for the Handloom Sector.

Meeting of Plant Level Advisory Committee of NALCO

2758. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not calling the second meeting of the Plant Level Advisory Committee of National Aluminium Company Ltd.;

(b) whether the constitution of the Committee has been delayed and the meeting is not regular as per the Bureau of Public Enterprises guidelines; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry to streamline the whole procedure and policy in the interest of the development of the ancillary industries in and around the Alumina Aluminium Complex in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A Plant Level Advisory Committee (PLAC) was not constituted last year. The first meeting of the PLAC was held on 14th July, 1984. On its recommendations, the following committees were set up :

- (i) One Plant Level Committee (PLC).
- (ii) Two Plant Level Sub Committees (PLSC) for Damanjodi and Angul sector.
- (iii) One Entrepreneurs Selection Committee (ESC).

As NALCO project is in the construction stage, the scope for ancillarisation is limited. However, NALCO have identified items for ancillarisation and accorded certain concessions to Small Scale Industries and other local parties registered with Government of Orissa and National Small Industries Corporation. Scope and prospects of ancillarisation during the operational stage have also been identified.

The next meeting of the PLAC is likely to be convened shortly.

Export of Marine Products

2759. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the big houses and multinational companies which are exporting marine products;

(b) the export made by these companies during the year 1984 and foreign exchange earned thereby;

(c) whether there is a decline in the export of marine products;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to increase the marine products during the year 1985 and the quantity likely to be exported.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The main big houses and multinational companies exporting marine products are, M/s. Konkan Fisheries Ltd., Tata Oil Mills Ltd., Voltas Ltd., Chowgule Engineers and Machines Ltd., Madras Rubber Factory, Spencer and Company, Britennia Seafoods, ITC Ltd., Rallis India Ltd., Union Carbide India Ltd., Hindustan Lever Ltd. and Wimco Ltd. During the year 1984, these companies exported approximately Rs. 21.6 crores worth of marine products.

(c) to (e). Foreign exchange earnings from marine products exports have generally shown an increase in the past few years, although quantities have shown some fluctuation depending on the catch.

Steps taken to increase the marine product exports include promotion of prawn farming, joint ventures and other schemes for development of deep sea fishing, diversified fisheries, improvement in fishing gear and craft, modernisation of processing plants and encouragement for value added items. The quantity likely to be exported during 1985 is presently estimated at 87,000 tonnes.

[Translation]

Safeguard of Interest of Handloom Sector from Powerloom

2760. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether he is aware that lakhs of handloom weavers are being rendered unemployed due to the setting up of powerlooms on a large scale in the traditional field of handloom in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of unauthorised powerloom being operated as per Government's estimate;

(c) whether Government propose to take any step to safeguard the interest of handloom sector from powerloom; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) The possibility that an expanding powerloom sector would adversely affect the decentralised handloom sector cannot be ruled out.

(b) Since the powerloom are unauthorised, no precise estimate regarding their number can be indicated.

(c) and (d). Government had formulated a separate legislation known as 'The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Bill, 1985' which has already been passed by both the Houses of Parliament. The Bill seeks to reserve certain items of textiles for exclusive production by the Handloom sector.

[English]

Opening of Gramin Banks in Kangra District

2761. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gramin Bank in Himachal Pradesh has decided to open its branches in Kangra district (Tehsil Dehra) at (i) Pirsaluhi, (ii) Chamukha and (iii) Guler;

(b) if so, the likely dates by which the branches are proposed to be opened;

(c) if not, whether efforts have been made by the Gramin Bank to obtain licences for opening the branches at these places from the Reserve Bank of India; and

(d) if so, the results thereof and the likely dates by which the licences would be obtained and branches opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SARI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The Himachal Gramin Bank has applied for licence for opening a branch at Pirsaluhi in Kangra district. The Himachal Gramin Bank has not applied to Reserve Bank of India for opening branches at the other two centres, namely, Chamukha and Guler.

Since branch expansion programme for the State of Himachal Pradesh for 1982-85 has been completed, the Reserve Bank of

India has decided to consider the request of Himachal Gramin Bank for opening a branch at Pirsaluhi under branch expansion policy for 1985-90.

Increase of 'Yarn Banks'

2762. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of 'Yarn Banks' in the country State-wise;

(b) whether Government will consider to increase their number in view of the difficulties faced in the timely and adequate availability of yarn at reasonable prices; and

(c) if so, the details of any plan to increase the number and their location at several centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Various State Handloom Agencies have opened their own yarn depots in their respective States. However, details in respect of number of such yarn depots are not available. N.T.C. have also opened yarn sale depots at 18 places.

National Handloom Development Corporation has opened two yarn banks of its own at Gauhati and Bihar Sharif so far. It has also collaborated with the Kerala State Handloom Development Corporation in the opening of two yarn banks in Kerala at Cannanore and Trivandrum.

(b) and (c) . The National Handloom Development Corporation proposes to open more yarn banks in various parts of the country in a phased manner. It also proposes to supply yarn to the yarn banks/depots opened by the State Handloom Agencies.

Mechanism for Consultations and Co-operation amongst Main and Mini Steel Plants and Re-rollers.

2763. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have realised the need for working out a mechanism for constant consultations and co-operation

amongst main and mini steel plants and re-rollers in the country to galvanize the steel industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) (a) and (b). A forum for periodic consultation and review amongst main steel plants, mini-steel plants and re-rollers is available in the form of an Advisory Committee on Steel Re-rolling Industry, under the chairmanship of the Iron and Steel Controller. The Committee has representatives from the re-rolling industry mini-steel plants and main Producers as its members. Government has also set up a Steel Advisory Council under the chairmanship of Minister for Steel, Mines and Coal and having representatives of steel industry experts, steel consumers, labour leaders and Government officials as members. The Council will advise Government both on long-term and short-term plans for the efficient functioning of the steel industry. In addition, five Action Groups have also been set up to indentify the most appropriate strategies to deal with the problems of the steel industry. These Action Groups will deal with :

- (1) Investment Priorities for the future;
- (2) Improving operations in the short term;
- (3) Market Development;
- (4) Labour and Personnel; and
- (5) Project Management.

Grievances of Employees of Computer Cell of Reserve Bank of India

2764. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of Computer Cell of Reserve Bank of India have submitted a representation for redressal of their grievances like workload without due compensation;

(b) if so, reaction of Reserve Bank of India authorities thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to grant some relief to these employees on the lines of similarly placed employees of State Bank of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has received a representation from the Data Entry Operators attached to the Clearing House Computer Room of its New Delhi Office.

The Bank has further reported that the operators working on the Data Entry Terminals in the Computer Cell are required to give certain minimum output and the norms prescribed are considered reasonable and compare favourably with the norms prescribed by other agencies. These persons, in addition to the normal pay and allowances, draw a special allowance payable on account of working on the terminals. The question of comparing the emoluments and special allowance drawn by the Data Entry Operators with their counterparts in State Bank of India does not arise, as the Reserve Bank of India employees are governed by the provisions of the Dige Tribunal and subsequent wage settlements arrived at between the Bank and its employees and the employees of State Bank of India by the provisions of their various settlements between its Management and the unions.

Steps taken to Increase Exports to European Economic Community Countries

2765. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of the goods exported to European Economic Community (EEC) countries during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) whether there is a decline in the export to EEC countries;

(c) if so, the main reasons thereof;

(d) the names of the items which are being exported to EEC countries;

(e) the names of the items export of which is more affected; and

(f) the steps being taken to increase our export to EEC countries during the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) India's exports to EEC since 1982-83 have been as under :-

| (Rs. Crores) | | | |
|-------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1982-83 | 1983-84 | 1983 | 1984 |
| (April-September) | | | |
| 1475.10 | 1702.40 | 756.30 | 954.24 |

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Indian exports to EEC largely comprise of textiles, tea tobacco, spices, foodstuff, leather and leather products, precious and semi-precious stones, handicrafts and engineering items. Exports of most of these items have gone up.

(f) Efforts to increase Indian exports to the EEC countries are continuing by trade promotion measures such as exhibitions, trade fairs, exchange of delegations/missions conferences, information exchanges and other similar marketing efforts.

Instalments or Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees

2766. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether two instalments of dearness allowance have fallen due to the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the dates on which the instalments have fallen due;

(c) whether Supreme Court has delivered a judgement recently in regard to payment of instalments of dearness allowance to Central Government employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Consequent upon the increase of 8 points in the average Index Level to 576 at the end of Dec., 1984, only one instalment of Dearness Allowance has become due for consideration w.e.f. 1-1-1985.

(c) to (e). On a writ petition filed by the All India Railwaymen's Federation and other three Major Federations/Associations and two individuals, the Supreme Court issued the following interim order :

"The instalments of Dearness Allowance which have fallen due will be paid before the end of February, 1985 W.P. to be listed in due course."

The Government issued orders on 5-1-85 sanctioning the payment of arrears upto 31-8-1984, accruing on account of additional Dearness Allowance and Ad-hoc Dearness Allowance w.e.f. 1-1-1984, 1-2-1984, 1-4-84 and 1-6-1984. Sanction was also issued on 19th January, 1985, for payment of two instalments of Additional Dearness Allowance and Ad-hoc Dearness Allowance w.e.f. 1-8-1984 and 1-11-1984.

Restoration of Committed Value of Pension

2767. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the stage at which the Writ Petition filed in the Supreme Court for the restoration of commuted value of pension after 10 years to the retired Central Government servants stand at present;

(b) whether Government filed a caveat to this; and

(c) whether in view of the recommendations made by the Petitions Committees of the House and the miserable plight in which these pensioners are placed due to high cost of living, Government propose to consider afresh their prayer and restore the commuted value just as many other State Governments have done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE) : (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Writ Petition has been heard by the Supreme

Court and Government are awaiting their judgement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As the matter has already reached an advanced stage of consideration before the Supreme Court, further action will be taken in the light of the direction and the judgement given by the Supreme Court.

Setting up of Regional Rural Banks in Orissa

2768. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Regional Rural Banks set up by the Central Government in Orissa on consultation with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development;

(b) whether Government have also issued necessary instructions in this regard;

(c) if so, the details regarding location of their headquarters and area of operation; and

(d) the details indicating the average gap between receipt of contribution from the States and setting up of the banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). 9 Regional Rural Banks have been set up in the State of Orissa by the Central Government under the Regional Rural Banks Act 1976. These nine Regional Rural Banks provide coverage to all the 13 districts of the State. Necessary notifications were issued by Government at the time of setting up of the Regional Rural Banks.

(c) The details regarding the locations of the headquarters and area of operations of Regional Rural Banks in Orissa are set out below :

| Name of the Regional Rural Bank | Name of Head Quarters | Name of Districts Covered |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Puri Gramya Bank | Pipli | Puri |
| 2. Bolangir Anchalik Gramya Bank | Bolangir | Bolangir Samphalpur Sundergarh |
| 3. Cuttack Gramya Bank | Cuttack | Cuttack |
| 4. Koraput Panchbati Gramya Bank | Jaypore | Koraput |
| 5. Kalahandi Anchlika Gramya Bank | Bhawanipatna | Kalahandi Phulbani |
| 6. Baitarni Gramya Bank | Baripada | Mayurbhanj Keonjhar |
| 7. Balasore Gramya Bank | Balasore | Balasore |
| 8. Rushikulya Gramya Bank | Behrampur | Ganjam |
| 9. Dhenkandal Gramya Bank | Dhenkanal | Dhenkanal |

(d) The existing reporting system does not yield information regarding the date of receipt of the share capital from the State Government. Normally the share capital contribution is received by the Regional Rural Banks from the concerned State Government as also from other share holders, namely Central Government and the concerned sponsor banks soon after the establishment of the Regional Rural Bank.

Translating

Payment of Income tax and Excise Duty by Companies engaged in Manufacture of Pan Tobacco

2769. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many companies engaged in the manufacture of pan tobacco (used in betels) are committing large scale bungling in the payment of Income Tax and Excise Duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the particulars of the major Pan-tobacco manufacturing companies in the country;

(d) the details of their initial and present capital; and

(e) the measures being taken to check the evasion of taxes by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Credit Deposit Ratio in Various Nationalised Banks

2770. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing the credit deposit ratio of various nationalised banks in different States during the last three years, bank-wise, State-wise and year-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Information to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

News-Item Captioned "Bank Official Held"

2771. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "bank official held" appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of 17 January, 1985 bringing out the daring and outrageously fraud on the nationalised bank;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been looked into and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such systematic frauds in banks and come to the notice of Government earlier too;

(d) if so, the reasons why sufficient safeguards had not been provided to check the recurrence of such frauds in future; and

(e) the steps now being taken to put stop to such frauds in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item has been seen by the Government.

(b) Indian Bank has reported that one of its officers, Shri Raj Kumar Gautham, in collusion with another person committed the fraud at its branches at Greater Kailash (New Delhi), Gaziabad and New Delhi main. The total amount involved in the fraud is Rs. 3.12 lakhs out of which a sum of Rs. 1.95 lakhs (approx.) has been seized by the police. A sum of Rs. 0.87 lakhs is lying in the fictitious accounts opened by the suspects. The police had arrested Shri Gautham along-with his accomplice, but he was later released on bail. He has been placed under suspension by the bank with effect from 18-1-85.

(c) to (e). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that such frauds are thrown up by inter-branch reconciliation of accounts and banks have systems to detect such frauds. The RBI has further reported that although the existing safeguards are adequate to detect such frauds, yet after studying the modus operandi adopted in perpetrating frauds, it issues instructions/guidelines to banks from time to time so as to check the incidence of bank frauds.

Working of Cotton Corporation of India

2772. SHRI BEZHAWADA PAPI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India was set up with a view to help the cotton growers interest including increased production and remunerative prices;

(b) if so, whether these objectives have been fully achieved;

(c) whether a price @ Rs. 600 a quintal of cotton was paid to the Tamil Nadu Cotton growers in 1984-85 and whether cotton growers of Andhra Pradesh were offered only Rs. 500 per quintal;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to set up a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament to look into the above matter and the functioning the CCI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The most important objective of the Cotton Corporation of India is to lend support to the cotton growers. The Corporation enters the market right from the beginning of arrival of cotton and purchases cotton at ruling market prices in competition with other buyers. Its presence in the cotton market ensures remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The Corporation has also been designated as the agency to render price support operations in the event of the prices of cotton falling below the support level announced by the Government. In fulfilment of this objective, the Corporation has purchased a quantity of 34,790 bales from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh at support prices upto 8 April, 1985.

(c) and (d). The prices of cotton vary from variety to variety. Support price for DCH-32 and MCU-5 varieties of Kapas have been fixed at Rs. 600 and Rs. 555 per quintal respectively and the same price has been paid by the Cotton Corporation of India while effecting purchases under price support operations in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh without making any discrimination.

(e) No, Sir.

Opening of Branch of United Commercial Bank at Jangla, District Simla

2773. **SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Commercial Bank has proposed to open a branch office at Jangla, District Simla; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which this branch office or the bank is going to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A licence has been issued to United Commercial Bank on 5-3-1985 for opening a branch at Jangla District Simla, Himanchal Pradesh. The bank has been advised to open the branch as early as possible.

Incentives to Silk Exporters of Bihar

2774. **SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND

SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of silk exported from Bihar to various countries during the last two years; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to increase incentives to these silk exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Export of natural silk goods from Bihar is made mainly through the Bhagalpur certification centre of the Central Silk Board. During the last two years figures of export from this Centre are as under :

| Year | Qty. (lakh sq. mtrs.) |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 1982-83 | 8.12 |
| 1983-84 | 11.92 |

(b) Government have provided various incentives which are reviewed from time to time.

Capacity Utilisation of Steel Plants

2775. **SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the public sector steel plants in the country have been found working below capacity with regard to production of hot metal, ingot steel and saleable steel during the Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the poor show and the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). SAIL plants have not been able to operate at their rated capacities mainly because of constraints of adequate and the right quality of coking coal, deterioration in other raw materials, inadequate power supply, obsolete technology and ageing of plants. To achieve the rated capacity, efforts are being made to ensure adequate inputs and of the right quality, improvement in raw materials, better maintenance and technological upgradation by refurbishing and revamping of the steel plants.

Statement of Motor Insurance Claims

2776. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH TYAGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to settle motor and non-motor insurance claims without riot cover arising out of disturbances after 31 October 1984 at 50 per cent of the estimated cost or Rs. 50,000 whichever is lower as reported in the Times of India dated 26 February, 1985; and

(b) if so, the action taken or is proposed to be taken to settle these claims in the light of the above decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to pay these claims on the specified scale on receipt of their particulars from the insurance companies and to claim reimbursement of the amount from the Central Government thereafter.

Financial Straits in National Textile Corporation

2777. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has lately been in financial straits owing to large scale accumulation of unlifted controlled cloth;

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

(c) the steps taken to clear the accumulation and to streamline the cloth distribution to extricate the Corporation from the financial stringency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). As per the available information the National Textile Corporation Mills were having stocks of controlled cloth of around 17,449 bales as on 28th February, 1985, of value around Rs. 1047 lakhs and equivalent to about 1½ month's production which is within the normal limits. With a view to liquidate the stocks expeditiously, the National Textile Corporation is in continuous liaison with N.C.C.F. and Textile Commissioner,

Overstaffing in L.I.C.

2778. SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Corporation of India is stated to be grossly overstaffed and unbusiness like and if so, corrective steps proposed;

(b) whether the overheads of L.I.C. are one of the highest, leading to high premia and low bonuses; and

(c) whether Government propose to allow private sector units with insured as shareholders to enter the business with minimum Government interference as in the pre-independence period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir. The staffing pattern of the offices in the LIC is based on a formula laid down by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Government of India.

(b) Although there has been some increase in the overall expenditure due to inflation and rising costs, the overhead expense ratio and the renewal expense ratio have shown a steady decline and LIC has also declared higher bonus rates in the last few years.

(c) No, Sir.

Disincentives to Customs Officials

2779. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced certain incentives for the customs officials for seizing contraband items being smuggled into the country;

(b) whether any disincentives have also been announced in case the customs officials who are found lacking in performing their duties honestly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As part of the intensification of anti-smuggling drive, the scheme of rewards and other incentives granted to informers and depart-

mental officials engaged in anti-smuggling work was recently reviewed by the Government.

As a result of the review, apart from further strengthening the anti-smuggling infrastructure, it was considered necessary to rationalise the reward policy. It has, accordingly, been decided to raise the reward eligibility of the informers and departmental officials alike from 10% to 20% of the value of contraband goods seized, with provision for grant of part of the rewards immediately after seizure. The other salient features of the new package of incentives is the creation of three Funds with amounts, ranging from 1% to 5% of the value of seized contraband goods, according to it to be used by the Government for the purposes of encouraging better performance, acquiring anti-smuggling equipment and providing a measure of security and amenities to the departmental officials engaged in anti-smuggling tasks and to the families of those who die or are injured in the course of anti-smuggling operations, etc.

As part of anti-smuggling efforts surprise visits and inspections by senior officers of different sensitive areas have been intensified and in cases of any lapses detected on the part of the officials, appropriate administrative/disciplinary action will be taken.

**Excise and Income tax due from M/s.
Union Carbide**

2780. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether about twenty crores of rupees are pending decision for excise notices against M/s. Union Carbide Limited; and

(b) if not, the total amount involved in the show-cause notices of excise and income tax against M/s, Union Carbide ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). An amount of Rs. 59.30 lakhs on account of confirmed demands of excise duty is pending realisation as on 1-2-85 against M/s. Union Carbide Limited. In addition, unconfirmed demands amounting to Rs. 819.27 lakhs are

outstanding against the Company on the same date pending adjudication.

No demand on account of income tax is outstanding against this Company.

**Loans taken by West Bengal Government
from World Bank etc.**

2781. PROF. M. R. HALDER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount taken by Government of West Bengal from World Bank and similar agencies till now for their different projects;

(b) the names of those projects;

(c) the terms and conditions of such loans; and

(d) whether those loans are being repaid regularly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). The details of projects for which assistance has been given to the West Bengal Government by the multilateral agencies, viz. the World Bank, IFAD, EEC and UNDP are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The World Bank assistance consists of IBRD loans and IDA credits. IBRD loans carry interest fixed at every six months on a pool-based variable lending rate system. The loans have a repayment period of 15 to 20 years, inclusive of a grace period of 5 years. IDA credits carry no interest charge, but a commitment fee of 0.5% on the undisbursed portion of the credit and a service charge of 0.75% on the disbursed portion. The credits are repayable in fifty years which includes a grace period of ten years. IFAD loans carry no interest but a service charge of 1% and have a 50 year maturity and repayment would start after a 10 year grace period. The assistance from EEC and UNDP are in the form of grants.

(d) Loans from multilateral agencies are taken by Government of India and the proceeds are passed on to the State Governments. The repayment liability of these loans, therefore, lies with Government of India.

Statement*Projects assisted by the World Bank Group, IFAD, EEC and UNDP*

| S. No. | Name of the project | Closed/ on going projects | Total credit/ loan/grant sanctioned (US \$ million) | Date of signing of agreement | Remarks |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| World Bank | | | | | |
| 1. | First Calcutta Urban Development Project (427-IN) | Closed | 35.0 | 12-9-73 | |
| 2. | Second Calcutta Urban Development Project (756-IN) | Closed | 87.0 | 6-1-78 | |
| 3. | Third Calcutta Urban Development Project (1369-IN) | On-going | 147.0 | 8-6-83 | |
| 4. | Calcutta Urban Transport Project (1033-IN) | On-going | 56.0 | 27-10-80 | |
| 5. | Inland Fisheries (963-IN) | —do— | 20.0 | 18-1-80 | Multi-state project (5 states) West Bengal share is not indicated separately |
| 6. | NCDC-II (1146-IN) (Central Sector) | —do— | 125.0 | 21-7-81 | —do— (9 states) |
| 7. | NCDC-III (1502-IN) | —do— | 220.0 | 12-10-84 | —do— (8 states) |
| 8. | West Bengal Social Forestry (1178-IN) | —do— | 29.0 | 24-2-82 | |
| 9. | West Bengal Agricultural Development Project (541-IN) | Closed | 34.0 | 28-4-75 | |
| 10. | West Bengal Agricultural External and Research Project (690-IN) | On-going | 12.0 | 1-6-77 | |
| IFAD | | | | | |
| 11. | Sunderban Development Project (49-IN) | On-going | \$17.50 million | 16-12-80 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----------------------|---|----------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| EEC Countries | | | | | |
| 12. | West Bengal Cyclone Shelter Project | On-going | ECU. 3.00 million | 12-2-80 | The project was due to completed by 12-2-83. The period of completion was extended upto December 1984 by EEC. The project could not be completed due to some unavoidable circumstances and further extension has been sought upto June '86 |
| 13. | Afforestation and Soil and Water Conservation Project | On-going | ECU 2.8 million | 10-6-82 | Extension sought upto 1987-88 |
| UNDP | | | | | |
| 14. | IND/82/015 Training Support to the Geological Survey of India | On-going | US \$ 922,600 | January, 1984 | |
| 15. | IND/81/028 Modernization of facilities for the manufacture of Anti-Malaria Drugs, M/s. Bengal Immunity Ltd. Calcutta | —do— | 434,425 | November, 1981 | |
| 16. | IND/80/007 Improvement of Testing and Evaluation facilities, National Test House, Calcutta | On-going | US \$ 1,548,399 | December, 1982 | |
| 17. | IND/82/040 Feasibility Study for Production of Synthetic Oil from Coal, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation, Calcutta | —do— | 517,393 | July, 1983 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|--|------|---------|-------------------|---|
| 18. | IND/82/043 Manufacture of Dapsone, Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceticals, Calcutta | —do— | 20,000 | August, 1982 | |
| 19. | IND/76/0022 Under-ground Copper Mining, Hindustan Copper Ltd., Calcutta | —do— | 315,303 | December, 1978 | |
| 20. | IND/82/025 Strengthening of the Collage of Leather Technology, Ministry of Industry through Department of Technical Education, Government of West Bengal, Calcutta | —do— | 551,975 | December, 1983 | |

Production of Cardamom

2782. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of cardamom during the last year;

(b) whether there is any loss in production;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to give subsidy to the cultivators as an incentive for more production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The production of cardamom in the last season 1983-84 was 1600 tonnes which was much below the average annual production. This drastic fall in production was due to unprecedented drought in the cardamom producing States during two consecutive seasons.

(d) Government has approved the following Schemes of the Cardamom Board to assist the drought affected growers :

(1) Replanting Loan-cum-Subsidy Scheme :

Under this scheme an area of 15,000 hectares (7500 hectares for small growers and 7500 hectares for large growers) will be covered in 3 years. Small growers owning upto 8 hectares are being paid cash subsidy

of Rs. 2500 per hectare in three annual instalments of Rs. 1000, Rs. 800 and Rs. 700. Loan component is Rs. 7750 per hectare to be arranged from financial Institution on which 3% interest subsidy is being granted. The large growers are entitled to a cash subsidy of Rs. 1500 per hectare in three annual instalments of Rs. 1000, Rs. 300 and Rs. 200. Loan component is Rs. 8750 per hectare.

(2) Production of Seedlings in Polythene bags in certified Nurseries :

50% cost of seed material and polythene bags are subsidised under this scheme.

(3) Opening of more certified Nurseries :

This scheme is being implemented from 1983-84 onwards. Total financial outlay involved is Rs. 25.5 lakhs for 3 years. 25% of the cost of production of seedlings, not exceeding 50 paise per seedling is subsidised.

As a result of these schemes, the production during 1984-85 is estimated at 3,500 M. Tonnes.

Failure of Hindustan Copper Limited to Meet Copper Requirement

2783. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken exception to the failure of the State-owned

Hindustan Copper Limited to meet the urgent copper requirement of the defence ordnance factories as also that of the other industries in full;

(b) if so, whether during the month of February, 1985 Government had reviewed the domestic copper availability and demand;

(c) if so, whether while going to review the position, it was brought to the notice that HCL has not only resulted in a premium market in copper but also that emergent imports has led to a colossal drain on scarce foreign exchange;

(d) if so, whether Government have shown concern about failure of HCL; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken and the methods suggested in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (e). Government are aware of demand and supply position of copper in the country. The supply and demand position of copper is periodically reviewed in inter-Ministerial meetings under the Chairmanship of Director General (Technical Development), for taking suitable remedial measures whenever called for. In the meeting held on 7-2-1985, it was noticed that there has been some backlog of supplies from Hindustan Copper Ltd. to certain sectors. HCL was advised to transfer the backlog of requirement registered with it to the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and also issue a trade notice to that effect. The Company was also advised to get in touch with the Director General, Ordnance Factories to meet their requirements. The Company has complied with the above directions. It has also taken steps to meet the requirement of Ordnance Factories on a time-bound programme. Arrangements have been made to meet a demand of 1000 tonnes of copper of one of the Ordnance Factories from MMTC. The matter has been further reviewed in a meeting chaired by DG., TD., on 26th March, 1985.

Loss Suffered by Coffee Houses in Capital run by Coffee Board

2784. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coffee houses run by the Coffee Board in the capital have been showing losses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Coffee Houses were started for promotion of coffee and not as commercial ventures. Hence accounts are not maintained on a commercial basis but the excess of expenditure over receipts in 1983-84 were of the order of Rs. 9 lakhs for Coffee Houses in Delhi.

[Translation]

**Tax Arrears against Sick Industries/
Mills**

2785. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of tax arrears against sick industries/mills and since when they have been outstanding; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to recover these amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The tax arrears are not maintained separately for sick industries/mills. If such an information is required in respect of any factory or mill, the same can be obtained and furnished if the hon. Member specifies the particulars of the factory or mill.

As regard the steps taken by the Government to recover arrears, it is the constant endeavour of the Government to recover the arrears of taxes as provided under the law.

[English]

Study of Government Finance by I.M.F.

2786. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comparative study of Government finances by the International Monetary Fund shows that total outlays expenditure and lending minus repayments are outpacing overall economic growth;

(b) the other aspects of increases in tax revenues and deficit financing touched upon the above Report with special reference to India's industrial growth and economy; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take to countenance this situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Presumably the reference by the Hon. Member is to a factual analysis of the data given in IMF's "Government Finance Statistic's Year Book, 1984" and published in "IMF Survey" dated March 4, 1985. The data for this year book are furnished to the IMF by the concerned national governments. It is true that the growth in public expenditure has been faster than the growth in gross domestic product (GDP). However, there is no distinct relationship between public expenditures and economic growth of different countries. The analysis in the "IMF Survey" does not specifically deal with India's industrial growth and economy. No specific action by Government in this regard is called for.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of a Jute Mill in Lakhimpur Kheri

2787. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no industry in the public sector in the District Lakhimpur Kheri of Uttar Pradesh even though several representations have been submitted to set up a jute mill there for which raw material is also available in abundance;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a jute mill there during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILE (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) There is no jute mill in District Lakhimpur Kheri of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The Central Government has no proposal to set up any new jute mill in Uttar Pradesh as the existing capacity in the country is considered adequate.

[*English*]

Loans taken by State Governments from Commercial Banks

2788. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan taken by the State Governments from commercial banks during the financial year 1984-85, State-wise;

(b) the amount of the said loan repaid State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by Union Government against the State Government towards non-payment of the said loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The State-wise position in respect of (i) food credit outstanding *vis-a-vis* various State Governments as on 14-3-85, (ii) outstanding credit for fertiliser distribution *vis-a-vis* various State Level agencies upto March 1985 and (iii) credit limits sanctioned to various State Level Agencies engaged in the procurement and public distribution of essential commodities on commercial basis under public distribution system are given in attached statements I, II and III respectively. The credit arrangement for procurement operations of the State Governments for foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds etc. are on-going operations and as such no specific repayment of the entire loan is stipulated; these credit limits are, however, authorised subject to the stipulation that the credit drawn is fully matched by the value of stocks held by the State Government/agency and that the outstanding credit is adjusted in accordance with the releases/sales of stocks. Where the credit drawn is in excess of the value of the stocks these excess drawings have been segregated and a definite time frame set for adjustment of the irregularities is prescribed. The adjustment of the excess drawings is being closely monitored by the Reserve Bank.

Statement I
Outstandings vis-a-vis various State Governments

| S. No. | Name of the State | (Rs. in crores) Outstandings credit as on March 14, '85 |
|--------------|-------------------|---|
| 1. | Assam | 49.37 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 103.72 |
| 3. | Bihar | 36.36 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 6.89 |
| 5. | Haryana | 99.26 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | — |
| 7. | Karnataka | 52.11 |
| 8. | Kerala | 1.37 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 34.81 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 15.02 |
| 11. | Manipur | 0.52 |
| 12. | Orissa | 18.31 |
| 13. | Pondicherry | 0.11 |
| 14. | Punjab | 801.23* |
| 15. | Rajasthan | — |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 167.40 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 44.53 |
| Total | | 1431.01 |

* Inclusive of outstandings under the credit limit authorised during the earlier seasons to the Government of Punjab.

Statement II
Outstanding credit for fertiliser distribution vis-a-vis various State level agencies

| Sl. No. | Name of the Agency | (Rs. in crores) Latest Outstanding |
|----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Bihar State Co-op. Marketing Union Ltd. | 34.93 |
| 2. | Haryana State Co-op. supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. | 8.86 |
| 3. | Punjab State Co-op. supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. | 10.77 |
| 4. | Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. | 6.57 |
| 5. | U. P. Co-operative Federation Ltd. | 53.98 |
| 6. | U. P. Co-operative Cane Union's Federation Ltd. | 26.60 |
| 7. | U. P. State Agro Industrial Corporation Ltd. | 6.37 |
| 8. | Karnataka State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd. | Credit balance |
| Total : | | 148.08 |

Statement III

Credit facilities sanctioned to various State Level Agencies engaged in procurement and distribution of essential commodities on commercial basis under public sector distribution system

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of State Level Agency | Credit limits |
|---------|--|---------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh State Co-operative Marketing Federation | 500 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation | 800 |
| 3. | Andhra Pradesh Essential Commodities Corporation | 470 |
| 4. | Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation | 400 |
| 5. | Assam State Co-operative Marketing and Consumer's Federation | 1488 |
| 6. | Gujarat State Civil Supplies Corporation | 1730 |
| 7. | Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation | 40 |
| 8. | Punjab State Civil Supplies Corporation | 400 |
| 9. | Punjab State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation | 165 |
| 10. | Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation | 1900 |
| Total : | | 7893 |

Non Payment of Amount to Andhra Pradesh

2789. SHRI N. V. RATNAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 81 crores due to Andhra Pradesh was not paid to the State by the Centre;

(b) whether he had promised to help the States under which Rs. 50 crores was due to Andhra Pradesh by Union Government; and

(c) the reasons for not granting the amounts to Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) All amounts due to Andhra Pradesh from the Centre have been paid.

(b) The State Chief Minister was informed that Scheme for giving assistance to States that managed their finances well was being worked out. The eligibility for this assistance was to depend not only on the

previous performance of the States but also on their performance in 1983-84. No specific amount was indicated as the likely assistance under the Scheme.

(c) Andhra Pradesh closed the year 1983-84 with a deficit of Rs. 72.81 crores and was in overdraft in the current year for a total of 247 days upto 30th March, 1985.

Closure of M/s. Phulwari Sharief Cotton Mills, Patna

2790. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Phulwari Sharief Cotton Mills, Patna is lying closed for the last three years resulting in unemployment of two thousand workers, among whom at least two hundred workers have expired;

(b) whether the State Government of Bihar have recommended its takeover by the Union Government in January, 1985 under the Industries (Development and Regulation Act);

(c) whether Industries (Development and Regulation) Act have provision to takeover any sick management for a period of five years;

(d) if so, when the mill will be taken over; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :
(a) M/s. Bihar Cotton Mills, Phulwari Sharief is lying closed since July, 1982. The number of workers employed in the units at the time of closure was about 750, including 189 badli workers and 45 daily wage workers. Government have no report of deaths of workers employed in the mill.

(b) Government of Bihar had requested the Central Government in 1983 to consider the possibility of takeover of the unit by National Textile Corporation.

(c) Under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, the Government has the power to takeover the management of an industrial undertaking subject to the fulfilment of conditions laid down in various provisions of the Act.

(d) There is no proposal at present to takeover the mill.

(e) It is not policy of the Government to consider taking over every closed mill.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Raw Material Lease to Pyrites and Phosphate Corporation Limited by Government of Rajasthan

2791. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan have granted lease to Pyrites and Phosphate Corporation Limited for raw-material to produce sulphuric acid and fertilizers;

(b) if so, the date on which lease was granted by Government of Rajasthan to the Corporation;

(c) whether the Corporation has not taken any action to produce the products mentioned in part (a) above;

(d) if so, the outline of the action Government propose to take to ensure that production of these products is started; and

(e) if not, the action proposed to be taken and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Yes, Sir. M/s. Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL), a Central Government Undertaking, have obtained a lease from Government of Rajasthan over an area of 518 hectares.

(b) The lease was granted for a period of 20 years from 25-8-1969.

(c) to (e). Before the mine can be exploited on a commercial scale, it is necessary to first evolve the technical process which will be suitable for beneficiation of ore of this particular composition, and for its conversion to sulphuric acid or sulphur. After technical feasibility is established, it will be necessary to establish the economic feasibility of the process. M/s. Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited have examined the feasibility of economic exploitation of the mines by engaging foreign consultants who have also recommended further test work and exploratory studies to be conducted. The company has also entrusted a West German firm to conduct pilot plant studies on pyrites samples both for beneficiation and roasting thereof, to make the pyrites suitable for production of sulphuric acid. The Company is also exploring the feasibility of extracting elemental sulphur from the Saladipura Pyrites. The company has availed of assistance from UNDP in this regard.

Export of Indian Tobacco

2792. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether many Indian companies export Indian tobacco to other countries;

(b) if so, the details regarding the names of main tobacco exporting companies and the countries to which these companies exported during the last three years including the total value thereof;

(c) the number and names of companies black listed during the last three years indicating the reasons for black listing them;

(d) the names of companies which have been permitted to export again and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government are aware of the irregularities being committed in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A.
SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) Blacklisting of companies is not done now. Instead, the companies are debarred from receiving import/export licences etc. Names of such debarred companies are published in weekly Bulletin of Import Export and Industrial licences.

(d) to (f). Certain complaints from China in regard to supply of sub-standard tobacco

by India were received. The Chinese importers had raised claims against the exporters. Decisions have been taken in most cases for settlement of the claims.

The Directorate of Marketing and Inspection who are responsible for quality control on tobacco exports issued show cause notices on packers who had defaulted and grading of tobacco under Agmark was later suspended in respect of the following packers :—

- (1) M/s. Sri Jayalakshmi Tobacco (P) Ltd.
- (2) M/s. Jaya Enterprises.
- (3) M/s. Jaya Bharat Enterprises.
- (4) M/s. Gogineni Tobacco.
- (5) M/s. Best India Tobacco Suppliers.
- (6) M/s. Jaya Lakshmi International.

Since some of the parties obtained stay orders from the High Court, the grading licences were restored to the parties pending a final decision in the Court case.

Statement

| Names of main tobacco exporting Companies | Total value of tobacco exported fig. in Rs./lakhs | | | Names of countries where exported |
|---|---|---------|---------|---|
| | 1981-82 | 1982-83 | 1983-84 | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. ITC Ltd. ILTD Div. | 4063.00 | 5231.00 | 1440.00 | UK, Japan, China, Finland, Bangladesh, Czechoslovakia, Srilanka, Netherlands, Lebanon, Jordan |
| 2. Navabharat Enterprises (P) Ltd. | 1444 | 1328 | 1919 | U.S.S.R. U.K. Egypt, Czechoslovakia, W. Germany |
| 3. Maddi Venkataratnam Co. (P) Ltd. | 1724.25 | 1347.74 | 1165.23 | U.S.S.R., U.K. |
| 4. Sri Jayalakshmi Tobacco Co. (P) Ltd. | 621.53 | 911.57 | 1281.97 | U.S.S.R., China, Bulgaria, Belgium, Tunisia |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|---|
| 5. Polisetty Somasundaram (P) Ltd. | 822.24 | 1050.39 | 960.62 | U.S.S.R., U.K., GDR, Italy |
| 6. Agrimcor (P) Ltd. | 690.07 | 946.96 | 670.97 | U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria |
| 7. East India Tobacco Co. | 629.54 | 821.38 | 540.26 | U.S.S.R., U.K. Egypt |
| 8. Bommidala Brothers Ltd. | 536.00 | 683.96 | 400.57 | U.S.S.R., U.K. Algeria, Nepal, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria |
| 9. Gogineni Tobacco | 1441.03 | 1180.99 | — — | U.S.S.R., Egypt. China |
| 10. Maddi Lakshmaiah and Co. | 1714.50 | 396.34 | 416.39 | U.K., China, Finland, Egypt |

[English]

Pension Scheme for Public Sector Undertaking Employees

2793. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether there is any pension scheme for employees of public sector undertakings, considering liberalisation of pension rules for Government employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : There is no pension scheme for the employees of the public sector enterprises who are covered under the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme.

Provision of Jobs to local people in Chiguragunta Gold Mines (A.P.)

2794. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether jobs below supervisory cadre are not provided for local people in Chiguragunta Gold Mines in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a technical school for mining in Kuppam also in Chittoor District; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). In the Chigargunta area of Chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh, there are no producing/working mines at present. Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (a Public Sector Enterprise) is doing exploratory job for establishing go reserves by drilling and mining on behalf of the Government of India. This project of MECL like other such projects is a temporary industrial establishment and the Company is employing local workers on contingent basis for work of unskilled nature for specific jobs after accommodation their own regular and pre-October, 1979 contingent workers.

(c) No, sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Development of Coal Mines in
Madhya Pradesh**

2795. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES and COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal mines located in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is a greater need for the development of these coal mines;

(c) if so, the steps taken for the development of these coal mines in the Sixth Plan; and

(d) the schemes prepared for the development of these coal mines in Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) There are ninety four coal mines located in Madhya Pradesh. Of these six are under the administrative control of Central Coalfields Ltd. and the remaining are under the Western Coalfields Ltd.

(b) Based on the coal demand of various industries, the programme of reconstruction of existing mines and development of new mines is decided upon.

(c) and (d). During the Sixth Five Year Plan period (1980-81 to 1984-85), 23 coal

mining projects were sanctioned in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Total sanctioned capacity of these projects at full production comes to about 34.00 million tonnes and sanctioned investment is about Rs. 1300 crores. Many of these mines will reach their full capacity of production during the 7th Five Year Plan and feasibility studies for a number of projects are under preparation for taking up more projects during the 7th Plan period.

Steel Plants Running in Losses

2796. SHRI RADHA KANTA DAGAL: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of public sector steel plants are not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the names of such steel plants;

(c) since when these steel plants are running in losses; and

(d) measures taken to improve their performance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Profit/loss position of SAIL and IISCO in the last four years is as follows :—

(All figures in Rs. crores)

| Year | SAIL | IISCO |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Profit (+)/Loss(—) | Profit(+)/Loss(—) |
| 1980-81 | (+) 1.01 | (—) 28.79 |
| 1981-82 | (+) 39.17 | (—) 37.11 |
| 1982-83 | (—) 105.76 | (—) 71.05 |
| 1983-84 | (—) 214.53 | (—) 24.06 |

The 1984-85 position will be known after the accounts are finalised but it is expected that SAIL may make profits for the year.

(d) To improve financial performance in 1985-86, SAIL steel plants will increase their production of steel from 4.9 million tonnes in 1984-85 to 5.4 million tonnes in 1985-86. They will upgrade their technological regimes,

improve yields of by products and attain better recovery of waste and secondary arisings, reduce working capital, reduce inventories, optimum captive power generation, better maintenance and increase production of demand oriented products by diversifying product-mix. Efforts are also being made to ensure adequate inputs and of the right quality.

Losses Suffered by S.A.I.L.

2797. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the accumulated loss sustained by the Steel Authority of India Limited till 31 March, 1984;

(b) the main reasons for such heavy losses suffered every year by S.A.I.L.;

(c) the efforts made by the S.A.I.L. to improve the situation;

(d) whether there is huge quantity of scrap lying in steel plants;

(e) if so, the details thereof and its value; and

(f) the steps taken to recover scrap and dispose it of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The accumulated loss of SAIL till 31-3-1984 was Rs. 328.34 crores.

(b) The main reason for the losses have been that the price increases allowed to the steel plants during the past few years did not fully compensate the producers for the escalations in the costs of inputs.

(c) To improve their financial performance in 1985-86, the public sector steel plants will increase their production of saleable steel from 5.28 MT in 1984-85 to 5.9 MT in 1985-86. They will upgrade their technological regimes, improve yields of by-products and attain better recovery of waste and secondary arising, reduce working capital and

inventories, optimise captive power generation, better maintenance and increase production of demand oriented products by diversifying product-mix. Efforts are also being made to ensure adequate inputs and of the right quality.

(d) and (e). The estimated stocks of scrap lying at SAIL integrated steel plants including IISCO as on 1-4-1985 is 24.45 lakh tonnes valued at approximately Rs. 293 crores. Out of this 5.35 lakh tonnes valued at about Rs.70 crores is readily recoverable and the balance 19.10 lakh tonnes is lying buried in old dumps and will take time and substantial investment for recovery.

(f) Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and some private parties have been engaged by Steel Authority of India Limited for processing and recovery of scrap. Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited are gearing up their resources to meet the objective of 100% recovery from the current arisings and phased recovery from the stocks.

[*Translation*]

Profit earned by Nationalised Banks

2798. SHRI C. D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the profit earned by each nationalised banks during the period from 1982 to 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The position regarding published profits of 20 nationalised banks during the years 1982 and 1983 is given in the attached statement. Information for the year 1984 is not yet available.

Statement

Profits earned by Nationalised Banks during the years 1982 and 1983

(Amount in lakhs of Rs.)

| S. No. | Name of the Banks | 1982 | 1983 |
|--------|-----------------------|------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Central Bank of India | 388 | 399 |
| 2. | Bank of India | 506 | 511 |
| 3. | Punjab National Bank | 799 | 853 |
| 4. | Bank of Baroda | 805 | 860 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------|---------------------------|------|------|
| 5. | United Commercial Bank | 349 | 236 |
| 6. | Canara Bank | 457 | 496 |
| 7. | United Bank of India | 135 | 136 |
| 8. | Syndicate Bank | 403 | 494 |
| 9. | Union Bank of India | 200 | 290 |
| 10. | Dena Bank | 101 | 120 |
| 11. | Allahabad Bank | 165 | 170 |
| 12. | Indian Bank | 135 | 140 |
| 13. | Bank of Maharashtra | 210 | 193 |
| 14. | Indian Overseas Bank | 462 | 473 |
| 15. | Andhra Bank | 230 | 248 |
| 16. | Corporation Bank | 105 | 93 |
| 17. | New Bank of India | 61 | 72 |
| 18. | Oriental Bank of Commerce | 64 | 72 |
| 19. | Punjab and Sind Bank | 51 | 62 |
| 20. | Vijaya Bank | 19 | 5 |
| Total | | 5725 | 5923 |

[English]

Branches of Nationalised Banks in Eastern Districts of U. P.

2799. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of branches of nationalised banks working in Eastern Uttar Pradesh Districts, and the details of amount of loans given so far for agriculture, irrigation and selfemployment schemes; bank-wise; and

(b) the details regarding opening of

more branches of nationalised banks in these Districts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Available information relating to the spread of branches of commercial banks, distribution of Aggregate Deposits and Gross bank credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks in the districts comprising Eastern Uttar Pradesh are set out in attached statements I and II respectively.

(b) The branch licensing policy for the Seventh Plan period has not yet been finalised,

Statement I

Statement showing spread of branches of Commercial Banks in the districts comprising Eastern Uttar Pradesh

| District | As on 31st May, 1984 Number of branches |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Allahabad | 167 |
| 2. Azamgarh | 133 |
| 3. Bahraich | 102 |
| 4. Ballia | 86 |
| 5. Basti | 125 |
| 6. Deoria | 102 |
| 7. Faizabad | 108 |
| 8. Ghazipur | 76 |
| 9. Gonda | 83 |
| 10. Gorakhpur | 151 |
| 11. Jaunpur | 126 |
| 12. Mirzapur | 105 |
| 13. Pratapgarh | 85 |
| 14. Sultanpur | 71 |
| 15. Varanasi | 237 |

Data provisional.

Statement II

Statement showing distribution of Aggregate Deposits and Gross Bank Credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks in the districts comprising Eastern Uttar Pradesh as at the end of March 1984

| Districts | (Rs. in lakhs) | |
|--------------|----------------|--------|
| | Deposits | Credit |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. Allahabad | 27786 | 11619 |
| 2. Azamgarh | 11165 | 3906 |
| 3. Bahraich | 4199 | 2018 |
| 4. Ballia | 7813 | 2291 |
| 5. Basti | 6718 | 4046 |
| 6. Deoria | 8815 | 4956 |
| 7. Faizabad | 8987 | 3037 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------|---|-------|-------|
| 8. Ghazipur | | 6965 | 2504 |
| 9. Gonda | | 5733 | 2701 |
| 10. Gorakhpur | | 18339 | 8053 |
| 11. Jaunpur | | 8683 | 2477 |
| 12. Mirzapur | | 11973 | 7734 |
| 13. Pratapgarh | | 2236 | 1263 |
| 14. Sultanpur | | 4967 | 2516 |
| 15. Varanasi | | 34311 | 14065 |

Difficulties in Withdrawals by Depositors from Nationalised Banks

2800. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had taken note of the fact that recently the withdrawals from the nationalised banks by the depositors have become difficult and more time is taken for withdrawal of small amounts;

(b) whether the security measures has had any effect on these delays; and

(c) if so, whether Government have any plan to provide adequate security requiring less time for withdrawals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). There are no complaints of a generalised nature that the time taken in withdrawals has increased in case of Public Sector Banks. On the contrary, all efforts are being made to improve the quality of customer service in banks to meet the increasing tasks and expectations.

To facilitate speedy withdrawals from banks the Working Group on Customer Service had *inter-alia* recommended the introduction of Teller system in the branches of banks wherever the volume of work so warranted. Pursuant to this recommendation, public sector banks have already introduced the Teller system in a large number of their branches.

Central Excise and Customs Dues remaining Unpaid or Unrecovered

2801. SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate amount of central excise and customs dues remaining unpaid or unrecovered on account of injunctions or stay orders issued by courts;

(b) the steps taken by Government to recover the dues; and

(c) whether Government propose to impose deterrent interest liability on those who delay the payment of central excise and customs dues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Most of the cases relate to issues having a bearing on rate of duty, valuation and, in some Central Excise cases, excisability of products. Quantification of revenues involved in individual cases is possible only after Court decisions are available.

(b) Law Ministry and the Government Counsels appointed by that Ministry have been approached to take all possible steps to move applications before the courts for vacation of injunctions or stay orders. Recovery of dues after vacation of injunctions or stay orders by the courts is effected from importers and Central Excise assesses in accordance with Court's orders in individual cases and the provisions of Customs Act, 1962 and the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 and the Rules made thereunder.

(c) There is no such provision under the law. However in cases where request are accepted for payment of the arrears in instalments, a condition is included for recovery of interest on the dues.

Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

2802. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved few new regional rural banks in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the schedule of opening these banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As at the end of year 1984-85, the State of Madhya Pradesh had 22 Regional Rural Banks covering 40 districts out of the total 45 districts in the State.

Two additional Regional Rural Banks for establishment in Madhya Pradesh have been recommended by NABARD. While one of the two recommended RRBs is intended to provide coverage to Gwalior and Datia districts, the other one proposes to cover the two districts of Vidisha and Bhopal. Government have not taken any final decision in this regard.

International Debts

2803. SHRI HANUMANTU APPAYYA DORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the context of the debts outstanding for the country, Government are aware of the dimensions and dangers of international debts as experienced by several other less developed countries and if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed; and

(b) whether Government propose to review its present policies of gift imports of milk products, vegetable oils etc., in the light of their own experience with PL 480 wheat and experience of other countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some developing countries have faced serious external debt servicing problems in recent years. India has however managed its external debt within prudent limits. The balance of payments and the external debt position is kept under constant review so that no difficulties are faced in meeting our debt service obligations.

(b) Gift imports of milk products, edible oils, etc., are allowed after due consideration of the need for and the likely impact of such imports on the domestic economy.

[Translation]

Rise in Prices of Consumer Goods

2804. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to Labour Bureau the consumer price index in Delhi which was 100 in 1960 increased to 600 in January,

1985 and in this way the prices of consumer goods have increased six fold during the past 25 years;

(b) the average price rise during the each Five Year Plan in this period; and

(c) the impact of reduction in value of rupee to its 1/6 on the agricultural workers, most of whom live below the poverty line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The data on Consumer Price Index (base 1960=100) for Delhi at the end of each Five Year Plan during this period and the average price rise on this basis from Plan to Plan are shown below :

| Plan period | Month/Year | CPI for Delhi (base 1960=100) | Percentage increases (end-period basis) |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Third Five Year Plan (1961-62 to 1965-66) | April 1961 March 1966 | 103 150 | 45.6% |
| Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-70 to 1973-74) | March 1974 | 296 | 49.5% |
| Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-75 to 1978-79) | March 1979 | 371 | 25.3% |
| Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-81 to 1984-85) | Feb. 1985 (latest available) | 600 | 50.8% |

(c) Along with consumer prices money incomes of agricultural workers also have gone up. It is not possible to estimate the impact of the fall in the purchasing power of the rupee on the agricultural workers. However, agricultural workers are compensated for the increase in the cost of living through revisions in the minimum wages from time to time.

[English]

Declaration of Bhubaneswar as 'B' class City

2805. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to declare Bhubaneswar as 'B' class city;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Cities are classified as A, B-1, B-2 and C on the basis of population as revealed in the decennial census. According to 1981 census, the population of Bhubaneswar is 2,19,211.

On this basis, Bhubaneswar has been classified as 'C' class city. For upgradation to B-2 class, the minimum population should be above 4 lakhs.

Classification of Banking Assets

2806. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Banking Commission had recommended in 1972 that banking assets should be classified to show clearly the sub-standard advances, doubtful advances and bad debts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether this recommendation has since been implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c), The banks are required to make provisions towards bad and doubtful debts to the satisfaction of their auditors. Classification of loans and advances into

different categories such as regular advances, sub-standard advances, doubtful advances and bad debts, and to make separate provisions for these different categories was not considered desirable by the Reserve Bank of India. As such the said recommendation made by the Banking Commission has not been implemented.

Deposit of Remittances by the Non-resident Indians in Gulf Countries

2808. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total remittances so far deposited by non-resident Indians in the Gulf countries after Government's announcement regarding taxability of their remittances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Information about remittance received from Non-resident Indians are not maintained country-wise.

The balances in the Non-resident (External) Accounts and FCNR Accounts at the end of February, 1985 are as follows :

(In Rupees Crores)

| NRE A/c. | Foreign Currency Non-Resident A/c. | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| | £ Stg. | US \$ |
| 2753 (Prov.) | 302.24 | 625.78 |

Since Government's announcement clarifying that exemption under Section 5(1) (xxxiii) of the Wealth Tax Act is available to the amounts lying in Non-resident (External) Accounts in the case of Non-resident Indians, was made only in February, 1985, it is too early to assess the effect of this on remittances.

Opening of Branches of Rural Banks

2809. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the number of branches of rural banks opened by each of the nationalised banks in different States and the amount of money deposited by the villagers with them and the amount of loans advanced by those banks for rural development during the last three years;

(b) whether some instances of unsatisfactory nature in respect of distribution of loans by these banks have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the working of these banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The position regarding total number of Regional Rural Banks opened by Nationalised Banks in terms of the number of branches, total deposits and outstanding advances in the last three years as at the June end of each year on the basis of available data is set out below :

| Year | No. of RRBs | No. of Branches | As at June end | |
|------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| | | | Total deposits | Outstanding advances |
| 1982 | 118 | 5280 | 37527 | 45946 |
| 1983 | 138 | 6644 | 52500 | 61878 |
| 1984 | 158 | 8451 | 76070 | 85327 |

Besides nationalised banks, three other banks namely Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd., The U.P. State Cooperative Bank Ltd. and Bank of Rajasthan Ltd., have also sponsored four RRBs, data in respect of which is set out below :

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

| Year ending June | No. of RRBs | No. of branches | Total Deposits | Outstanding Advances |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1982 | 3 | 113 | 696.32 | 313.30 |
| 1983 | 4 | 168 | 976.35 | 489.05 |
| 1984 | 4 | 236 | 1364.59 | 670.60 |

Sponsor bank wise data on State wise basis is indicated in the Annexure laid on the table of the House. [Placed in library. See No. LT-884/85]

(b) and (c). Occasionally complaints regarding distribution of loans are received by Central Government/NABARD/Sponsor banks and are investigated by NABARD/Sponsor Banks. Wherever such charges are prime facie found to be true, appropriate action is taken against the guilty officials through the sponsor banks/RRBs.

[Translation]

Foreign Exchange earned on Export of Agricultural Commodities

2810. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the agricultural commodities exported during 1984-85 country-wise and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom, item-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to take some important measures to increase the export of these items; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Country-wise, commodities-wise export of agricultural commodities for 1984-85 have not yet been compiled. According to the tentative estimate, the value of export of agricultural commodities excluding Tea, Coffee and Marine products in 1984-85 is Rs. 1448 crores.

(b) and (c). The Government have set up a number of working groups to go into the question of increasing the exports of identified thrust areas. A continuing dialogue with the State Governments has been started to enlarge the production base of exportable agricultural products and to identify new

items. Where necessary strengthening of institutional arrangements are being undertaken. The normal export promotion measures such as market promotion, participation in fairs, trade delegations, Cash Compensatory Support, and Market Development Assistance are being intensified.

Illegal Mining in Mehrauli Block in Delhi

2811. SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Ek Dhamaka Hoga Aur Ve Mare Jayenge" (earth will cave in and they will be killed) appeared in Hindi daily "Jansatta" of 14th March, 1985;

(b) if so, the effective steps taken so far to check illegal, dangerous and forcible mining and extraction of Badarpur (lal bazri) in the hilly areas in the villages of Mahipalpur, Maksoodpur, Kusumpur, Ghitorni Nathupur, Chandanhula, Gera, Bas (Goojriwala) etc., in Mehrauli Block in Delhi;

(c) whether Government are aware that they are losing revenue to the tune of lakhs of rupees due to this illegal and forcible mining of Badarpur (lal bazri); and

(d) if so, the details of the action being taken or proposed to be taken to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Regular raids are conducted by the authorities of Delhi Administration to check illegal mining. The Delhi Administration has initiated action against more than 100 parties for violation of regulations.

(c) and (d). The Delhi Administration has taken action to recover the price of minerals excavated illegally as well as royalty amounting to several lakhs of rupees. More cases are being processed and raids are being further intensified.

[English]

Amount of Advance Granted by Nationalised Banks Abroad

2812. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amounts of advance granted during the last three years by each of the nationalised banks operating outside India;

(b) the extent of doubtful debts incurred in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to undertake a study of the systems with a view to ensure that indiscriminate advances are not granted by local agencies of foreign branches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The information, as furnished by the RBI, is given in the statement attached.

(b) According to the forms of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account prescribed in the Third Schedule of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the particulars and quantum of bad and doubtful debts for which provision is made to the satisfaction of Auditors. The required information, therefore, cannot be made available.

(c) With a view to review the system of operations and to devise ways to strengthen the systems of control and monitoring of the operations of overseas branches of Indian banks, a Working Group consisting of representatives of the Government, Reserve Bank of India and some banks, has been set up. The report of the Group is awaited.

Statement

Outstanding advances of the branches of Indian Public Sector Banks operating outside India as at the end of the year 1981, 1982 and 1983

(Rupees in Crores)

| Sr. No. | Name of the bank | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 |
|---------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | State Bank of India | 1114 | 1665 | 1936 |
| 2. | Bank of India | 631 | 848 | 1185 |
| 3. | Bank of Baroda | 418 | 534 | 584 |
| 4. | Central Bank of India | 71 | 146 | 205 |
| 5. | Union Bank of India | 23 | 58 | 44 |
| 6. | Punjab National Bank | 136 | 238 | 466 |
| 7. | Syndicate Bank | 78 | 125 | 136 |
| 8. | United Commercial Bank | 240 | 243 | 381 |
| 9. | Punjab and Sind Bank | 7 | 9 | 15 |
| 10. | Indian Bank | 86 | 111 | 166 |
| 11. | Indian Overseas Bank | 333 | 414 | 549 |
| 12. | Canara Bank (London branch was opened only in November, 1983) | — | — | — |
| | | <u>3133</u> | <u>4391</u> | <u>5667</u> |

Deposits and Advances of Dhanalakshmi Banks

2813. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the deposits and advances of Dhanalakshmi Bank with its headquarters at Trichur in 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) the number of branches opened by the bank in the last three years; and

(c) whether the working of the bank has been satisfactory and the steps taken by the Reserve Bank to improve the working of this bank ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The available information as at the end of 1981, 1982 and 1983 is as follows :

| As on | Deposits (Rupees in lakhs) | Advances |
|------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 31-12-1981 | 4843 | 2713 |
| 31-12-1982 | 5312 | 2844 |
| 31-12-1983 | 5350 | 2915 |

(b) Reserve bank of India (RBI) has reported that the Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd. opened four and two branches during 1982-83 and 1983-84 respectively. No branch was opened during April to December, 1984. However, the bank has five licences pending with it for opening of branches.

(c) The Bank's working is being closely monitored by the RBI.

An Officer of the RBI and a retired experienced banker have been appointed as Additional Directors on the Board of the bank to strengthen its management.

[*Translation*]

Amalgamation of five Banks in U.P.

2814. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal sponsored by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for amalgamation of five banks is under consideration of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal in this regard is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Certain suggestions for setting up a U. P. based bank have been received. The Government is yet to take a view in the matter.

[*English*]

Nationalisation of Lakshmi Commercial Bank Limited

2815. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to convert the Lakshmi Commercial Bank Ltd. into a nationalised one; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Opening of Bank Branches in Himachal Pradesh

2816. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of bank branches proposed to be opened by Government in Himachal Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan period with details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The branch licensing policy for the years 1985 to 1990 is being finalised. Pending finalisation of the above policy, it would not be possible to indicate the number of bank branches that would be allowed to be opened in Himachal Pradesh. However, banks are at present holding 48 authorisations for opening branches in the State.

[*English*]

Grant of Funds to States for their Developmental Programmes

2817. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether uniform treatment is not being given to all State Governments in regard to the provision of funds for the development of those States under States Development Programmes;

(b) whether Reserve Bank of India has also issued directions to stop overdrafts to some of the States Governments and if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the total funds for the development of States allocated by the Union Government to each State separately during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Assistance for State Plans in providad on the basis of modified Gadgil Formula approved by the National Development Council.

(b) Government of India have advised all the States to limit their overdrafts to the figures reached on 28-1-1985 and the Reserve Bank of India have been advised to stop payment of any State which exceeds this limit for seven continous working days.

(c) A statement is attached.

Statement

| States | 1984-85 | 1983-84 | (Rs. in Crores 1982-83) |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 241.15 | 211.01 | 192.26 |
| 2. Assam | 371.21 | 323.61 | 225.93 |
| 3. Bihar | 361.63 | 312.04 | 273.15 |
| 4. Gujarat | 153.98 | 135.60 | 117.43 |
| 5. Haryana | 74.00 | 52.71 | 56.86 |
| 6. Himachal Pradesh | 115.28 | 100.42 | 86.49 |
| 7. Jammu and Kashmir | 260.92 | 234.78 | 202.64 |
| 8. Karnataka | 147.95 | 120.03 | 108.56 |
| 9. Kerala | 111.27 | 94.12 | 94.08 |
| 10. Madhya Pradesh | 274.14 | 243.28 | 206.69 |
| 11. Maharashtra | 267.57 | 230.73 | 180.96 |
| 12. Manipur | 76.88 | 68.07 | 60.29 |
| 13. Meghalaya | 60.88 | 63.33 | 47.60 |
| 14. Nagaland | 83.90 | 75.25 | 57.06 |
| 15. Orissa | 172.29 | 157.49 | 146.68 |
| 16. Punjab | 83.81 | 72.82 | 63.59 |
| 17. Rajasthan | 170.00 | 142.48 | 155.45 |
| 18. Sikkim | 31.06 | 31.63 | 24.89 |
| 19. Tamil Nadu | 190.69 | 157.97 | 137.98 |
| 20. Tripura | 78.89 | 60.94 | 52.36 |
| 21. Uttar Pradesh | 566.02 | 464.84 | 423.46 |
| 22. West Bengal | 33.76 | 156.52 | 290.00 |
| Total (All States) : | 3926.48 | 3509.67 | 3204.41 |

Import of Rubber through S.T.C.

2818. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNKACKAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of rubber imported during 1984-85;

(b) the price/value of imported rubber during the last few months;

(c) whether the price of rubber has crashed from Rs. 18 to Rs. 14/50 per kilogram;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the reasons for importing rubber when there is excess production of rubber in the country; and

(f) the steps Government propose to take for protecting the poor and small rubber cultivators ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) During 1984-85, STC imported 26,650 tonnes of rubber excluding 8,500 tonnes which arrived in the financial year 1983-84 (February/March, 1984) but could not be cleared due to Port and Dock Worker's strike. As such, this quantity was also cleared during the year 1984-85.

(b) The release prices of imported rubber are Rs. 16,080 per tonne for RSS-III and Rs. 16,500 per tonne for SMR-20.

(c) The highest and the lowest monthly average prices for different grades of rubber are indicated below :

| | (Rs./Kg.) | |
|------------|-----------|---------|
| | July 84 | Nov. 84 |
| Lot rubber | 11.28 | 14.94 |
| RMA-4 | 18.35 | 15.48 |

(d) Fall in price during November, is seasonal because of peak of production period September onwards. This is an annual feature. However low off take of rubber by tyre manufacturing sector was another reason for fall in prices during November, 1984.

(e) The total import during 1984-85 was only to the extent required to bridge the deficit between supply and demand.

(f) Government is watering supply, demand and price trends' of rubber constantly. Imports are allowed only to the extent necessary to bridge the gap between supply and demand and thus the interests of rubber growers including small rubber cultivators are protected. Various schemes are also implemented for the promotion of rubber cultivation in small holding sector.

Requirement of Coal for Raichur Thermal Power Plant (Karnataka)

2819. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of coal at present required for Raichur Thermal Power Plant in Karnataka; and

(b) whether in view of the acute power shortage in Karnataka for the past 7-8 years Government will approve coal linkage for the expansion of the above thermal plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Coal linkage of 20,000 tonnes per month has been granted for the period April-June 1985 for the Raichur TPS.

(b) Coal linkage for the Raichur expansion (3rd unit—210 MW) was sanctioned by the long-term Special Linkage Committee at its meeting held on 3-10-83.

Jute Industry facing crisis due to fall in Jute Bags

2820. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that jute industry is facing acute crisis due to fall in jute bags etc.; and

(b) if so, the steps are being taken to help the Industry for tackling the crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) During the first half of the current jute season 1984-85 (July-June), the demand position was reported to be good and the jute goods prices were favourable,

However, since February, 1985, there has been fall in prices of jute goods due mainly to sluggish demand.

(b) A statement is attached.

Statement

The Central Government has been taking various steps from time to time to improve the working of the jute industry. The important steps taken by the Central Government for improving the viability of the jute industry and encouraging exports include :

- (i) Purchase of jute goods by Government (D G C and D) from Jute Industry on cost plus basis;
- (ii) Introduction of compulsory use of 100% new jute bags by cement industry;
- (iii) Setting up of a Standing Committee under the auspices of RBI to Study viability of jute mills and to suggest a package of financial measures for the rehabilitation of potentially viable units;
- (iv) Providing higher cash higher compensatory support to the dynamic sectors of jute goods;
- (v) Involving STC in assisting the exports of carpet backing cloth to North American markets by forming STC-Jute Industry Consortium on 50 : 50 loss sharing basis;
- (vi) Constituting a new Jute Development Council and a Jute Fund out of the proceeds of Cess to give boost to R and D efforts and export promotion.
- (vii) Encouraging development of exportable products through intensification of R and D efforts.

[Translation]

Simplification of Import Policy

2821. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to simplify the import policy;

(b) if so, the details in this regard to the proposed simplified import policy;

(c) whether the decision to change the import policy has been taken with any specific purpose; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the benefit likely to accrue to the country as a result of the proposed change ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). The Government propose to announce the new Import and Export Policy today. Minister of Commerce is expected to make a statement in this regard shortly after the Question hour. Copies of the new Import and Export Policy will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Financial Assistance to Unemployed Youths under I. R. D. P. Scheme

2822. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people helped under Integrated Rural Development Programme, Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youths and other schemes in each district of Maharashtra during the last two years *i.e.* 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) whether the commercial banks are reluctant to help to complete their targets under this Scheme; and

(c) if so, action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY) : (a) The present data reporting system does not yield district-wise information. The progress made under the Integrated Rural Development Programme in Maharashtra during the last two years *i.e.* 1983-84 and 1984-85 (upto January, 1985) is as under;

| Year | Target | No. of families actually assisted | Percentage of families assisted to target |
|---------|----------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1983-84 | 1,77,600 | 2,56,052 | 144.2 |
| 1984-85 | 1,77,600 | 1,66,387 | 93.7 |

(Till January, 1985)

The total number of beneficiaries covered under the Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth during 1983-84 was 24,579 in Maharashtra State as against a target of 20,800. As per available data till the end of February, 1985, District Industries Centres in the State had sponsored 22,335 applications as against an annual target of 25,000 for 1985-85.

(b) No Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

Loan by NBARD to Tea Gardens in Darjeeling

2823. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that not even a single loan under the 18 schemes sanctioned for rejuvenation and replantation of tea gardens in Darjeeling by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has been drawn so far; and

(b) the details of 18 schemes and the reasons for not availing of the loan so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has so far Sanctioned 18 schemes involving bank loans of Rs. 359.03 lakhs in Darjeeling for Happy Valley, Makaibari, Phuguri, Lingia, Clenburn, Tumsong, Moodakotte, Pandam, Balasun, Singbuli, Badamtam, Thurbo, Barnesheg, Mim, Runglee, Rungliot, Roongmook and Cedars, Arya and Nagri Tea Gardens. Canara Bank has already started disbursement against sanctioned schemes of Rs. 77.50 lakhs in the case of three gardens, Disbursements in other cases are expected shortly.

Exports of Tobacco to China

2824. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there were any tobacco exports from India to China *via* Hongkong firms; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exported of tobacco from India to China *via* Hongkong firms during the last 3 years are given below:

| | Qty. in tonnes | Value (in Rs. lakhs) |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1981-82 | 26,330 | 38,94.33 |
| 1982-83 | 100 | 21.25 |
| 1983-84 | — | — |

The Indian suppliers are M/s. M. Venkataratnam and Co., ITC Ltd., Maddi Lakshmiah and Co. and Gogineni Tobacco. The Hongkong firms are M/s. TAFU and Co., I Hua Trading Co. and Pacific Trading and Agency Ltd.

Submission of Report by Committee to Study Cooperative Insurance

2825. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have nominated a committee to study the cooperative insurance in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have received the report from the Committee; and

(c) if so, the recommendations made and the action taken by Government to implement them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Steps to Prevent Pollution suggested by a Team of German Experts'

2826. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether under Indo-German Technical Co-operation Scheme a team of German experts which inspected the four iron and steel works at Rourkela, Durgapur, Bokaro and Jamshedpur have expressed their dissatisfaction over handling of population problem in the aforesaid public and private undertaking;

(b) the steps suggested in the report to prevent pollution;

(c) whether Government and Pollution Board have acted on the report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). Dr. Ferdinand Fink a German expert on pollution control in steel plants working under Indo-German Technical Cooperation Scheme visited steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) at Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro and Tata Iron and Steel Company plant at Jamshedpur between 23rd July and 7th August, 1982. He submitted his report to Central Pollution Control Board under Department of Environment in November, 1982. His general recommendations were as follows :

- (i) Provide measuring devices for each shop separately and also for waste water.
- (ii) Monitor regularly the waste water effluents from all outlets of each plant.
- (iii) Treat phenolic water of the coke ovens and reuse that water for quenching of coke.

(iv) Various types of slurries should be treated before discharge to public waterways.

(v) Provide for monitoring on all important stacks to measure stack emissions.

(vi) Revamp and commission all the water treatment plants wherever they are out of commission.

(vii) All air population control equipments should be commissioned and, wherever necessary, they should be augmented.

Action has been taken by SAIL on most of the recommendations and the matter is being pursued to ensure 100% compliance. Action plans have been prepared for 1985-90. Special action is being taken for afforestation and provision of air and water pollution control equipments.

Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited is also implementing the recommendations of Dr. Fink.

Use of Jute Fibre for Manufacturing of other Articles

2827. SHRI D.L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether jute fibre is mostly used for making gunny bags in India and results in larger export of raw materials to the foreign countries.

(b) whether Government have made any effort to diversify the use of jute fibre for the manufacture of other articles;

(c) if so, the names of such articles;

(d) whether Government have made any study of other articles fetching better prices and are in more demand in the foreign countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILE (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Jute fibre is used for gunny bags to the extent of about 50 per cent of total production of the fibre and the balance is used for making hession, carpet banking cloth etc.

Due to tight supply position of the fibre in the country, its export has been almost negligible during the last couple of years.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Government, Jute Manufacturers Development Council and Indian Jute Industries Research Association are making vigorous efforts in diversification of the products through Research and Development. However, more intensification of R and D efforts are necessary. The diversified products include carpet backing cloth, jute blended decoratives, house-hold furnishings, carpets, jute reinforced plastics etc. Above items are all high value products for which potential demand exists in foreign countries.

(d) and (e). International Trade Centre at Brussels has undertaken market promotion in respect of jute products in collaboration with India Trade Centre at Brussels. More vigorous effort has been planned for market promotion by I. T. C.

Use of Bearer Bonds as Parallel Currency

2828. SHRI B. K. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether bearer bonds are being used as a parallel currency;

(b) whether they are being sold at premium to conceal black money;

(c) if so, the steps contemplated to check this;

(d) whether the steps taken to unearth the black money are adequate; and

(e) whether Government propose to operate any other device besides the declared one to combat the manners of black-money ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). There are no official transactions in bearer bonds.

All possible measures to check circulation and prevent further proliferation of black money, including administrative, legislative and institutional are being taken from time to time.

Production of Steel

2829. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the production targets fixed for the different steel plants for the Sixth Five Year Plan period particularly for the current financial year;

(b) whether these targets are expected to be fulfilled;

(c) if not, the extent of shortfalls and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase production of steel ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The targets and production of saleable steel by SAIL (including IISCO) and TISCO during the last five years and their production plan for 1985-86 is given below:

| Year | SAIL (including IISCO) | | | TISCO | | |
|---------|------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------------|
| | Target | Actual | % age of fulfilment of target | Target | Actual | % age of fulfilment of target |
| 1980-81 | 5795 | 4767 | 82 | 1550 | 1537 | 99.2 |
| 1981-82 | 5730 | 5651 | 99 | 1550 | 1606 | 104 |
| 1982-83 | 5800 | 5672 | 97.8 | 1550 | 1621 | 105 |
| 1983-84 | 4731 | 4771 | 101 | 1550 | 1626 | 105 |
| 1984-85 | 5470 | 5283 | 97.6 | 1650 | 1679 | 102 |
| 1985-86 | 5920 | — | — | 1700 | — | — |

(Plan)

(c) and (d). Production depends on various factors like the health of the plants, adequate availability of the right quality of inputs and the market needs. Efforts are made to attain high capacity utilisation by proper maintenance and inputs of the desired quality.

As a long term measure output of steel in the country will also be increased by technological upgradation of existing plants and setting up of new steel plants.

Facilities for Growth of Handicrafts and Handlooms

2830. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have prepared a programme for giving all facilities for the growth of handicrafts and handlooms and undating their technology under the revised 20-Point Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how the programme is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether any special steps are being taken to introduce this plan in Adivasi area also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As in the statement attached.

(d) and (e). All the development programmes are equally applicable to tribal areas as well.

Statement

Handicrafts. The programmes for promoting growth of handicrafts include training

of craftsmen, marketing, providing assistance to State Corporations and Apex Cooperative Societies for setting up of Raw Material Depots and Common Facility Centres in Crafts concentration areas, opening of sales outlets in important towns and cities and providing assistance to states for primary cooperatives for handicrafts workers. For updating of technology for handicrafts there are at present four regional Design and Technical Development Centres in addition to National Institutes of hand printed textiles and cane and bamboo. Further, a scheme of providing design assistance to State Handicrafts Corporations/Apex Cooperative Societies and for supply of tools and equipment at subsidised rates is also being implemented.

Handlooms. The main policy of the Government is directed towards the creation of an infrastructure in the form of Cooperatives and State Handloom Development Corporations for providing a package of inputs like supply of yarn, credit, marketing etc. Emphasis is also being laid on modernisation of looms to increase the productivity and the earnings of the weavers. The Weavers Service Centres and Indian Institute of Handloom Technology are engaged in continuous research for updating technology in the handloom sector.

Metal Exploration in Kerala by GSI

2831. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any discoveries have been made during the metal explorations so far undertaken in Kerala by the Geological Survey of India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) and (b). In the course of the surveys, the Geological Survey of India indentified the occurrence of some of the following important mineral prospects in Kerala :

| Mineral | Estimated Reserves (in lakh tonnes) | Location |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Iron ore (31 to 41% Iron) | 882.9 | Kozhikode and Malapuram District |
| Bauxite (all grade) | 158.9 | Quilon, Trivandrum and Cannanore districts |
| Graphite (20% fixed carbon) | 15.6 | Ernakullam, Idukki, Kottayam Quilon and Trivandrum |
| Gold (Placer and Primary) | — | Malapuram District (Recognisance survey carried out to locate gold prospects) |

Pending Claims of L.I.C.

2832. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the pending claims ratio of Life Insurance Corporation of India at present to total claims;

(b) whether this is comparable to insurance companies in other countries; and

(c) the ratio of death claims repudiated by the LIC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The ratio of amount of pending death and maturity claims to the total claims of LIC as on 31st March, 1984 was 12.64%.

(b) Yes, Sir. The ratio of outstanding claims as per the latest available figures of a few leading foreign insurance companies are given below:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Metropolitan Life (31-12-1983) | 15.0% |
| Norwich Union (31-12-1982) | 10.5% |
| Prudential (31-12-1981) | 13.4% |

(c) In 1983-84, death claims for Rs. 1.68 crores were repudiated and the ratio of these claims to the total death claims amounting to Rs. 98.75 crores intimated during the year comes to 1.70%.

Export of Silver for Payment of Gold Import

2833. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council had suggest export of silver to pay for gold import to strengthen country's jewellery export potential as reported in the 'Financial Express' of March 6, 1985;

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto;

(c) whether any scheme for such exchange of silver for gold will be instituted; and

(d) whether there is a large outgo of silver from the country through smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) In an interview published in the Financial Express dated 6th March, 1985, Chairman, Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council has suggested that it would be desirable to adopt a scheme whereby silver exports could be linked to gold imports. However, no details of the scheme have been spelt out in the news-item nor have the Government received any detailed scheme.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such scheme is under Government's consideration.

(d) Not at present.

Public Sector Undertakings in Manipur

2834. PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Manipur have asked Union Government to establish some public sector undertakings in the State for production of items pertaining to defence, electronic and telephone equipments, etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Manipur have for asked for the setting up of a public sector electronic instrument manufacture facility in the State.

(b) A technical team sent by Government to suggest ways and means to promote electronics industry in Manipur have made suggestions which have been noted for implementation in stages.

Number of Employees in National Aluminium Co. Ltd.

2835. SHRI A. C. DAS : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees in National Aluminium Co. Ltd. as on 31 December, 1984 and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst them; and

(b) the strength of these employees as on 31 December, 1982 ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) The total number of employees on the regular rolls of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) was 1377 on 31-12-1984, out of which 169 belonged to Scheduled Castes and 81 to Scheduled Tribes. In addition, 143 trainees were on the rolls of the Company, out of which 22 belonged to Scheduled Castes and 10 to Scheduled Tribes.

(b) There were 638 employees working in NALCO as on 31.12.1982 out of which 152 belonged to Scheduled Castes and 18 to Scheduled Tribes,

[Translation]**Setting up of Coal Stockyards in Madhya Pradesh**

2836. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited had taken a decision in the past to set up coal stockyards at twelve places in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number and names of the coal stockyards set up in Madhya Pradesh to date; and

(c) the action being taken for setting up of the remaining coal stockyards alongwith details of the locations ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Earlier, five stockyards one each at Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Katni and Dongargarh were commissioned. However, with the change in policy to move coal only by rail to the stockyards, some changes became necessary and at present only 3 stockyards are functioning at Gwalior, Indore and Raipur.

(c) Action is being taken by Coal India Ltd. to open six more stockyards in Madhya Pradesh, at Katni, Bhopal, Satna, Khandwa, Jabalpur and Ratlam.

[English]**Permanent Commission to Scrutinise Country's Scarce Resources used by Banking System**

2838. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Confederation of Bank Officers Organisation (AICOBOO) have demanded setting up of a "Permanent Commission" to scrutinise the alleged misuse and mismanagement of the country's scarce resources by the banking system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The

Government has not received any such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Excise duty Realised from States

2839. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise receipts of excise duty realised from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu during the Sixth Five Year Plan from 1980-85; and

(b) whether the increase in receipts from excise duty is considered as a measure of industrial growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The receipts of excise duty from the Collectorates of Central Excise located in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu during the period 1980-85, as per departmental records, are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Increase in receipts from excise duty in a given State depends on a number of factors apart from growth in production, such as the excise coverage and rates of duty on commodities produced in the State, rise in prices etc. Variations in excise collections from a State from year to year can also arise as a result of fluctuations in industrial production in the State. Hence increase in revenue from excise duties may not provide a reliable index of industrial growth.

Statement

Statement showing Central Excise Revenue Realisation during the years 1980-81 to 1984-85 from the Collectorates of Central Excise located in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

(Rs. lakhs)

| S. No. | Name of State | Gross Revenue from Union Excise Duties | | | | |
|--------|----------------|--|---------|---------|---------|--|
| | | 1980-81 | 1981-82 | 1982-83 | 1983-84 | 1984-85 (upto Jan. 85) Provisional |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 38218 | 42554 | 45965 | 61483 | 57428 |
| 2. | Karnataka | 32358 | 45674 | 49330 | 55109 | 53235 |
| 3. | Kerala | 21215 | 22391 | 23430 | 24511 | 19192 |
| 4. | Tamil Nadu | 58422 | 69010 | 71740 | 78237 | 71699 |

Request of Cotton Corporation of Maharashtra for Export of Cotton Bales

2840. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any request from Cotton Corporation of Maharashtra to allow them to export Cotton bales; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

There is no Corporation in the name of Cotton Corporation of Maharashtra and no request has been received from the said Corporation. However, the Maharashtra State Corporation Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation has been making request for release of export quota in their favour.

(b) An export quota of 65,000 bales has been released in favour of Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation during the current cotton year.

Setting up of Banking Recruitment Board in Bihar

2841. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Banking Recruitment Boards or Commissions functioning in the country and location thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up one such recruitment board for Bihar which is the next most populous State;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A Statement indicating the names of the Recruitment Boards with their locations is attached.

(b) to (d). There is already a Regional Recruitment Board based at Patna for recruitment of Clerical candidates for State Bank of India and its associate banks in the State of Bihar.

Statement

Statement showing the names of the Recruitment Boards and their locations

S. No. Name of the Board and its locations

I. For 20 Nationalised Banks

1. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Eastern Group, Calcutta.
2. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Southern Group, Madras.
3. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Southern Group, Bangalore.
4. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Northern Group, Delhi.
5. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Western Group, Bombay.
6. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Western Group, Baroda.
7. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Central Group, Lucknow,

8. Banking Service Recruitment Board, Central Group, Bhopal.

9. Banking Service Recruitment Board, North Eastern Group, Gauhati.

II. For State Bank of India Group

1. Central Recruitment Board, Bombay.
2. Regional Recruitment Board, Ahmedabad.
3. Regional Recruitment Board, Bangalore.
4. Regional Recruitment Board, Bhopal.
5. Regional Recruitment Board, Bhubaneshwar.
6. Regional Recruitment Board, Bombay.
7. Regional Recruitment Board, Calcutta.
8. Regional Recruitment Board, Chandigarh.
9. Regional Recruitment Board, Gauhati.
10. Regional Recruitment Board, Hyderabad.
11. Regional Recruitment Board, Lucknow.
12. Regional Recruitment Board, Madras.
13. Regional Recruitment Board, New Delhi.
14. Regional Recruitment Board, Patna.

Transfer Policy in Respect of Couples Working at on Station

2842. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is the policy of Government that working couples should be posted at on station;

(b) if so, whether there are some class III Customs Officers in the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence whose wives are working in Delhi who have been transferred out of Delhi;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Efforts are made to keep husband and wife, when both are service, at the same station, subject to administrative expediency.

(b) Yes, Sir. There are two Class III Intelligence Officers in the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence whose wives are working in Delhi but their husbands are posted out of Delhi.

(c) and (d). Intelligence Officers in the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are liable to be posted to any of the field formations especially for giving them varied experience and to meet operational requirements of highly sensitive nature and other administrative exigencies. Reposting of these officers will be considered at appropriate time subject to availability of vacancies and administrative expediency.

Lower Prices of Cashew Kernel in Kerala than in Neighbouring States

2843. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prevailing prices of cashew kernel in Kerala is lower than those prevailing in the neighbouring States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) how far the Kerala Government ban on the movement of cashew kernel within and outside the State boundaries affected the cashew growing farmers of Kerala in general and the district of Cannanore in particular; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to ensure a remunerative price to the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the Government of Kerala and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of rolling mill and fabrication unit of down stream product of aluminium plant in Orissa

2844. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up the rolling mill and fabrication unit of down stream product of aluminium plant in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether the project report of these units has been prepared on the basis of the recommendation of National Industrial Development Corporation;

(c) if so, the details of these reports; and

(d) the places selected for setting up rolling mill and fabrication unit and the progress made in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). NALCO had commissioned M/s. National Industrial Development Corporation Limited (NIDC) to prepare a market study for downstream products of Aluminium. Thereafter, M/s. Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited (MECON), a Government of India Enterprise, submitted a feasibility report for creation of downstream facilities. Earlier, as part of the downstream facilities, the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) decided to set up two wire rod mills each of 2 x 50,000 tonnes per year capacity.

(d) The wire rod mill is being set up at Angul at the Aluminium Smelter Plant. A final decision on the location of the rolling mill and other downstream facilities will be taken along with the investment decision by the Government.

Guidelines to National Aluminium Company Limited by Bureau of Public Enterprises

2845. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has issued guidelines to the National Aluminium Company Limited, Orissa regarding employment and development of ancillary industries;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued;

(c) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises is getting the report from the National Aluminium Company Limited, Orissa regarding the progress of the implementation of those guidelines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof since the starting of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Bureau of Public Enterprises has issued guidelines for the growth and development of ancillary industries by public sector enterprises which are applicable to National Aluminium Company Limited also.

(b) Guidelines *inter alia* provide for formation of Plant Level Committee, identification of areas of ancillarisation, nomination of a Senior Officer for ancillary development by the enterprises.

(c) and (d). The progress report prescribed under the Guidelines is normally received when the unit has gone into commercial production. NALCO is still in the construction phase. Preliminary reports received from the company, however, indicate that ancillarisation is receiving the attention of the company. A Plant Level Committee has been set up, a senior officer has been made incharge of ancillary development and areas of ancillarisation are being identified.

Separate Bank for Credit facilities to Small Scale Sector

2846. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that small scale sector is facing difficulties regarding credits;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to have a separate bank to render credit facilities according to the requirements of the small scale sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir. Small scale industries are included in the priority sector. Banks were given a target that their advances to the priority sector should reach 40% of the total advances by March, 1985. The Reserve Bank is closely monitoring the performance of the banks in this direction. In its busy season credit policy announced in October, 1984, Reserve Bank of India had also directed the banks to pay special atten-

tion to meeting the genuine credit requirements of small scale industries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Indo-Thailand Trade Relation

2847. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indo-Thailand joint efforts have been made to identify areas of mutual interest for further trade co-operation;

(b) if so, the area in which India and Thailand have established trade relation earlier;

(c) the new areas identified to established trade relation between both the countries; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The traditional major items of Indian export and import are as under :

Export : Cotton, precious stones and metals, tanning and dyeing material, iron and steel, engineering items, animal foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals.

Import : Pulses (including mung and matpe beans), paper and paper board; man-made fibres, raw materials for dyeing flourspar, electrical machinery.

(c) and (d). A Joint Trade Committee has been set up. Main new areas of interest identified are as under :

Project for development of Eastern sea port in Thailand, for which Indian parties could respond to tenders. Auto industry including spares and components, and agricultural related equipment have been identified as potential areas for joint ventures.

Production of Zink

2848. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to increase the production of non-ferrous metals;

(b) if so, the quantity in tonnes of zink produced in the country in the Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the name of various zink mines where steps have been taken to increase the production of zinc ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2,72,974 tonnes of zinc was produced in the country during the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-81 to 1984-85).

(c) Steps have already been taken to achieve near optimum level of production in the existing Zawar Group of Mines (Mochia, Balaria and Zawarmala) in District Udaipur, Rajasthan. The other, Rajpura-Dariba Mines, also in District Udaipur, Rajasthan has gone into production only from 1984-85, and steps are being taken to reach the optimum level of production in a few years' time. Opening

of a new mines at Rampura-Agucha in District Bhilwara, Rajasthan is under examination of the Government.

Availability and Export of Mineral Deposits

2849. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the mineral deposits which are available in the country at present;

(b) the State-wise break-up thereof;

(c) the value of these mineral deposits; and

(d) the mineral deposits that are exported and the quantum of such exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) and (b). Based on the investigations carried out for various minerals in the country by Geological Survey of India and State Governments, the estimated reserves of major minerals in various States and the State-wise break-up thereof is given below :

| Name of the Mineral | State-wise break-up of reserves (in lakh tonnes) | |
|---------------------|--|------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Coal | Bihar | 5,57,030 |
| | West Bengal | 2,77,396.9 |
| | Orissa | 2,95,347.8 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 2,32,335.6 |
| | Maharashtra | 31,833.5 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | 85,046.0 |
| | Arunachal Pradesh | 910.0 |
| | Assam | 2,800.3 |
| | Meghalaya | 5,089.4 |
| | Nagaland | 120.5 |
| | Lignite | Tamil Nadu |
| Gujarat | | 1,650.2 |
| Rajasthan | | 1049.8 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | | 84.0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Iron Ore Hematite | Andhra Pradesh | 120.4 |
| | Bihar | 35,714.5 |
| | Goa | 8,840.8 |
| | Karnataka | 11,668.0 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 24,701.4 |
| | Maharashtra | 2,254.9 |
| | Orissa | 31,238.7 |
| | Rajasthan | 158.4 |
| Magnetite (low grade ore) | Andhra Pradesh | 2,447.87 |
| | Assam | 497.40 |
| | Bihar | 6.41 |
| | Haryana | 80.84 |
| | Karnataka | 51,702.70 |
| | Kerala | 882.94 |
| | Nagaland | 100.00 |
| | Rajasthan | 0.84 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 5,316.99 |
| Manganese Ore | Andhra Pradesh | 25.6 |
| | Bihar | 1.4 |
| | Goa | 29.4 |
| | Gujarat | 29.6 |
| | Karnataka | 479.3 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 212.9 |
| | Maharashtra | 162.7 |
| | Orissa | 334.2 |
| | Rajasthan | 3.2 |
| Nickel Ore | Orissa | 1,602.6 |
| Chromite | Bihar | 4.6 |
| | Karnataka | 29.0 |
| | Maharashtra | 1.9 |
| | Orissa | 1,314.9 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 2.6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Limestone | Andhra Pradesh | 1,59,706.4 |
| | Assam | 5,248.6 |
| | Arunachal Pradesh | 1,400.0 |
| | Bihar | 6,729.5 |
| | Gujarat | 1,07,922.9 |
| | Goa | 1,286.7 |
| | Haryana | 518.6 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | 9,592.0 |
| | Jammu and Kashmir | 2,926.6 |
| | Karnataka | 1,69,683.6 |
| | Kerala | 415.7 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 82,179.3 |
| | Manipur | 80.4 |
| | Maharashtra | 34,848.0 |
| | Meghalaya | 61,891.1 |
| | Nagaland | 3,765.0 |
| | Orissa | 8,406.8 |
| | Pondichery | 48.3 |
| | Rajasthan | 53,196.6 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 8,233.9 |
| | Tripura | 0.9 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 13,667.8 |
| | West Bengal | 238.5 |
| Dolomite | Andhra Pradesh | 1,268.0 |
| | Arunachal Pradesh | 4,263.9 |
| | Bihar | 345.7 |
| | Karnataka | 3,341.8 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 14,257.8 |
| | Maharashtra | 2,601.9 |
| | Orissa | 6,683.2 |
| | Rajasthan | 901.5 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 21.3 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------------|----------------|---------|
| | Uttar Pradesh | 752.5 |
| | West Bengal | 2,524.7 |
| | Gujarat | 2,453.1 |
| | Haryana | 63.7 |
| Copper Ore | Andhra Pradesh | 90.9 |
| | Bihar | 2,151.3 |
| | Gujarat | 75.7 |
| | Haryana | 150.0 |
| | Karnataka | 108.8 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 1,925.0 |
| | Maharashtra | 34.0 |
| | Orissa | 23.6 |
| | Rajasthan | 1,085.7 |
| | Meghalaya | 1.18 |
| | Sikkim | 7.3 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 1.5 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 7.7 |
| | West Bengal | 1.1 |
| Lead-Zinc Ore | Andhra Pradesh | 83.1 |
| | Gujarat | 74.4 |
| | Maharashtra | 10.0 Zn |
| | Meghalaya | 1.2 |
| | Orissa | 26.3 Pb |
| | Rajasthan | 3,349.8 |
| | Sikkim | 7.8 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 6.8 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 10.3 |
| | West Bengal | 32.5 |
| Bauxite | Andhra Pradesh | 4,791.7 |
| | Bihar | 732.6 |
| | Goa | 280.7 |
| | Gujarat | 903.4 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Jammu and Kashmir | 72.8 |
| | Karnataka | 310.1 |
| | Kerala | 159.0 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 1,939.2 |
| | Maharashtra | 1,021.4 |
| | Orissa | 16,014.7 |
| | Rajasthan | 10.7 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 160.1 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 140.2 |
| Barytes | Andhra Pradesh | 725.86 |
| | Bihar | 0.18 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | 0.16 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 0.94 |
| | Karnataka | 0.15 |
| | Maharashtra | 0.44 |
| | Rajasthan | 10.93 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 0.25 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 0.42 |
| Kyanite | Bihar | 0.90 |
| | Karnataka | 6.79 |
| | Maharashtra | 22.29 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | 0.02 |
| | Rajasthan | 0.10 |
| | West Bengal | 0.19 |
| Gold Ore | Andhra Pradesh | 44.41 |
| | Karnataka | 116.57 |
| Diamond | Madhya Pradesh | 5.31 |
| | | (lakh carats) |
| Gypsum | Andhra Pradesh | 2.3 |
| | Gujarat | 72.0 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | 13.2 |
| | Jammu and Kashmir | 1,493.1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------|------------------|----------|
| | Karnataka | 10.9 |
| | Rajasthan | 10,708.2 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 182.1 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 3.9 |
| Magnesite | Himachal Pradesh | 0.9 |
| | Karnataka | 10.0 |
| | Rajasthan | 2.6 |
| | Temil Nadu | 355.2 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 1,736.8 |
| Tungsten Ore | Karnataka | 360.0 |
| | Maharashtra | 29.0 |
| | Rajasthan | 62.0 |
| | West Bengal | 3.8 |
| Sillimanite | Assam | 0.7 |
| | Karnataka | 0.9 |
| | Kerala | 34.1 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 1.0 |
| | Maharashtra | 2.34 |
| | Meghalaya | 0.8 |
| | Orissa | 79.0 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 1.8 |
| Phosphorite | Gujarat | 5.0 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 207.0 |
| | Rajasthan | 830.7 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | 298.8 |

(c) During 1984, 60 minerals were produced having a total provisional value of Rs. 7680 crores. The share of fuel, metallic and non-metallic ores is Rs. 6959 crores, Rs.

458 crores and Rs. 263 crores respectively.

(d) The details so far as minerals exported during last two years are as follows :

| Mineral | 1982-83 | | 1983-84 | |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | *Qty. | **Value | *Qty. | **Value |
| Iron ore | 122.05 | 259.50 | 125.22 | 245.80 |
| Manganese ore | 4.76 | 16.80 | 4.05 | 14.60 |
| Coal | 0.92 | 4.80 | 0.30 | 1.40 |
| Chrome ore | 1.12 | 6.50 | 1.27 | 8.00 |
| Barytes | 0.08 | 0.50 | 0.04 | 0.30 |

(*Qty. in lakh tonnes)

(**Value—Rs. in crores)

Survey of Minerals Deposits

2850. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Union Government have so far taken to make detailed survey of mineral deposits in various parts of the country;

(b) the details of the survey conducted; and

(c) the details of the positive achievements in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). Survey of minerals is a continu-

ous process and is being undertaken in various parts of the country by Geological Survey of India, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited and State Directorates as per their respective programmes. GSI undertakes systematic survey for location and preliminary exploration of minerals on a continuous basis using various techniques like systematic geological mapping, detailed mapping and drilling and passes on such information to Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited for further follow up in respect of detailed exploration. As a result of mineral investigations, carried out by GSI and other agencies, substantial reserves have been estimated for all the major minerals in the country as given below :

| Name of the minerals | Total reserves in the country in lakh tonnes | State-wise description |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Coal | 14,87,913.0 | Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland. |
| Lignite | 36,573 | Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir. |
| Iron Ore (Hematite) | 1,14,697.1 | Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan. |
| Magnetite (low grade Ore) | 61,035.99 | Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Nagaland, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------------|---|---|
| Manganese Ore | 1,278.3 | Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan. |
| Nickel Ore | 1,602.6 (with about 1% nickel) | Orissa. |
| Chromite | 1,353.0 | Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu. |
| Limestone | 7,31,988.5 | Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, H.P., J and K, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Pondichery, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. |
| Dolomite | 39,479.1 | Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat and Haryana. |
| Copper Ore | 5,662.6 (Average 1.11% copper) | Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. |
| Lead-Zinc Ore | 3,602.2 (Average 1.62% lead 4.99% zinc) | Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. |
| Bauxite | 26,536.6 | Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. |
| Phosphorite | 1,341.5 | Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. |
| Barytes | 739.3 | Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. |
| Kyanite | 30.29 | Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal. |
| Gold Ore | 160.98 | Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. |
| Diamond | 531,000.00 Carats | Madhya Pradesh. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------|------------------------|---|
| Mica | Reserves not estimated | Bihar, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. |
| Gypsum | 12,485.7 | Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. |
| Magnesite | 2,105.5 | Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. |
| Tungsten Ore | 454.8 | Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal. |
| Sillimanite | 120.64 | Assam, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu. |

Gold Mines

2851. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of gold mines in the country at present;

(b) State-wise details of the locations of the same;

(c) whether these mines are owned by Government or by any private party, details thereof; and

(d) the total production of these gold mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). At present the following five gold mines are being worked in the country :

A. Kolar Gold Field (Kolar District, Karnataka)

(i) Nundydroog Mine

(ii) Champion Reef Mine

(iii) Mysore Mine

B. Ramgiri Gold Field (Anantpur Distt. Andhra Pradesh)

(iv) Yeppamana Mine

C. Hutti Gold Field (Raichur Distt. Karnataka)

(v) Hutti Mine

The Nundydroog, Champion Reef, Mysore and Yeppamana Mines are being worked by the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., a Central Government Undertaking. The Hutti Mines is being worked by Hutti Gold Mines Limited, a State Government undertaking. No gold mines are owned by any private party.

(d) The total production of gold in these mines during 1984-85 was 1956 Kgs.

Financial Assistance to Weaker Sections by Union Bank of India, Ghazipur

2852. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases referred by the State Government agencies for financial assistance under various programmes to help weaker sections of the population by the different branches of the Union Bank of India, Ghazipur region, Uttar Pradesh during 1984-85;

(b) the branch-wise details thereof;

(c) the number out of them provided relief;

(d) the number of cases rejected; and

(e) the number of cases which are under consideration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Reserve Bank of India has reported that

the present data reporting system does not yield branch-wise details of financial assistance extended to borrowers sponsored by state agencies. Union Bank of India have reported that following number of cases were referred to them by State Government agencies, for financial assistance under various programmes to help weaker sections, in Ghazipur region during 1984-85.

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| No. of cases referred | 9478 |
| No. of cases sanctioned | 7604 |
| No. of cases disbursed | 6900 |
| Pending for disbursement | 704 |
| Rejected/Returned | 1041 |
| No. of cases under consideration | 833 |

India's Share in World Market for Apparels

2853. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's share in the world market for apparels can increase considerably with modern marketing strategies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Exports of garments depend upon several factors such as demand in the importing countries, competition from other countries, domestic production base, fashion trends, consumer preferences etc. Government has taken several steps to increase India's share in the world market for garments including the following :

- (i) With effect from 1st January, 1984 rates of CCS have been revised upwards for certain categories of readymade garments.
- (ii) 105 garment and hosiery making machines have been placed on OGL. 97 of these machines are allowed to be imported on payment of concessional duty.
- (iii) The Government has announced its decision to permit deduction of 50% of export profits from net taxable income subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) Entitlement under REP licences for import of essential inputs is permit-

ted. Essential inputs are also permitted to be imported under the Advance Licensing Scheme for export production.

- (v) A Scheme of 100% Export Oriented Units is in operation which includes several textile items including ready-made garments.
- (vi) Inspection procedures for readymade garments meant for exports have been simplified.
- (vii) Government has been sponsoring and funding promotional activities such as market studies, Buyer Seller meets, participation in International Fairs/Exhibitions etc., in order to increase and diversify exports.

Price of Controlled Cloth

2854. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of controlled cloth has been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to the abnormal increase in the price of controlled cloth the total sales turn-over has been affected;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether due to the increase of the price of cloth, the weaker sections have been affected; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by Government to decrease the prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. The price of Controlled Cloth has not been revised since July, 1981.

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

Ban of New Recruitment in Government Service

2855. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a ban no new recruitment continues in the Union Government service at present;

(b) when was the said ban imposed;

(c) whether Government are going to withdraw the ban; and

(d) the number of persons who have retired from Government service through-cut India (including Railways) during the ban period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As a part of anti-inflationary measures, Ministries/Departments to the Government of India were advised in January, 1984 not to fill up existing vacancies. Instructions issued in this regard were valid up to 31st March, 1985. Having regard, however, to the continued need for utmost economy in Government expenditure, it has been decided that the above instructions should stand extended untill further orders. Exemptions have, however, been allowed in a few selective cases like appointment of dependents of deceased employees on compassionate grounds and handicapped persons, redeployment of personnel surplus to one organisation in another, regularisation of casual labourers against Group 'D' vacancies, filling up of vacancies purely by promotion etc. Proposals seeking exemption from the purview of the above instructions are also considered on merits.

(b) Statistics on the subject are not centrally maintained.

Computers Acquired by G.S.I.

2856. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of computers acquired by Geological Survey of India;

(b) the types of computers and capacities thereof;

(c) the cost of each computer;

(d) the number of computer programmes which have so far been undertaken by different officers holding computers;

(e) whether trained computer operators are employed by Geological Survey of India; and

(f) if not, who are operating these computers ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Geological Survey of India has not acquired any computer.

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

Amount of Income-tax Outstanding against Companies

2857. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (c) of Unstarred Question No. 223 on 15th March, 1985 regarding Supreme Court Judgement regarding Section 80-J of Income-tax Act and to state the amount of Income-tax outstanding against the companies like Lohia Machines, J. K. Synthetics which had filed an appeal in the Supreme Court and others who had been impleaded in it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : In addition to Lohia Machines and J.K. Synthetics, 353 assesseees were impleaded in the appeal filed in the Supreme Court regarding Section 80-J of Income-tax Act. The requisite information about all such assesseees will have to be collected from field formations which will take considerable time. However, information of such assesseees against whom Income-tax demands exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs were outstanding as on 30-9-1984 is available presently. According to it a sum of Rs. 113.49 crores was outstanding against those companies on 30.9.1984.

Shoes Purchased from Organised Sector Like Batas

2858. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and value of shoes purchased from the organised sector like Batas during the year 1984-85;

(b) the mode of purchases;

(c) whether these shoe manufacturers in the organised sector purchase shoes of various kinds and sizes made by the small sector, individuals and group of persons engaged in shoe-making in Agra, Delhi, Kanpur and other places and then stamp them with their own brand name; and

(d) whether this also enables them to evade payment of any excise duty and if so, the check being exercised before taking delivery that the particular product in the one manufactured by the organised industry and not marketed by them in their own names and the middlemen's profit pocketed by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) 50,69,144 Pairs. Value Rs. 10.28 crores.

(b) Advertised Tender/Limited Tenders.

(c) and (d). The Department has no information about any such practices. The footwear supplied by the organised sector are inspected only at their factory premises in terms of the contract.

Shortage of coal experienced by State Electricity Boards

2859. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Electricity Boards are experiencing shortage of coal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The coal stocks at some power stations are low because of transportation problems, inadequate facilities at the power stations for handling of coal wagons and also due to inadequate production by the Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. The following steps have been taken to improve the coal supplies to Power Stations :

1. Power Stations with inadequate facilities for handling railway wagons have been asked to take steps for improvement of the facilities.
2. Railways have been requested to move coal on priority to those power stations with low stocks.
3. Steps have been taken to strengthen the management, curb absenteeism and improve industrial relations in Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., to increase production.

[Translation]

Export of Leather

2860. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of leather exported country-wise and the value thereof during the last three years;

(b) the names and other details of the major leather exporting Indian companies and the quantity and value of leather exported by each of them country-wise and year-wise during the last three years;

(c) the details of black-listed companies alongwith reasons therefor; and

(d) the names and number of companies which were again permitted to export and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) to (d). According to the information furnished by the Council for Leather Exports, Madras, No exporter of finished leather was de-registered by either the Leather Export Promotion Council Madras or the Export Promotion Council for Finished Leather and Leather Manufactures, Kanpur during the last three years. Company-wise exports are not monitored by the Government.

Statement

The value of Country-wise exports of finished leather during the last three years is as under

(Value in Million Rs.)

| Country | 1981-82 | 1982-83 | 1983-84 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| West Germany | 246 | 256 | 294 |
| Italy | 391 | 322 | 310 |
| U.K. | 71 | 95 | 116 |
| G.D.R. | 99 | 63 | 54 |
| U.S.S.R. | 477 | 417 | 380 |
| Australia | 69 | 48 | 56 |
| Japan | 39 | 32 | 32 |
| USA and Canada | 286 | 28 | 223 |
| Others | 553 | 738 | 491 |
| Total | 2231 | 1999 | 1956 |

The total quantity of finished leather exported during 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 was 489.30, 415.70 and 430.50 lakh pieces respectively.

Advancing of Credits in Bihar by Nationalised Banks

2861. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the nationalised banks in Bihar are advancing credit even less than 40 per cent of their deposits;

(b) whether it is having an adverse effect on the development of Bihar;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to make arrangements to double the credit ratio in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The credits deposit ratio of public sector banks (SBI Group + 20 nationalised banks) in Bihar stood at 40.7 per cent as at the end of March, 1984.

Credit-deposit ratio in any area represents only a mathematical relationship

between deposits and advances of branches in that area and is not an indication of adequacy or otherwise of the credit deployed in that area. Credit is only an input in productive ventures, undertaking of which by entrepreneurs is influenced by factors like availability of power, transport, communications and other infrastructural facilities, proximity to market, industrial climate etc. Level of credit deployment in any given area itself depends upon the level of economic activity, particularly in the organised sector of trade and Industry.

However, the banks have been asked to take necessary steps for improving the credit deployment in the states where credit-deposit ratio is low. The banks are involved in the preparation of District Credit Plans with a view to facilitate deployment of bank credit in the implementation of development programmes State Government are also expected, on their part, to provide necessary infrastructural facilities for deployment of larger bank credit. A combination of efforts on the part of banks and State Government is expected to ensure greater flow of credit in the State of Bihar.

[English]

Sale of Steel Scrap by Steel Factories in Public Sector

2862. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether large quantities of steel scrap are sold by steel factories in public sector;

(b) whether Government have recently instructed these units to use the scrap to reduce handling costs, wastage etc.;

(c) whether Government have examined ways and means to reduce the losses sustained by public sector steel units despite steep increase in steel prices in the recent years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon and the results, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a). No. Sir,

(b) SAIL has been asked to maximise recovery of scrap.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main reason for the losses of the public sector steel plants has been that the price increase during the past few years, did not fully compensate them for the escalations in the cost of inputs. Efforts have been made to ensure adequate inputs and of the right quality, better maintenance, increase in capacity utilisation and attainment of improved technological norms. Efforts have also been made to contain expenditure, reduce inventories and adopt cost reduction measures. The financial results of the public sector steel plants for 1984-85 will show substantial improvements over the past.

**Production and Profit earned by
C. I. L. during 1981-84**

2863. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coal taken out by the different units of Coal India Ltd. for 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84;

(b) the total number of permanent and seasonal employees employed by Coal India Ltd. and the total wage bill per year;

(c) the money invested in Coal India Ltd. up to 31st March, 1984 and the profit/loss earned in 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84; and

(d) the total profit/loss accumulated since the beginning to end of March, 1984, and the steps taken by Union Government to reduce the losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Production of coal by the different units of Coal India Ltd. for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 is as under :

(Figs. in million tonnes)

| Company | 1981-82 | 1982-83 | 1983-84 |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| ECL | 23.55 | 22.60 | 22.86 |
| ECCL | 23.02 | 24.00 | 21.63 |
| CCL | 30.11 | 33.02 | 36.77 |
| WCL | 31.56 | 34.27 | 39.35 |
| NEC | 0.70 | 0.71 | 0.80 |
| Total : | 108.94 | 114.68 | 121.41 |

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

(c) and (d). The Total subscribed and paid up capital in CIL as on 31st March, 1984 stood at Rs. 1911.70 crores. Profit earned/loss suffered by CIL during 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 is as under :

(Rs. in crores)

| | (+) Profit | (-) Loss |
|---------|------------|----------|
| 1981-82 | 34.20 | |
| 1982-83 | 37.45 | |
| 1983-84 | | 242.68 |

(@ Before adjustment of contribution to/from the Coal Price Regulation Account.)

The total accumulated loss suffered by CIL upto 31-3-84 is Rs. 1108.07 crores.

All efforts are being made to increase production and productivity in the coal companies with a view to providing them with a sound financial base as well as to make them fully poised to meet the growing demands of coal in the years to come. The various measures being adopted to increase production and improve productivity in coal companies include massive investment in new mines, fuller utilisation of mining capacity already created, more efficient use and better maintenance of equipments, stricter control of inventory and economy in the use of stores, better use of man-

power by controlling absenteeism and enforcing discipline and indentification of surplus workers and their re-deployment after suitable training, better availability of scarce inputs like explosives, timber, etc., expeditious and timely completion of new projects and improvement in the law and order situation and control over illegal activities in Bihar-Bengal coalfields.

Assistance given by IFCI to Medium and Small Scale Industrial Units

2864. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Finance Corporation of India has recently decided to give financial assistance to medium and small scale industrial units for modernisation of their plants ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) has not recently introduced any new scheme for extending modernisation assistance exclusively for medium and small scale units.

(b) Does not arise.

Recommendation of Working Group on Levies on Molasses and Alcohol for Abolition of Excise Duty

2865. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Working Group on Levies on Molasses and Alcohol constituted by the Ministry has recommended that the excise duty of Rs. 31.50 per tonne of molasses may be abolished;

(b) whether Government have accepted the recommendation; and

(c) if so, the time by which the recommendation is going to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The

Working Group on Levies on Molasses and Alcohol constituted by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in February, 1983 had, *inter alia*, recommended for abolition of excise duty on molasses.

(b) It was not four possible to accept the recommendation.

(c) Does not arise.

Evasion of Excise Duty on T.V. Sets by Assesseees

2866. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (c) of Unstarred Question No. 2224 on 5 August, 1983 regarding excise duty realised from T.V. sets and to state :

(a) the details of each of the six reported instances where assesses tried to evade excise duty on T.V. sets alongwith particulars of assesseees and excise duty involved in each case;

(b) the reasons why home service charges, warranty charges, first year services charges, advertisement charges, sales expenses and freight, forwarding/handling charges are also included in and assessable value of CTV set; and

(c) whether Government have examined the case RTP No. 138 of 1984 before M.R.T.P. Commission where T.V. manufacturers are being prosecuted for levying after sales service charges through dealers from the view point of excise evasion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Show Cause Notices have been issued to the following six manufacturers of T.V. sets on charges of evasion of duty shown against each.

- (1) M/s. Keonics Video Systems, Bangalore for Rs. 20.47 lakhs.
- (2) M/s. Acharya Electronics, Nagpur for Rs. 30.10 lakhs.
- (3) M/s. Konark Television, Bhubaneswer for Rs. 90.06 lakhs.
- (4) M/s. Punjstar Electronics, Mohali for Rs. 5.44 lakhs.

(5) M/s. Bajsons, Bombay for Rs. 4.05 lakhs.

(6) M/s. Sudarshan Electronics T.V. Limited, Bombay for Rs. 5.30 lakhs.

(b) Prior to issue of Notification No. 65/85-CE dated, the 17th March, 1985, home service (after sales service) charges, warranty charges, first year service charges, advertisement charges, sales expenses, forwarding and handling charges but excluding freight charges were includible in the assessable value for the purpose of charging excise duty. However since 17-3-85 Central excise duty is leviable on T.V. sets at specific rates. Therefore, the calculation of assessable value for T.V. sets does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. Intelligence has been collected against manufacturers for taking suitable action against them for evasion of central excise duty, if any, prior to 17-3-1985. In a few cases action was initiated for evasion of duty by the manufacturers of T.V. sets even before the issue of show cause notice by the M.R.T.P. Commission to the manufacturers and dealers of T.V. sets and these cases are under process of adjudication.

Sericulture Development Project

2867. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where sericulture development programmes had been taken up under the Central scheme during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to expand sericulture development programme during the Seventh Five year Plan; and

(c) if so, the names of the areas identified in Madhya Pradesh to implement sericulture development programme during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) The States where sericulture development programmes for four different varieties of silk *i.e.* Mulberry, Tasar, Eri and Muga were taken up under Central Schemes during the VI Plan are as follows :

(i) **Mulberry Silk Industry :**

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya.

(ii) **Tasar Silk Industry :**

Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Jammu and Kashmir.

(iii) **Eri and Muga :**

Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Central Silk Board have identified districts of Bilaspur, Surguja, Raigarh, Bastar and Jagdalpur for development of Tassar and districts of Dhar, Hoshangabad, Indore, Ujjain, Khandwa, Dewas, Sehore, Shajapur, and Mandsoar for development of Mulberry silk industry in Madhya Pradesh during VIIIth Plan.

Progress in Production of taken over Textile Mills

2868. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of development in regard to the textile mills, seventeen in number, which were taken over in Bombay;

(b) how many of them have turned viable; and

(c) the steps taken to rehabilitate such mills as are still under strain ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) 13 textile mills, situated in Bombay were taken over by the Government in October, 1983, under the provisions of Textile Undertaking (Taking over of Management) Ordinance, 1983. All these mills except one mill have been under operation.

(b) Two of these mills have shown net profits in January, 1985 and February, 1985.

(c) Efforts are being made to achieve optimum capacity utilisation, commensurate with the condition of the machinery. However, to reactivate the full installed capacity, modernisation of mills will be necessary.

High Rate of Interest on IDBI Loan

2869. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high rate of interest on Industrial Development Bank of India loan is proving to be a stumbling block in the modernisation of the old textile mills;

(b) whether the same applies to the old sugar mills modernisation;

(c) whether National Textile Corporation has already requested for a reduction in the interest rate of loans; and

(d) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The rate of interest on loans given under the Soft Loan Scheme by the Industrial Development Bank of India for modernisation of textile mills as well as units in other industries including the sugar industry is a concessional one.

(c) and (d). The IDBI has reported that no request from the National Textile Corporation for reduction in interest rate for the loans taken under the Soft Loan Scheme has been received so far. However, some of the subsidiaries of NTC have requested for reduction in document rates of interest in respect of old loans. Generally the document rates of interest in respect of existing loans are not revised, though in the case of weak units suitable reliefs are extended on a case to case basis.

Handloom Industry to Compete with Mills-made Cloth

2870. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE

AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handloom industry is lacking in strength to compete with mill made cloth because its cost of production is high;

(b) whether the present facilities have proved inadequate to make it viable and competitive; and

(c) if so, whether Government would have an indepth enquiry into the whole matter and devise ways to strengthen it so that the handloom industry thrives with the rural economy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Handloom industry is not in a position to compete with mill made cloth due to low productivity and higher cost of production.

(b) and (c). Government have evolved a number of measures to counteract the low level of technology by means of modernisation of looms and other support measures to neutralise the cost handicap, like special rebate on sales of handloom cloth and reservation of certain varieties for exclusive production in the handloom sector.

Government had also conducted a Study on the cost handicap suffered by the handloom sector. The Study had recommended adjustment of fiscal levies neutralising the cost handicap.

Losses in Public Sector Undertakings

2871. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the Public Sector in the country all along projecting a distorted picture of its earnings in as much as in 1982-83, 172 public sector units gave a return of hardly Rs. 160 crores on a total capital investment of Rs. 36,113 crores out of which only 4 enterprises viz. ONGC, IOC, OIL and STC-with a capital of Rs. 5567 crores yielded a profit of Rs. 1607 crores, thereby showing that the rest of the 168 units employing a capital of Rs. 30,546 crores incurred a loss of Rs. 1447 crores.

(b) if so, whether the above situation changed in 1983-84 and thereafter; and

(c) if so, with what results ?

Figures in lakh bales
of 180 kgs. each

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) to (c).

The sectorwise investments and analysis of profits for 1982-83 and 1983-84 are available in the Public Enterprises Survey for these years placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on 28-2-84 and 15-3-1985 respectively. The number of enterprises earning profits and those incurring losses are also available therein. In these years, the number of enterprises earning not profits exceeded those incurring losses.

During 1984-85, based on the provisional working results received from the enterprises so far, on quick-estimate basis, 101 enterprises have earned not profits and 80 have incurred loss resulting in a net profit of about Rs. 955 crores which is the highest quantum of net profits earned by the public enterprises in any year. The working results have thus shown substantiated improvement in 1984-85 compared to earlier years. While in all the three years the petroleum sector has contributed maximum to the net profits, there are a number of enterprises in other sectors as well which have earned profits during these years as indicated above.

Production of Jute Fibre

2872. **SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :**
Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND
SUPPLY** be pleased to state :

(a) the production of jute fibre in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the steps Government have so far taken to increase and regulate its production and distribution in the country of available supply of fibre to mills on an equitable basis ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES
(SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :**

(a) As per the estimates of Jute Corporation of India/Trade/Industry, the production of jute and mesta during the last three years in the country is as under :

| Year (July-June) | Production |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1981-82 | 74.00 |
| 1982-83 | 63.00 |
| 1983-84 | 66.00 |

(b) In order to increase the jute production in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Jute Development Programme is being implemented in the selected districts of 7 major jute growing States of West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya and Tripura, since 1972-73. During the 6th Plan, the Government of India has provided financial assistance to farmer in the form of subsidy an (i) improved/certified seeds, (ii) weedicide, (iii) seed-drill-wheel-hoe, (iv) field demonstrations, (v) individual retting tanks and (vi) minikit of seed and urea. The cost of the scheme is shared by the Government of India and State Governments on 50 : 50 basis.

The Government have regulated the stock holdings of jute mills under the Jute (Licensing and Control) Order, 1961 to bring about more equitable distribution of raw jute.

World Bank Loan for Maharashtra Gas Cracker Project

2873. **SHRI B. V. DESAI :** Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide 300 million as loan for Rs. 1167 crore Maharashtra gas cracker project;

(b) if so, whether it is for the first time that Bank is providing such large funds for petro-chemicals of this nature;

(c) whether a high-level official delegation from India had detailed negotiations with the Bank authorities on this project earlier;

(d) if so, when the project is likely to start; and

(e) the extent to which the World Bank's aid will help in early completion of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Following negotiations during the last week of January, 1985, the World Bank have approved on 19th March, 1985 a loan of \$ 300 million over a period of 5 years for the Maharashtra Petro-chemical Project, which is the Bank Group's first operation in India's petro-chemical sub-sector. The World Bank assistance would help in the establishment of a gas-based petro-chemical manufacturing facility near Bombay with an initial production capacity of 3,00,000 tpy of ethylene and 63,000 tpy of propylene. The assistance includes \$ 90 million for the import of polymers needed to develop the market in India prior to plant commissioning. The project is likely to start commercial operations by December, 1989.

Dilapidated Condition of Bombay Customs Warehouse

2874. SHRI NATAVARSINH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the warehouse of Collectorate of Customs, Bombay located at 400, Veer Savarkar Marg, Bombay is in a dilapidated condition and has developed cracks; and

(b) if so, the amount of money spent on it and the steps taken for the safety of the employees working there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No Sir. The warehouse of Collectorate of Customs, Bombay located at 400, Veersavarkar Marg, Bombay is not in a dilapidated condition.

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

Credit Deposit Ratio in West Bengal

2875. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the credit deposit ratio in West Bengal has gone down considerably in

comparison to other States in India;

(b) the basic reasons that contributed to this low credit deposit ratio in West Bengal; and

(c) the steps his Ministry propose to take to improve the condition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Credit Deposit Ratio of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in West Bengal Declined from 60.5 per cent as at the end of December 1982 to 58.1 per cent at the end of December 1983. The corresponding decline in C.D. ratio at all India level was from 68.3 per cent to 67.1 per cent.

Credit-deposit ratio in any area represents only a mathematical relationship between deposit and advances of branches in that area and is not an indication adequacy or otherwise of the credit deployed in that area. Credit is only an input in productive ventures, undertaking of which by entrepreneurs is influenced by factors like availability of power, transport, communications and other infrastructural facilities, proximity to market, industrial climate etc. Level of credit deployment in any given area itself depends upon the level of economic activity, particularly in the organised sector of trade and Industry.

However, the banks have been asked to take necessary steps for improving the credit deployment in the states where credit-deposit ratio is low. The banks are involved in the preparation of District-Credit Plans with a view to facilitate deployment of bank credit in the implementation of development programmes. State Government have also been requested to strengthen their infrastructure for deployment of larger bank credit. All such measures are expected to improve the flow of credit in West Bengal.

Robberies in Nationalised Banks

2876. SHRI MOHD. MAJEED ALI KHAN :
SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :
SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of robberies committed in the nationalised banks in various parts of the country (with amount involved each case) during the last one year (till date) and how does it compare with the bank robberies committed during the previous year;

(b) whether Government have made any critical review of the existing security arrangements in the banks to plug the loopholes if any, and to strengthen the security arrangements to check bank robberies; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) The available information is given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c). Government had set up a High Lower Working Group in August, 1982 to critically review security arrangements in banks to make suggestions for improvement therein. The banks were advised in August, 1983 to strengthen their security arrangements in the light of recommendations of the Group. The State Governments, which are primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order, were also requested to take suitable measures.

Statement

Number of dacoities / robberies that occurred in public sector banks and the amount involved therein during the period 1.1.83 to 31.3.85

| Sl. No. | Name of the bank | 1983 | | 1984 | | 1985 (up to 31.3.85) | |
|---------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | | No. of dacoities/ robberies | Amount involved | No. of dacoities/ robberies | Amount involved | No. of dacoities/ robberies | Amount involved |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Central Bank of India | 1 | 0.98 | 4 | 2.27 | — | — |
| 2. | Bank of India | 7 | 8.53 | 2 | 0.13 | — | — |
| 3. | Punjab National Bank | 10 | 17.27 | 5 | 3.01 | 1 | 0.33 |
| 4. | Bank of Baroda | 1 | 0.11 | 3 | 1.32 | 2 | 1.55 |
| 5. | United Commercial Bank | 3 | 2.7 | 9 | 20.90 | — | — |
| 6. | Canara Bank | — | — | 1 | 0.14 | — | — |
| 7. | United Bank of India | 2 | 2.19 | 4 | 10.17 | — | — |
| 8. | Dena Bank | — | — | 1 | 0.97 | — | — |
| 9. | Syndicate Bank | 5 | 1.17 | 4 | 12.21 | — | — |
| 10. | Union Bank of India | 5 | 7.29 | 1 | 1.51 | 1 | 0.45 |
| 11. | Allahabad Bank | — | — | 4 | 9.16 | 3 | 17.73 |
| 12. | Indian Bank | — | — | 1 | 0.33 | — | — |
| 13. | Bank of Maharashtra | — | — | 1 | 3.50 | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------------------------------|----|----|--|----|--|----|--|
| 14. Indian Overseas Bank | 2 | | 0.89 | 1 | 21.72 | — | — |
| 15. Andhra Bank | | 2 | 4.77 | 1 | 0.89 | 1 | 12.75 |
| 16. Corporation Bank | — | — | — | 1 | 2.96 | — | — |
| 17. New Bank of India | 9 | | 9.47 | 4 | 1.90 | — | — |
| 18. Oriental Bank of Commerce | | 4 | 6.95 | 3 | 5.00 | 1 | 0.26 |
| 19. Punjab and Sind Bank | 8 | | 7.02 | 3 | 1.08 | — | — |
| 20. Vijaya Bank | | 1 | 0.69 | 1 | 1.26 | 1 | 2.00 |
| 21. State Bank of India | 13 | | 22.87 + Gold weighing 38.34 gms. (approx.) | 20 | 27.74 + gold worth Rs. 1.20 lakhs. | 4 | 8.65 + gold loan bags weighing 430 gms. |
| 22. SB of Bikaner and Jaipur | | 2 | 0.74 | 6 | 5.57 | — | — |
| 23. SB of Hyderabad | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| 24. SB of Patiala | | 3 | 1.30 | 2 | 0.70 | 1 | 0.08 |
| | | 78 | 94.99 + Gold weighing 38.34 gms. (approx.) | 82 | 134.44 + Gold worth Rs. 1.20 lakhs approx. | 16 | 43.80 + gold loan bags weighing 400 gms. approx. |

Research efforts in Cardamom Sector

2877. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any research efforts are being undertaken in the cardamom sector;

(b) if so, the results achieved so far; and

(c) the steps being taken to see that the fruits of these research efforts percolate down to small growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Research efforts being made by Cardamom Board include development of a technique of minimal tillage in cardamom plantations, identification of high yielding clones in all cultivations for multiplication of planting material, adoption of tissue culture technique for large scale multiplication of cardamom plants of high yielding character and protection of the plants from pests and diseases. Indian Council for Agricultural Research is also

engaged in research activities on cardamom in Mudigere (Karnataka), Pampadumpara (Kerala) and Yercaud (Tamil Nadu).

(b) The achievements of the various research efforts are in brief as under :

- (i) Based on yield and quality characteristics the high yielding lines P₁, P₃, P₅, PV₁ and CL-37 have been recommended for pre-release multiplication. Some high yielding hybrids with a yield potential of 3 kg. capsules per clump as against 0.3 kg. (green) in the cultivated varieties have been identified.
- (ii) Mutation breeding studies have led to identification of 13 lines showing apparent resistance to the 'Katte' disease. A fertilizer dose of 75 : 75 : 150 kg. NPK per hec. has been recommended. Management of the disease by roguing affected clumps and replanting has been found to be practicable.
- (iii) Studies on the control of "Azhuka" disease show that spraying 1%

Bordeaux mixture, thrice during the Monsoon is effective.

- (iv) Control of thrips has been achieved with four or five rounds of spray with 0.025% Quinalphos.

(c) Farmers' meetings are organised periodically where Research Scientists explain the points of research to the Planters for adopting the scientific methods of cultivation.

Re-Plantation Subsidy-Cum-Loan Scheme of Cardamom Board

2878. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cardamom Board had formulated a Rs. 4 crore re-plantation subsidy-cum-loan scheme; and

(b) if so, the achievement made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The Cardamom Board had formulated a 'Replanting Loan-cum-Subsidy Scheme for drought affected areas which has already been approved by the Government and is being implemented from 1984-85. The total financial outlay for the scheme is Rs. 387.20 lakhs (Rs. 300.00 lakhs for payment of subsidy and Rs. 87.20 lakhs for payment of interest subsidy on the loan component). Under this Scheme, 1898 applications from growers claiming subsidy for 6,146.65 hectares were received by the Board, out of which 862 cases covering an area of 1572.33 hectares are sanctioned and remaining applications are under various stages of process.

Loans to Cardamom Growers of Kerala

2879. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a scheme for disbursing loans upto Rs. 8 crores among the cardamom growers;

(b) if so, the total amount disbursed so far; and

(c) the number of farmers benefited by this scheme in Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Rs. 7.68 crores is the total subsidy component of two cardamom Loan-cum-Subsidy Schemes being operated by the Cardamom Board from 1983-84 and 1984-85. The subsidy is to be disbursed over a period of five years.

(b) During 1983-84 Rs. 14.40 lakhs were paid as first instalment of subsidy to eligible growers. During 1984-85 the total subsidy paid towards first and second instalment is Rs. 30.51 lakhs.

(c) During 1983-84, 780 cases were covered in Kerala under the scheme. During 1984-85 applications were received from 1898 growers out of which 818 were covered upto 31st March, 1985.

India's Share in World Pepper Trade

2880. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) India's share in the world pepper trade at present;

(b) whether there has been any decline in India's share over the years;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase our share ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) India's share in the world pepper trade in the last four year has been as under :

| | |
|------|-----|
| 1981 | 14% |
| 1982 | 16% |
| 1983 | 22% |
| 1984 | 20% |

(b) and (c). During the last four years there has been an increase in India's share. However, viewed over a longer period there is a decline mainly due to emergence of Brazil as an important supplier of pepper to the world market,

(d) Various steps have been initiated for increasing production and productivity of pepper. International cooperation is achieved under the aegis of the International Pepper Community. Other promotional measures, such as participation in fairs, visits of business delegations etc. are being under taken. For the over all development of exports of spices including pepper, Govt. have decided to set up a Spices Board.

Loss due to Discontinuance of Interest Tax on Interest

2881. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated loss per year to Government Exchequer due to the proposed discontinuance of interest-tax on interest accruing after 31st, March, 1985; and

(b) the amount of interest tax Government received during the years of the Sixth Five Year Plan, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Loss of interest-tax during the financial year 1985-86 is estimated at Rs. 170 crores. However, as interest-tax is deductible in computing the taxable income under the Income-tax Act, a part of the loss as a result of discontinuance of interest-tax will be recouped by higher collections of income-tax. In view thereof, the net loss on account of discontinuance of interest tax during the financial year 1985-86 is expected to be of the order of Rs. 85 crores.

| (b) Financial Year | Collection of interest-tax |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
|--------------------|----------------------------|

(Rs. in crores)

| | |
|---------|--------|
| 1980-81 | 89.59 |
| 1981-82 | 231.67 |
| 1982-83 | 265.47 |
| 1983-84 | 177.91 |
| 1984-85 | 105.66 |

(Upto 28th February, 1985)

Smuggling of Gold by Foreign Diplomats

2882. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :
SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been cases of smuggling of gold and other contraband items the country by foreign deplomants;

(b) the total value of gold and other contraband items thus seized from the haggage of diplomats;

(c) the action taken against the concerned diplomats; and

(d) whether a protest has also been lodged with the foreign Governments represented by these diplomats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total value of gold and other contraband items seized from the baggage and other goods imported by foreign diplomats during the period from January, 1984 to March, 1985 is furnished below :

| Item | Value (Rs. in lankhs) |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Gold | 50 |
| Other contraband goods | 17.64 |

(c) Appropriate action was taken in all such cases in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs. Mostly, the diplomats, who, or whose close relatives' were found engaged in smuggling activity, were recalled by their Governments.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Iron Ore Mining Areas in Orissa

2883. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the iron ore mining areas in Orissa;

(b) the approximate annual production of various grades of iron ore from each of these sectors; and

(c) the steps presently taken for the proper consumption and utilisation of the iron ore produced in these mining sectors in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K,

NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The mining areas in respect of iron ore in Orissa are Gumi-Badampahar sector, Gandhamardan—Daitari—Tomka sector and Barajamda sector.

(b) The total production of iron ore lumps and fines during 1984 in the districts of Keonjhar and Sundergarh is given below :

| | (in tonnes) |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Iron ore lumps and fines | |
| Keonjhar | 4282,000 |
| Mayurbhanj | 162,000 |
| Sundergarh | 2029,000 |

(c) Iron ore produced in Orissa is either exported or utilised by the domestic steel plants. There has been a cutback in procurement of iron ore for exports on account of the lower demand from abroad. Efforts have, however, been made by MMTC to increase the exports of iron ore from this region. The production of iron ore from the captive mines of SAIL in Sundergarh and Keonjhar in Orissa is maximised to the extent possible. The balance of requirements of SAIL of iron ore is purchased from the private mines through MMTC.

Deficit of Central Government and State Governments during 1984-85

2884. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) how does the total deficit of Union Government compare with that of the different State Governments during the year 1984-85;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the proposal of the Union Government to State Governments to overcome this huge deficit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The deficits (and surpluses) of the different State Governments in 1984-85, as presented in the State Budgets, are indicated in the statement enclosed. The deficit of the Union Government in 1984-85 was Rs. 1773 crores at the Budget stage (it was Rs. 3985 crores in the revised estimates).

(c) It is essentially for the State Governments to reorder their budgetary priorities to

avoid deficits. As far as the Union Government is concerned, it can only release the amounts due to the States on due dates.

Statement

*Budgetary Surplus (+)/Deficit(—)
during 1984-85**

| | (Rs. Crores) |
|----------------------|----------------|
| States | 1984-85(BE) |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | —40.32 |
| 2. Assam | —62.22 |
| 3. Bihar | —126.94 |
| 4. Gujarat | —50.63 |
| 5. Haryana | +3.70 |
| 6. Himachal Pradesh | +5.10 |
| 7. Jammu and Kashmir | —3.00 |
| 8. Karnataka | —149.72 |
| 9. Kerala | —19.95 |
| 10. Madhya Pradesh | —36.66 |
| 11. Maharashtra | —42.40 |
| 12. Manipur | +13.80 |
| 13. Meghalaya | +0.62 |
| 14. Nagaland | +17.35 |
| 15. Orissa | +2.01** |
| 16. Punjab | —95.68 |
| 17. Rajasthan | —165.45 |
| 18. Sikkim | —0.01 |
| 19. Tamil Nadu | —72.19 |
| 20. Tripura | —3.60 |
| 21. Uttar Pradesh | —59.32 |
| 22. West Bengal | —54.41 |
| Total | —939.92 |
| | —982.50 |
| | +42.58 |

*as indicated in the State Budgets

**Excludes ARM of Rs. 5 crores reflected in the revenue receipts.

[*Translation*]**Large Scale Tax Evasion**

2885. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether taxes are being evaded on a large scale every year;

(b) if so, the details of the tax evasion during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(c) whether Government have taken any action to realise such taxes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). During the years 1983-84 and 1984-85, details of number of cases detected and estimated evasion of Central Excise duties are as follows :

| Year | No. of cases detected | Estimated evasion of duty |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | (Rs. lakhs) |
| 1983-84 | 6059 | 7103.65 |
| 1984-85 | 5510 | 7629.68 |
| | | (Prov.) |

The number of searches conducted by the Income-tax Department during the financial years 1983-84 and 1984-85 and value of *prima facie* unaccounted assets seized are as under :

| Year | No. of searches | Value of assets seized |
|---------|-----------------|------------------------|
| | | (Rs. crores) |
| 1983-84 | 4332 | 27.99 |
| 1984-85 | 4345 | 25.08 |

Information pertaining to Customs duties is not readily available.

(c) and (d). As regards realisation of taxes under the Central Excise and Income-tax laws, all possible measure to realise such taxes are taken as provided under the law, including detention of goods, attachment of assets and certificate action with revenue authorities.

[*English*]**Subsidising of Agricultural Sector as a Result of Price Hike in Petroleum Products**

2886. SHRI B. K. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the burden on agricultural sector because of the price hike on petroleum products;

(b) whether Government propose to subsidise agricultural sector in this regard in any way;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The main item in the petroleum group which affects the agricultural sector is deisel oil. The increase in the price of diesel oil (5.5 per cent) is the lowest in the petroleum group and its impact on the agricultural sector is likely to be relatively small.

(b) to (d). The price policy for agricultural products is designed to provide remunerative prices to the producers. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, *inter alia* takes into account the changes in the cost of production and other related factors while recommending revision in procurement/support prices of major agricultural commodities. Based on Commission's recommendations Government have been revising upward to procurement/support prices from time the time. As per existing policy, the impact of the price hike of petroleum products on the farming community will be taken into account in the fixation of prices for agricultural products.

[*Translation*]**Engagement of Lawyers for dealing with case of Public Undertakings**

2887. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the Public Undertakings in the country in which Government have engaged or appointed lawyers to deal with

the cases during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details of the cases for which lawyers have been engaged and the amount given to each lawyer and the reasons for doing so when Law Department of the Government is ready to offer its services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Central public undertakings in the discharge of their commercial activities have to engage lawyers to deal with specific problems. Whenever need arises these undertakings engage lawyers. Government do not engage lawyers to deal with cases concerning the Central public undertakings.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Compensation Paid to Sick Textile Mills on Nationalisation

2888. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of compensation paid to the sick textile mills on nationalisation during the last three years giving year-wise figures;

(b) the total amount Government have paid/contemplate to pay towards modernisation of the said mills during the last year and next two years giving year-wise break-up; and

(c) the number of mills considered for modernisation during the above period and the conditions thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The total payments made by the Commissioner during the last three years are as follows :—

| | |
|---------|------------------|
| 1982-83 | Rs. 181.75 lakhs |
| 1983-84 | Rs. 19.45 lakhs |
| 1984-85 | Rs. 21.65 lakhs |

(b) During 1984-85, Rs. 32 crores were released by the Government towards modernisation of NTC Mills. For the year 1985-86,

a budget provision of Rs. 25 crores has been proposed. The outlay for 1986-87 has not been fixed.

(c) Upto the end of the Sixth Plan period (*i.e.* 31-3-85) modernisation scheme were sanctioned in respect of all NTC mills. Selective modernisation approach is being adopted during the 7th Plan period. Machinery conditions has shown improvement after completing the sanctioned modernisation programme.

Proposal to Inculcate TISCO Culture in Public Sector Steel Units

2889. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether he proposes to inculcate the Tata Iron and Steel Company culture (private sector philosophy) in the public sector steel units;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps he has taken in this direction and when does he intend to achieve the target;

(d) whether the Tata Iron and Steel Company culture will help in the reduction of price of steel in the market; and

(e) how do the price of the same item manufactured by Tata Iron and Steel Company and public sector compare ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). There is constant interaction between SAIL and TISCO in technical, commercial and personnel policy matters. This works to the benefit of the steel industry both in the public and private sectors. The question of fixing targets for this does not arise. Reduction in price of steel would be achieved through improved capacity utilisation and increase in productivity.

(e) Steel prices are fixed and announced by the Joint Plant Committee of the main producers for common varieties of steel, these prices are uniform for integrated steel plants both in the public and private sectors.

[*Translation*]**Fall in Earnings of Nationalised Banks**

2890. SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the earning of nationalised banks have registered a fall;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken to increase their income ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The aggregate earnings and published profit of the nationalised banks for the years 1981 1982 and 1983 are given below :—

(amount Rs. in lakhs)

| Year | Earnings | Published Profits |
|------|----------|-------------------|
| 1981 | 312371 | 4815 |
| 1982 | 367662 | 5725 |
| 1983 | 423174 | 5923 |

It will be observed that both earnings and profits of the nationalised banks have shown increases during the last three years.

(c) Banks have been advised to reduce their operating cost and improve the quality of lending; reduce expenditure on publicity and payment of overtime to their staff; devise appropriate measures to control and regulate the operations of their foreign branches. The banks have also been advised

to take measures for effecting timely recovery of advances so that funds are not inordinately locked up but are available for recycling.

[*English*]**Export of MICA**

2891. SHRI BEZHAWADA PAPI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mica Trading Corporation has failed in its primary duties to protect the mica industry's interests, which has destroyed the flourishing mica trade in Gudur (Nellore District);

(b) whether the export of mica are now limited to USSR;

(c) whether USSR in turn are re-exporting to several countries, at a great disadvantage to Indian interests, arising from monopoly created; and

(d) the year-wise, country-wise and value-wise exports of mica during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Mica is also exported to several other countries.

(c) Government have no information whether USSR is re-exporting mica of Indian origin to other countries.

(d) A statement is attached.

Statement

Country-wise export of mica through Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd., Patna during the last three years

(Qty : in MT
Val : in Rs. Lakhs)

| Country | 1982-83 | | 1983-84 | | 1984-85 (Upto Feb. 85) | |
|----------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|------------------------|-------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Bulgaria | — | — | 10.00 | 11.25 | 1.15 | 0.68 |
| Czechoslovakia | 321.10 | 117.13 | 907.96 | 150.06 | 857.28 | 81.74 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| GDR | 739.92 | 65.68 | 301.65 | 151.98 | 971.94 | 85.38 |
| Hungary | — | — | 4.20 | 19.01 | — | — |
| Poland | 772.10 | 208.64 | 431.70 | 139.70 | 599.44 | 108.02 |
| Romania | 159.00 | 3.44 | 398.70 | 57.20 | 212.40 | 42.87 |
| USSR | 2408.59 | 1263.77 | 466.16 | 1539.47 | 2450.17 | 1398.71 |
| Australia | 62.37 | 7.77 | 11.84 | 1.50 | 12.47 | 2.28 |
| Austria | — | — | 5.02 | 1.01 | 5.00 | 0.51 |
| Belgium | 1947.59 | 58.70 | 2314.34 | 60.21 | 1863.04 | 52.98 |
| Chile | 1.40 | 1.52 | 3.10 | 4.13 | 3.99 | 5.12 |
| DPRK | 9.34 | 23.35 | 9.24 | 63.30 | 1.50 | 2.44 |
| Egypt | — | — | 0.65 | 0.96 | 0.75 | 1.19 |
| France | 319.88 | 27.81 | 689.15 | 29.30 | 1607.72 | 50.43 |
| West | | | | | | |
| Germany | 374.04 | 13.20 | 363.35 | 18.77 | 429.40 | 35.74 |
| Greece | 0.20 | 0.60 | 0.16 | 0.48 | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| Hongkong | 14.00 | 5.70 | 34.40 | 6.04 | 19.80 | 5.95 |
| Holland | — | — | 1.14 | 1.46 | — | — |
| Italy | 68.02 | 9.63 | 52.63 | 5.04 | 59.98 | 5.64 |
| Japan | 2807.12 | 117.28 | 2733.40 | 113.73 | 2891.38 | 135.38 |
| Malaysia | 0.16 | 0.38 | 0.24 | 0.42 | 0.20 | 0.40 |
| Philippines | 0.75 | 1.37 | — | — | 1.60 | 2.42 |
| Singapore | 21.31 | 11.18 | 8.26 | 4.44 | 5.27 | 2.46 |
| Switzerland | 170.99 | 14.48 | 176.17 | 18.15 | 212.69 | 18.02 |
| Spain | 15.10 | 1.76 | 17.69 | 2.19 | 10.25 | 1.50 |
| South Korea | 22.30 | 10.96 | 33.35 | 10.39 | 9.05 | 8.86 |
| Syria | — | — | 0.70 | 1.79 | 0.80 | 1.92 |
| Thailand | — | — | — | — | 0.10 | 2.22 |
| Taiwan | 28.50 | 16.93 | 21.00 | 14.32 | 24.80 | 15.92 |
| U. K. | 296.60 | 101.64 | 411.78 | 30.57 | 194.73 | 43.77 |
| U. S. A. | 1201.54 | 71.59 | 1430.87 | 56.88 | 3469.81 | 136.73 |
| Yugoslavia | 16.80 | 21.98 | 25.33 | 40.59 | 10.35 | 31.94 |
| Total : | 11778.72 | 2176.49 | 10864.47 | 2554.34 | 15927.15 | 2279.31 |

Source MITCO

Exports of Human Bones and Skeletons

2893. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of human bones and skeletons legally exported from India in 1984-85 and the names of the countries to which exported;

(b) whether he is aware of a large and lucrative illegal exports in this macabre trade; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to regulate the trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) "Human skeletons and parts thereof" is not separately classified, on the bases of which export statistics are

compiled by the DGCI and S, Calcutta. However, a statement showing particulars of exports of 'Human skeletons and parts thereof' during 1984-85 compiled by the Office of the CCI and E is annexed.

(b) and (c). Export of Human skeletons and parts thereof is allows by the Port Licencing Authorities on production of certificates from (i) Police Authorities not below the rank of the Officer-in-Charge of the Police Station concerned regarding the source of procurement which should also indicate the quantity by weight or by number, (ii) The foreign buyer that human skeletons are required for biological and medical purposes only.

State Governments concerned have been advised to ensure that no malpractices are allowed in this respect.

Statement

| Item | Quantity | Destination |
|------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. (1) Full set | 76 Pcs.) | France |
| (2) Parts | 1400 Pcs.) | |
| 2. (1) Full set | 3 Pcs.) | Denmark |
| (2) Parts | 83 Pcs.) | |
| 3. (1) Full set | 9 Pcs.) | Hong Kong |
| (2) Parts | 103 Pcs.) | |
| 4. (1) Full set | 1 Pcs.) | Netherlands |
| (2) Parts | 127 Pcs.) | |
| 5. (1) Full set | 10 Pcs.) | Switzerland |
| (2) Parts | 170 Pcs.) | |
| 6. (1) Full set | 3 Pcs.) | Sweden |
| (2) Parts | 38 Pcs.) | |
| 7. (1) Full set | 2 Pcs.) | Norway |
| (2) Parts | 61 Pcs.) | |
| 8. (1) Full set | Nil) | Singapore |
| (2) Parts | 32 Pcs.) | |
| 9. (1) Full set | 2 Pcs.) | Israel |
| (2) Parts | 119 Pcs.) | |
| 10. (1) Full set | 4 Pcs.) | Kuwait |
| (2) Parts | 67 Pcs.) | |
| 11. (1) Full set | 38 Pcs.) | Iraq |
| (2) Parts | 230 Pcs.) | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 12. (1) Full set (2) Parts | Nil) 20 Pcs.) | West Malayasia |
| 3. (1) Full set (2) Parts | Nil) 18 Pcs.) | Mauritius |
| 14. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 13 Pcs.) 56 Pcs.) | Newzealand |
| 15. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 87 Pcs.) 1740 Pcs.) | Australia |
| 16. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 47 Pcs.) 866 Pcs.) | Japan |
| 17. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 71 Pcs.) 2446 Pcs.) | Canada |
| 18. (1) Full set (2) Party | 28 Pcs.) 198 Pcs.) | Belgium |
| 19. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 2224 Pcs.) 23379 Pcs.) | U. S. A. |
| 20. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 151 Pcs.) 3888 Pcs.) | West Germany |
| 21. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 103 Pcs.) 3850 Pcs.) | U. K. |
| 22. (1) Full set (2) Parts | 5 Pcs.) Nil) | New York (USA) |
| 23. (1) Full set (2) Parts | Nil) 40. Pcs.) | Fiji |

(Source : Office of the CCI and E, New Delhi)

Murder of two Officials of Geological Survey of India at Raigarh in Maharashtra

2894. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether two officials of the Geological Survey of India were murdered at Raigarh District of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Geological Survey of India Officers Association sent a memorandum in this connection to the Prime Minister; and

(c) the action taken thereon and whether the culprits have been nabbed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Two

officers of the Geological Survey of India were reported killed, while on duty, in Raigarh District in Maharashtra.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The families of deceased officers have been sanctioned ex-gratia payment of Rs. 50,000 for each officer. In addition, Special Pension Awards have also been sanctioned to the widows of the deceased officers. Financial assistance has also been extended to the private field guide who was also found slain along with the Geological Survey of India officers on duty.

The State Government has been requested to take special steps to bring offenders to book effectively and expeditiously.

Construction of Alumina Factory at Damanjode (Orissa)

2895. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction of alumina factory at Damanjode (Koraput-Orissa) is in progress as per schedule;

(b) the time by which this factory will start production;

(c) the quantity of alumina to be produced at the initial stage; and

(d) whether the Koraput-Rayagada railway line will be completed before the factory is commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The construction programme of the alumina plant of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) at Damanjodi (Orissa) is generally progressing as per the schedule. Upto March, 1985, a total of 47.2% construction work had been completed against 57.8% scheduled. The alumina Plant is scheduled to commence production by September, 1986.

(c) At the initial stage, the production of alumina plant will be at the rate of 400,000 tonnes per annum.

(d) Ministry of Railways have indicated that the first phase of the Koraput-Rayagada railway line from Koraput to Machhiliguda (19.65 kms.) is scheduled to be completed as a siding by June, 1985 and will serve the alumina plant at Damanjodi. The completion

of the railway link beyond Machhiliguda to Rayagada will depend upon the availability of funds.

Loans Sanctioned by Public Sector Banks under Differential Rate of Interest Scheme

2896. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons sanctioned loans from public sector banks under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme during the year 1983, State-wise;

(b) whether the Task Force which was set up some time back to review the scheme, has since submitted its report;

(c) if not, the time by which the Task Force is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY) : (a) The present data reporting system for the public sector banks under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme does not yield the information in the manner asked for. However, a statement showing State-wise (and Region-wise) position of number of accounts and amount outstanding under the DRI Scheme as on December, 1983 (provisional) is given in the statement attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Statement showing Region-wise/State-wise—Accounts and Amount outstanding under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme as at the end of December, 1983

| Region/State | No. of borrowal Account | Amount Outstanding |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | (Rs. in lakhs) |
| Haryana | 90580 | 1583.81 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 82403 | 1066.90 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 17547 | 230.26 |
| Punjab | 112870 | 1737.16 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Rajasthan | 102275 | 1285.08 |
| Chandigarh | 4457 | 126.26 |
| Delhi | 19933 | 380.13 |
| Northern Region | 430065 | 6410.20 |
| Assam | 40251 | 433.83 |
| Manipur | 2180 | 36.55 |
| Meghalaya | 5458 | 49.54 |
| Nagaland | 2227 | 18.37 |
| Sikkim | 2528 | 32.42 |
| Tripura | 7639 | 71.36 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 1010 | 16.27 |
| Mizoram | 433 | 8.83 |
| North Eastern Region | 61726 | 667.17 |
| Bihar | 353809 | 2724.42 |
| Orissa | 217865 | 1552.82 |
| West Bengal | 289456 | 1570.61 |
| A. and N. Islands | 450 | 5.08 |
| Eastern Region | 861580 | 5852.93 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 250701 | 2458.93 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 351314 | 4752.20 |
| Central Region | 602015 | 7211.13 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 318458 | 2377.30 |
| Karnataka | 280512 | 2708.74 |
| Kerala | 234205 | 2082.44 |
| Tamilnadu | 285602 | 2319.69 |
| Lakshwadeep | 355 | 9.00 |
| Pondicherry | 10398 | 109.49 |
| Southern Region | 1129530 | 9606.71 |
| Gujarat | 369993 | 4271.65 |
| Maharashtra | 273082 | 2630.96 |
| D. and Nagar Haveli | 262 | 1.30 |
| Goa, Daman and Diu | 15827 | 147.18 |
| Western Region | 659174 | 7051.09 |
| All India | 3744090 | 36799.23 |

Data provisional

Completion of Coal Project undertaken with Soviet collaboration

2897. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal project which was undertaken with Soviet collaboration has not yet been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). Several coal projects are being taken up with Soviet collaboration. No coal project with Soviet collaboration has yet been completed. Presently work is being undertaken at Jhanjra underground mine of ECL, and on the experimental panel in Tipong of NIC. These projects are scheduled to be completed by 1992-93 and 1986-87, respectively. As will be seen from the schedules, coal projects have a long gestation period.

In addition Soviet assistance has been sought for undertaking feasibility studies and assistance for the construction of several projects like Mukunda opencast mine and the Nigahi opencast mine, for directional blasting at Jhingurda, modernisation of the Patherdih washery, etc. Collaboration in respect of these projects is generally in the stage of drawing up of feasibility reports.

Discovery of Coal Deposits in Orissa

2898. SHRI RADHA KANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of coal deposits discovered in Orissa as per recent survey;

(b) the particulars of places in Orissa surveyed by Geological Survey of India to assess coal deposits;

(c) when the survey was conducted by G.S.I.; and

(d) the details of the survey Report received by his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) As a result of recent assessment by Geological Survey of India in river coalfield, Sambalpur District, and Talcher coalfield, Dhenkunal District; a total reserve of 29,535 million tonnes of coal, has been estimated.

(b) and (c). Geological Survey of India is engaged in regional exploration for coal in the West-Central, Western and Northern parts of Talcher coalfield, Dhenkunal Distt.; and Hingir-Gopalpur, and Rohini sectors in Ib River coalfields, Sambalpur District. The regional exploration in these coalfields has been carried out since late seventies and is being continued till now.

(d) Geological Survey of India have released five progress reports on Talcher and Ib River Coalfields in Orissa during field season 1983-84 and 1984-85 (October, 1983 to September, 1984).

Establishment of New Steel Plants during Seventh Plan Period

2899. SHRI RADHA KANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Government for establishment of new steel plants during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the number of steel plants proposed to be set up in the country during the above Plan period;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to set up a steel plant at Daitari in Orissa during the above Plan period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). Seventh Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised. However, Government have decided in principle to set up steel plants in Vijayanagar in Karnataka and near Daitari in Orissa. This decision of the Government remains unaltered. The likely schedule of setting up of the plant near Daitari in Orissa will depend upon the investment decision, which has not yet been taken,

[*Translation*]

Outstanding Loans of Nationalised Banks

2900. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of various kinds of outstanding loans of nationalised banks which is not recoverable; and

(b) the year for which these amounts have been outstanding ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to the forms of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account prescribed in the Third Schedule of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the particulars and quantum of bad and doubtful debts for which provision is made to the satisfaction of auditors. The required information, therefore cannot be made available.

[*English*]

Fall in Price of Cotton

2901. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fall in price of cotton has assumed an alarming proportion;

(b) whether this fall in price of cotton has compelled the farmers to resort to distress sales below the support price level; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to stop distress sale of cotton by farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Though prices of cotton declined during the current cotton season compared to the corresponding period of the last season, they are generally above the support price fixed by Government of India, which are considered to be remunerative to the farmers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As the price supporting agency, the Cotton Corporation of India is purchasing Kapas arriving in the market and have covered a sizeable quantity at and above support prices. Government of India have released 1.95 lakh bales of long and extra-long staple cotton for export so far. Prices of almost all varieties of cotton have since gone up and there is hence no likelihood of distress sale by farmers.

Adjudication proceedings against ITC pending for Finalisation

2902. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of adjudication proceedings pending for finalisation as on 1st March, 1985 against the Indian Tobacco Company;

(b) the amount of revenue arrears involved in these proceedings, with case-wise split up of revenue;

(c) whether any specific time limit has been fixed by which these cases would be disposed of; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure the early and expeditious finalisation of the cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (d). So far as Central Excise cases are concerned, 33 showcause notices are pending adjudication as on 1-2-85 against M/s. India Tobacco Company Ltd. It is not possible to quantify the exact amounts involved in these notices as some of them have been issued without indicating the excise duty involved and relate to issues having bearing on rate of duty and valuation. Quantification of revenue amounts is possible only when the cases are adjudicated. It is difficult to specify time limit for disposal of these cases because of the High Courts : stay orders. Efforts are made to move various courts for early vacation of stays, engaging eminent lawyers to defend Government interest in important cases, etc.

Information relating to Income-tax and Customs Duty is not readily available.

[*Translation*]

Amount Invested in S.A.I.L.

2903. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state the total amount of money invested in the Steel Authority of India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): The gross investment made by Government in Steel Authority of India Limited as at the end of the financial year 1984-85 amounted to Rs. 6618.83 crores (provisional). The break-up is as follows:

(Rupees in crores)

| | Equity Capital | Govt. Loans (Gross) | SDF Loans (Gross) | Total |
|--|----------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| —As on 31-3-84 | 3439.56 | 1565.22 | 952.90 | 5957.68 |
| —Sanctioned during the year 1984-85 | 279.09 | 126.23* | 255.83 | 661.15 |
| Total | 3718.65 | 1691.45 | 1208.73 | 6618.83 |
| —Net outstanding at the end of the year 1984-85 | 3718.65 | 987.17 | 1208.83 | 5914.55 |

*Includes non-plan loans of Rs. 55.48 crores sanctioned to IISCO through SAIL.

[*English*]

Seizure of Foreign Yarn Cloth from Knangi Factory in Ankleshwar

2904. SHRI C. D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Customs officers have in the month of March, 1985 raided 'Khangi' factory (private factory) in Ankleshwar in Gujarat and seized foreign yarn cloth worth crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and who owns this factory; and

(c) the details of the legal action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) the customs officers on 14th March, 1985 raided the factory premises of M/s. L.D. Textile Industries Limited, Ankleshwar, in Gujarat. No foreign yarn cloth was seized but polyester staple fibre valued approximately Rs. 9 crores was seized. The management of this company is in the

hands of seven Directors headed by one Shri J.N. Mehra.

(c) The case is under investigation and appropriate action under the law will be taken after completion of the investigation.

Shortfall in Production of Sugar

2905. PROF. MANDHU DANDAVATE: Will be Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a shortfall in the production of sugar during the last season;

(b) if so, the main causes for the shortfall;

(c) whether there is a proposal to import sugar; and

(d) if so, whether any country has offered to sell sugar to India at the International price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) Production of sugar

to 1983-84 season was 59.16 lakh tonnes against 84.38 lakh tonnes in 1981-82 season and 82.32 lakh tonnes in 1982-83.

(b) The fall in production of sugar in 1983-84 season was due to lower production of Sugarcane on account of drought conditions in the southern States and late rains in the Northern region resulting in delayed maturity of sugarcane and reduction in the recovery.

(c) During 1984-85 a quantity of 4.94 lakh tonnes of sugar was imported. It is not possible to quantify the imports proposed during the current year as the sugar production is still going on.

(d) Import of sugar is canalised through the State Trading Corporation which conducts purchases and imports on the basis of global tenders.

**Black Money Transaction in the Sale
of Flats by Builders in
Bombay and Delhi**

2906. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Income Tax Department is introducing a series of steps to contain black money transactions in the sale of flats by builders in Bombay and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) and (b). All possible measures to check circulation and prevent further proliferation of black money, including administrative, legislative and institutional are taken from time to time, after a constant review.

**Report of National Institute of
Public Finance**

2907. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Institute of Public Finance has submitted its report on textiles and plastics; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reports submitted are confidential in nature and it would not be in public interest to divulge the details of the reports.

**Loans by Nationalised Banks under
Differential Rate of Interest
Schemes in Bihar**

2908. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for loans at four per cent interest under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme received during January, 1983 to January, 1984 by the branches of the various nationalised banks in Districts of Bihar under the 20-Point Programme;

(b) the number of loans sanctioned, rejected and under consideration, separately;

(c) the amount of loans actually disbursed by each bank; and

(d) the target fixed for 1984-85 under the above programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The present data reporting system for the public sector banks under DRI Scheme does not yield the information in the manner asked for. However, a statement showing bank-wise position of number of accounts and amount outstanding in Bihar State under the DRI Scheme as on December, 1983 (Provisional) is given in the statement attached.

(d) Under the DRI Scheme, outstanding advances of public sector banks have to reach a minimum level of 1% of total advances outstanding at the end of the previous year. No State-wise targets have been prescribed,

Statement

*Advances of Public Sector Banks in Bihar under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme the end of December, 1983**

| Sl. No. | Name of the Bank | No. of Borrowal Accounts | Amount outstanding (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | State Bank of India | 133389 | 937.94 |
| 2. | Subs. State Bank of India | 132 | 0.57 |
| 3. | Central Bank of India | 82603 | 690.48 |
| 4. | Bank of India | 46580 | 263.64 |
| 5. | Punjab National Bank | 90307 | 333.50 |
| 6. | Bank of Baroda | 3628 | 24.00 |
| 7. | United Commercial Bank | 9786 | 114.98 |
| 8. | Canara Bank | 19293 | 104.53 |
| 9. | United Bank of India | 7426 | 61.73 |
| 10. | Dena Bank | 372 | 3.92 |
| 11. | Syndicate Bank | 390 | 5.31 |
| 12. | Union Bank of India | 10781 | 100.05 |
| 13. | Allahabad Bank | 8438 | 68.58 |
| 14. | Indian Bank | 382 | 2.05 |
| 15. | Bank of Maharashtra | — | — |
| 16. | Indian Overseas Bank | 718 | 4.42 |
| 17. | Andhra Bank | 34 | 0.55 |
| 18. | New Bank of India | 104 | 1.24 |
| 19. | Punjab and Sindh Bank | 247 | 4.01 |
| 20. | Vijaya Bank | 187 | 2.77 |
| 21. | Oriental Bank of Commerce | 12 | 0.15 |
| 22. | Corporation Bank | — | — |
| | All Banks | 353809 | 2724.42 |

*Data Provisional,

Branches of Nationalised Banks in Vidisha District, Madhya Pradesh

2909. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vidisha District in Madhya Pradesh is not having sufficient branches of the nationalised banks as per the norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the effective steps Government propose to take to fill the gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As on 31.12.1984, there were 41 branches of Nationalised Banks functioning in Vidisha District, Madhya Pradesh. In addition, they were also holding 6 authorisations for opening branches at rural/semi-urban centres in the district. Reserve Bank of India has set up a Task Force at its Regional Office in Bhopal to ensure that these branches are opened as early as possible.

With the opening of the above branches for which authorisations have been issued, the objective of achieving a coverage of one bank office for an average of 17,000 population on the basis of 1981 Census in the rural and semi-urban areas as set out in the branch licensing policy for the period April, 1982 to March, 1985 would stand achieved for Vidisha District.

World Bank Loan for Power, Irrigation and Coal Mining

2911. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan so far World Bank has given to India for the projects of power, irrigation and coal mining in the country;

(b) the amount, out of that loan, utilised for coal mining; and

(c) the amount so far repaid to the World Bank by India and when the remaining would be repaid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The total amount of IDA credit/IBRD loans approved so far for projects in power, irrigation and coal-mining sectors is as follows :

| Sector | Amount of—(in US \$ million) | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| | IDA Credit | IBRD Loan | Total |
| Irrigation | 2704.14 | 240.00 | 2944.14 |
| Power | 2409.00 | 2264.70 | 4673.70 |
| Coal mining | — | 417.57 | 417.57 |

(c) The repayment of principal as on 31-1-1985 in respect of Bank loan/IDA credit for these sectors is as follows :

| Sector | Amount of—(in US\$ million) | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|
| | IDA Credit | IBRD Loan | Total |
| Irrigation | 13.500 | 19.935 | 33.435 |
| Power | 14.480 | 83.075 | 97.555 |
| Coal mining | — | 18.570 | 18.570 |

As regards repayment of the balance amount of loans/credits, these will be according to the schedule of repayment agreed to with the World Bank. The last of such payments falls due during the year 2003 for IBRD loans and 2035 for IDA Credits.

Financial Stringencies faced by Public Sector Steel Industry

2912. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether public sector steel industry is worsening on account of financial stringencies in the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for the development of these units in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Against a plan provision of Rs. 2617.72 crores for SAIL in the Sixth Five Year Plan, the expenditure is likely to be Rs. 2,852.6 crores. Efforts are being made to make adequate provisions in the Seventh Five Year Plan for continuing schemes, additions, modifications and replacement and for modernisation and technological upgradation of the existing steel plants.

Demand and Production of Coal

2913. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed by Government regarding the production of coking coal during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) the demand for coking coal during the Sixth Plan Period;

(c) what has been the position regarding the production and whether it has been satisfactory to meet the demand;

(d) the estimated demand for coking coal during the Seventh Plan Period; and

(e) the details regarding the adequate funds and other facilities proposed to be made available to the coal sector to meet the increasing demand for coking coal ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) to (c). At the time of framing the Sixth Five Year Plan, it was estimated that the demand of raw coking coal in the terminal year of the Sixth Plan i.e. 1984-85 would be 39.68 million tonnes. However, while finalising the Annual Plans, the Planning Commission re-assessed the demand taking into consideration the actual off-take. The demand as finalised by the Planning Commission for the different years of the Sixth Five Year Plan, the targets fixed by the Govt. and the actual production are given below :

(in million tonnes)

| Year | Demand | Target | Production |
|---------|--------|-----------------|------------|
| 1980-81 | 26.75 | 26.21 (revised) | 24.41 |
| 1981-82 | 27.50 | 29.65 (revised) | 30.25 |
| 1982-83 | 26.50 | 31.79 (revised) | 30.31 |
| 1983-84 | 27.50 | 33.51 (revised) | 30.20 |
| 1984-85 | 28.50 | 33.40 | 30.71 |

(Provisional)

(Inferior grades of coking coal used for non-metallurgical purposes have not been included in the figures of coking coal production).

(d) The demand for raw coking coal as assessed by the Working Group on Coal and Lignite for the Seventh Plan are as follows :

(In million tonnes)

| Year | Demand |
|---------|--------|
| 1985-86 | 30.12 |
| 1986-87 | 31.96 |
| 1987-88 | 34.45 |
| 1988-89 | 38.32 |
| 1989-90 | 41.14 |

(e) The Seventh Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised. However, the Working Group on Coal and Lignite for the Seventh Five Year Plan set up by the Planning Commission have recommended an outlay of Rs. 9,902 crores for Coal India Ltd., which includes investment in mines producing coking coal.

Export of Rold-Gold and Gold Plated Ornaments

2914. SHRI N. V. RATNAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh is the only place in the entire country to manufacture rolled gold and gold-plated ornaments on commercial scale;

(b) whether agents from Tamil Nadu purchase them in bulk and export these for huge profits;

(c) whether the Manufacturers' Association, Machilipatnam and many individual manufacturers represented to the Union Government to grant them export permits to enable them to export out-side the country direct;

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

(e) the facilities made available to them in granting gold quotas which is useful to them in their manufacture of ornaments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Permits for acquisition of the required gold for manufacturing purposes are granted to the manufacturers of imitation jewellery by the Gold Control Administration.

[*Translation*]

Foreign Exchange earned by the export of Cashewnut, Tea, Potato and Onion

2915. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of cashewnut, tea,

potato and onion exported during 1984-85;

(b) the names of the countries to which these commodities have been exported; and

(c) the amounts of foreign exchange earned from the export of commodities and the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The estimated exports, foreign exchange earnings and the major destinations of exports in respect of cashewnut, tea, potato and onion during 1984-85 are given below :

| Name of the commodity | Quantity (April' 1984-Feb. '85) | value (Apr. Dec. '84) | Quantity : MTs |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | | | Value : Rs. Crores. |
| Cashewnut | 26132 | 147.27 (Apr. Dec. '84) | USA, Netherlands, Australia, Japan |
| Tea | 207.5 (million kgs) | 735.98 | USSR, UK, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, Poland, West Germany and Netherlands |
| Potato | 467 | 0.09 | Malaysia, Kuwait, Doha and Dubai |
| Onion | 2,43,566.2 | 47.46 | Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Bangladesh and Qatar. |

[*English*]

Non-reconciliation of Inter-Branch transactions in Nationalised Banks

2916. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether investigations of frauds in the nationalised banks reveal that one of the reasons for the existence of these frauds is the non-reconciliation of inter-branch transactions over a period of several years;

(b) the extent of unreconciled inter-branch transactions as on 31 December,

1984 in respect of each of the nationalised banks;

(c) the total number of transactions which had not been reconciled as on 31 December, 1983 in respect of each of these banks; and

(d) the banks in respect of which the Statutory Auditors have given qualified reports in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The analysis made by Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) indicates that frauds are mainly due to outside elements which resort to false declaration of security, diversion of funds, fake lorry/Railway receipts, disposal of security without the bank's knowledge, counterfeit drafts, false cheques, etc. The connivance or laxity on the part of the bank staff in observing the systems and procedures scrupulously facilitates the commission of such frauds. Non-reconciliation of inter-branch transactions could be construed as one of the reasons facilitating and delaying detection of some frauds.

(b) to (d). According to Reserve Bank of India, the balance sheets of public sector banks for 1983 show that all of them are in arrears in varying degrees in respect of reconciliation of their inter-branch transactions. Banks have been instructed that reconciliation of inter-branch accounts and follow-up and adjustment of the outstanding entries must be given high priority. The Reserve Bank of India, the Government and the boards of directors of the banks have been monitoring the progress and pursuing them to make effective and sustained efforts to keep this area of work up-to-date by streamlining their systems and procedures in this regard, wherever considered necessary.

The total number of entries both as regards credit and debit pending reconciliation relating to the period upto the end of 1981 as on 31st December, 1982 was 323.35 lakhs involving a total amount of Rs. 200169.05 crores. By December, 1983, the number of these entries has been reduced to 295.50 lakhs involving a total amount of Rs. 168909.18 crores.

Delegation of financial powers to top executives of National Financial Institutions

2917. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the light of recent doubtful advances granted by the local functionaries, Government will generally reconsider existing delegation of financial powers to the Chairmen and Managing Directors of various public sector financial institutions, such as Industrial Development Bank of India, Unit Trust of India, Life Insurance Corporation etc; and

(b) whether Government propose to consider formulating any guidelines for the exercise of the discretionary powers by the top management of national financial institutions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) At present Government is not reconsidering the existing delegation of financial powers to the Chairmen and Managing Directors of various public sector financial institutions such as Industrial Development Bank of India, Unit Trust of India and Life Insurance Corporation.

(b) There is no such proposal in respect of public sector financial institutions such as Industrial Development Bank of India, Unit Trust of India and Life Insurance Corporation.

Mint at Noida in U.P.

2918. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a mint at NOIDA in U.P.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the construction will start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Officer on Special Duty has been appointed for drawing up the project report. The report, when ready, will be processed further with a view to taking appropriate decisions regarding investment, production capacity, technology to be adopted etc. Construction is likely to commence by the end of the year. It is expected that it may take 30-36 months for the Mint to start production.

[*Translation*]

Loss in Lime Quarries

2919. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the light of the latest judgement given by the Supreme Court on the case of loss being suffered in lime quarries in Mussorie (Uttar Pradesh) Government propose to amend the existing

Mining Act so as to provide for cancellation of mines causing harm to environment and public interest during the lease period itself of leases;

(b) if so, the time by which an amendment bill is likely to be brought forward; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to check environmental pollution being caused by Mussorie Lime Quarries ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The question of amending the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, *inter alia*, in the interest of environmental protection, is under active consideration. The amending Bill will be introduced as soon as possible.

[English]

Minerals Available in Maharashtra

2920. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL

be pleased to state :

(a) the minerals that are available in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) the District-wise details of quantum of every mineral available in Maharashtra;

(c) the minerals from Maharashtra which are exported;

(d) the minerals which are processed in the country; and

(e) the quantum thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Based on the investigations carried out for various minerals in Maharashtra by Geological Survey of India and State Government, the reserves of major minerals in various districts are given below :

| Name of District | Minerals | Reserves |
|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Ahmadnagar | Limestone | 5.40 Lakh tonnes |
| Amravati | Chinaclay | 5,36,000 tonnes |
| | Fire clay | 17,26,000 tonnes |
| Bhandara | Chromite | 54,000 tonnes |
| | Corrundum (Industrial) | 7937 tonnes |
| | Kyanite | 22,29,000 tonnes |
| | Manganese | 108 lakh tonnes |
| | Sillimanite | 2,35,000 tonnes |
| | Lalc/Steatite/Soapstone | 26,000 tonnes |
| | Vanadium Ore | 62,00,000 tonnes |
| | Zinc (metal) | 2,75,000 tonnes |
| | (Total for Bhandara and Nagpur) | |
| Chandrapur | Barytes | 44,000 tonnes |
| | Copper (metal) | 2,46,000 tonnes |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | Dolomite | 840 lakh tonnes |
| | Fireclay | 10,26,000 tonnes |
| | Iron Ore | 1623 lakh tonnes |
| | Quartz/Silica Sand | 6,89,000 tonnes |
| | Limestone | 17455 lakh tonnes |
| | Tungsten | Not estimated |
| Dhulia | Limestone | 401 lakh tonnes |
| Kolhapur | Bauxite | 654 lakh tonnes |
| | Quartz/Silica Sand | 5,49,000 tonnes |
| Kolaba | Bauxite | 214 lakh tonnes |
| Nagpur | Copper (metal) | 38,000 tonnes |
| | Dolomite | 1386 lakh tonnes |
| | Fireclay | 35,51,000 tonnes |
| | Limestone | 317 lakh tonnes |
| | Manganese Ore | 54 lakh tonnes |
| | Tungsten (NO ₂) Content) | 1860 tonnes |
| Nanded | Limestone | 21.2 lakh tonnes |
| Ratnagiri | Bauxite | 52 lakh tonnes |
| | Chinaclay | 20,39,000 tonnes |
| | Felspar | 1750 tonnes |
| | Ilmenite Sand | 41,29,000 tonnes |
| | Quartz/Silica Sand | 5,80,94,000 tonnes |
| | Talc/Steatite/Soapstone | 79,70,000 tonnes |
| | Chromite | 1,32,000 tonnes |
| | Iron ore | 632 lakh tonnes |
| Sangli | Limestone | 15 lakh tonnes |
| Satara | Bauxite | 92 lakh tonnes |
| Thana | Bauxite | 9 lakh tonnes |
| | Chinaclay | 66,000 tonnes |
| Yavatmal | Dolomite | 375 lakh tonnes |
| | Limestones | 16633 lakh tonnes |

(c) Iron ore and Manganese ore are exported from the State.

(d) Iron, Manganese in part and all other minerals produced in the State in full are utilised/processed in the country.

(e) The minerals from Maharashtra processed/utilised in the Country during 1984 are as follows :

| Minerals | Despatches for Internal Consumption (Quantity in tonnes). |
|-------------------|---|
| Bauxite | 4,76,000 |
| Iron ore | 22,000 |
| Manganese ore | 1,27,000 |
| Coal (Production) | 97,11,000 |
| Barytes | 36 |
| Corrundum | 707 |
| Dolomite | 30,201 |
| Kyanite | 18,560 |
| Kaolin | 4,617 |
| Limestone | 18,75,000 |
| Ochre | 1340 |
| Pyrophyllite | 698 |
| Quartz | 29 |
| Sand (others) | 10,89,000 |
| Silica Sand | 1,44,000 |
| Sillimanite | 3767 |

[*Translation*]

Scheme for inclusion of Districts under intensive Handloom Development Programme

2921. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for inclusion of some Districts under intensive Handloom Development Programme has been forwarded to his Ministry by Uttar Pradesh Government;

(b) if so, whether the scheme has been approved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and whether Government propose to accord their approval to any such scheme for Uttar Pradesh in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) Yes Sir. A Scheme for development of Woollen Handloom Products in Kumaon and Garhwal Divisions of Uttar Pradesh was received from Government of Uttar Pradesh on 26-7-84. State Government was advised to revise the scheme and the revised scheme was received on 24-1-85.

(b) and (c). This Scheme could not be cleared during 1984-85 as :

(i) The proposal from Government of Uttar Pradesh was received late.

(ii) There was no provision for such schemes in the 6th Plan. The proposal is now being examined by Government.

[*English*]

Working Group to Review Existing System of Inspection of Banks

2922. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a working group to review the existing system of inspection of banks had submitted its report in 1983;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the group; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A working group was appointed by Reserve Bank of India in December, 1981 to review the existing system of inspections of commercial banks, Regional Rural Banks and urban co-operative banks. This Group submitted its report to Reserve Bank of India in October, 1983.

(b) and (c). The Working Group has recommended changes in the periodicity of inspections carried out by Reserve Bank of India. It was of the view that inspections should *inter-alia* aim at effecting improvements in the operations of the banks in regard to quality of advances, capital adequacy, quality of management and internal control and administration. The Group has also

suggested modifications in the procedure for selection of branches taken up for inspection. The recommendations were considered by Reserve Bank of India and suitable instructions for implementing the accepted recommendations have been issued by them.

Production of Billets Blooms and Semis by SAIL

2923. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total production by Steel Autho-

rity of India Limited of billets blooms and semis, plantwise for 1984-85;

(b) the total quantity of the same supplied to various States, quarter-wise; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to ensure due and legitimate share of supplies to Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Plantwise production of billets, blooms and other saleable semis during 1984-85 (provisional) is as follows :

(Quantity in '000 tonnes)

| Plant | Billets | Blooms | Other Semis | Total |
|----------|---------|--------|-------------|-------|
| Bhilai | 186.7 | 240.0 | 70.8 | 498.4 |
| Durgapur | 58.6 | 95.9 | 119.0 | 273.5 |
| Rourkely | — | — | 38.9 | 33.9 |
| Bokaro | — | — | 57.7 | 57.7 |
| | 245.3 | 336.8 | 281.4 | 863.6 |

(b) The attached statement gives the quarterly Statewise dispatches of billets, blooms and other saleable semis for the year 1984-85. Information for the last quarter is only upto February, 1985 as Statewise data for the month of March, 1985 is awaited.

(c) Allocation of iron and steel is not

made Statewise. Supplies are made in accordance with demand registered with the main producers and the availability. For billets, blooms and semis, SAIL has formulated guidelines providing for despatches to various stockyards on the basis of the best sales during the last three years.

Statement

Despatches of Billets, Blooms & Other Semis

| State | Despatches of Billets : | | | | | | Despatches of Blooms : | | | | | | Despatches of other Semis : | | | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Apr.-Feb. 85 | | | | | | Apr.-Feb. 85 | | | | | | Apr.-Feb. 85 | | | | | |
| | Apr.- June 84 | July 84 | Oct- Sept. 84 | Jan.- Dec. 85 | Total | Apr.- June 84 | July 84 | Oct- Sept. 84 | Jan.- Dec. 85 | Total | Apr.- June 84 | July 84 | Oct- Sept. 84 | Jan.- Dec. 85 | Total | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | | |
| W. Bengal | 5676 | 7187 | 4673 | 3618 | 21154 | — | 440 | — | 388 | 828 | — | 284 | — | 503 | 787 | | | |
| Orissa | — | — | 1104 | — | 1104 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | |
| Bihar | — | 167 | — | — | 167 | 45 | — | 223 | — | 268 | 1043 | 108 | — | — | 1151 | | | |
| U. P. | 13036 | 4673 | 3684 | 660 | 22053 | 9026 | 5595 | 10713 | 12954 | 38288 | 1313 | 2164 | 5096 | 692 | 9265 | | | |
| Assam | 1319 | 4377 | — | 1399 | 7095 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | |
| Nagaland | — | — | — | 168 | 168 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | |
| Delhi | 3324 | 4046 | 2991 | 225 | 10586 | 13225 | 4031 | 5516 | 3786 | 26558 | — | 226 | 2428 | — | 2554 | | | |
| Chandigarh | 1233 | 2955 | — | 565 | 4753 | 3111 | — | — | 780 | 3891 | — | 108 | 56 | 54 | 218 | | | |
| Haryana | 55 | — | — | — | 55 | 223 | 1573 | 1008 | 673 | 3477 | 794 | 506 | 112 | — | 1412 | | | |
| M. P. | 1497 | 1850 | 1633 | 924 | 5904 | 1750 | 719 | 728 | 1711 | 4908 | 840 | 277 | 264 | 547 | 1928 | | | |
| J and K | — | — | 2811 | — | 2811 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | | | |
| Punjab | 15067 | 7533 | 10880 | 3635 | 37115 | 52787 | 74586 | 48737 | 23979 | 200089 | 10898 | 12948 | 12392 | 5519 | 41757 | | | |

| I | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Maharashtra | 8922 | 9700 | 9716 | 4179 | 32517 | 1010 | 550 | 8583 | 6093 | 16236 | 109 | 218 | 1547 | 532 | 2406 |
| Gujarat | 11767 | 5372 | 3448 | 1727 | 22314 | 3726 | 950 | 2543 | 440 | 7659 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Rajasthan | 666 | 1116 | 110 | 895 | 2787 | 1555 | — | — | 501 | 2056 | 217 | 107 | 106 | — | 430 |
| Tamil Nadu | 18313 | 6510 | 6551 | 1333 | 32707 | — | 168 | 1846 | 4219 | 6233 | — | — | 540 | 1161 | 1701 |
| Kerala | — | — | 672 | — | 672 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Karnataka | 17877 | 3907 | 2620 | 1966 | 26370 | — | — | 564 | 1359 | 1923 | — | — | — | 1673 | 1673 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 5464 | 839 | — | — | 6303 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total : | 104216 | 60232 | 50893 | 21294 | 236635 | 86458 | 88612 | 80461 | 56883 | 312414 | 25214 | 16946 | 12441 | 10681 | 65282 |

**Supply of Billets and Semis by S.A.I.L.
to States**

2924. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to State :

(a) whether the steel Authority of India Limited is supplying the billets and semis in large quantities to various States for converting them into rods by rerollers;

(b) the quantity so supplied to various States during 1984-85 by S.A.I.L.;

(c) whether some of the mills in Andhra Pradesh are facing the problem of closure for want of raw materials and non-supply by S.A.I.L.; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. SAIL supplies billets, blooms and semis to various users in States. In 1984-85 (upto February 1985) SAIL supplied 6,14,172 tonnes of these materials to different States. SAIL has also appointed conversion agents in various States who are largely supplied billets for conversion into bars and rods. As on 1-4-1985, SAIL had 57 conversion agents and they were supplied a total of 1,08,705 tonnes (provisional) of billets and other semis during 1984-85.

(c) and (d). No specific information has been received that re-rolling units in Andhra Pradesh have closed down for want of raw materials from SAIL. It may be stated that SAIL provides about 20% of the raw material requirements of the rerolling industry, the balance is met by TISCO, the mini steel plants, ship-breaking and domestic scrap arisings. As supply of semis from the ministeel sector which is the major source of supply did not keep pace with demand, the demand for billets, blooms and other rerollables from SAIL increased. To cater to this enhanced demand from August 1984 SAIL introduced a system of entitlement for the supply of material. Supplies to Andhra Pradesh were in proportion to the all India average.

**Assets and Liabilities of Peerless
General Finance and Investment
Company Limited**

2925. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total assets and liabilities of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited as on 31st March, 1983;

(b) whether the amounts collected by Company from the policy-holders are deposited wholly in Government securities;

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has given exemption to this Company from the Deposit Ceiling Act of 1973;

(d) whether the general administration of the above Company is controlled by the Union Government and Company Law Board; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to grant income tax rebate to the policy-holders on par with the L.I.C. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and its affairs are managed by its board of Directors. The administration of the Company is not controlled by the Central Government or Company Law Board. The Company has been served with a notice on 10-8-1979 by the Government of West Bengal for winding up its business under Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978. The Company has however, obtained a stay order from Calcutta High Court and the matter is sub-judice.

The Company was inspected by Reserve Bank of India in 1978-79. The Reserve Bank was of the view that the accounting system followed by the Company did not give a "true and fair view" of the Company's state of affairs. Further Department of Company Affairs ordered inspection of accounts of the company under section 290-A of the Companies Act on 21-12-1983. The Company however, obtained a conditional stay from the Calcutta High Court and further appealed to Division Bench. The Government has, therefore, no precise information about the working of this Company.

According to the Company's Annual Report for the year ending 31-12-1983, its assets as also liabilities were of the order of Rs. 44084.90 lakhs. Amounts to the extent of contractual liability to the policy-holders arrived at by the Company as per actuarial calculations are invested in Government securities, and fixed deposits with nationalised banks.

The exemption given to the Company by the Reserve Bank from ceiling restrictions on acceptance of deposits under RBI Directions of 1973, as applicable to miscellaneous non-banking Companies, was cancelled in March, 1980.

There is no parity between Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) schemes and the Company's schemes. There is therefore, no proposal to grant any income tax rebate to the subscribers investing in the Company.

World Bank Loan to Bangalore Transport Service

2926. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any World Bank loan was given to the Bangalore Transport Service (KSRTC) for the purchase of fleets to provide better facilities to the commuters of Bangalore city; and

(b) If so, whether Government propose to get World Bank loan for Bangalore Transport Service to improve its fleets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal is at present under consideration.

Export of Coir Products

2927. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether exports of coir products have declined considerably;

b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to step up exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES

(SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :

(a) According to the latest provisions figures available with the Coir Board, between April, 1984 and February, 1985 export of coir products *i.e.* coir door-mats, mattings, rugs and carpets increased to 12,339 tonnes valued at Rs. 15.28 crores from 11,444 tonnes valued at Rs. 12.99 crores exported during the corresponding period of 1983-84.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The various steps taken to step up exports include sending trade delegations, conducting market studies and market research, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines and distribution of publicity material, participation in fairs in major markets, quality improvement of coir products and grant of Cash Compensatory Support.

Demand for Scrapping the Gold Control Act

2928. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Sarafa Association has urged the Government to scrap the Gold Control Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The All India Sarafa Association in their representation dated 17-1-1985 has requested for repealing the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 on the grounds that the Act has outlived its utility and is a source of harassment to the dealers.

The objectives of the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 broadly are :

(i) curbing the general demand for gold from the public with a view to reduce it progressively;

(ii) to serve as an economic measure to supplement other preventive measures, to make circulation of smuggled gold difficult and its detection easier by extending the control over gold beyond the stage of import.

The objectives for which the Gold (Control) Act was brought into effect are still relevant and these are being served by the existing provisions of the Act. Specific complaints in regard to harassment are duly investigated when brought to the notice and suitable action is taken wherever necessary. At present there is no proposal to scrap the Gold (Control) Act.

Export of Cotton Bales by CCI, Maharashtra Marketing Federation, Cooperative Societies of Gujarat, etc.

2929. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total export of cotton bales during 1983-84 and 1984-85 by India to other countries; and

(b) the number of bales exported during this period by Cotton Corporation of India,

the Maharashtra Marketing Federation, Maharashtra State Cooperative Federation and the Cooperative Societies of Gujarat *vis-a-vis* their total purchases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :
(a) During 1983-84 cotton year about 2,87,003 bales of staple cotton were exported. During the current 1984-85 cotton year 13,252 bales of staple cotton have been exported so far.

(b) Total number of bales exported/procured by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd., Maharashtra State Cooperative cotton growers' Marketing Federation and Gujarat State Cooperative Cotton Marketing Federation during 1983-84 and 1984-85.

Cotton seasons are as follow :

| Name of Agency | Quantity Exported (In Bales) | Total Procurement (In lakh Bales) |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Cotton Year 1983-84 | | |
| C.C.I. | 1.08 | 5.25 |
| M.S.C.M.F. | 1.58 | 7.67 |
| Gujarat Federation | 0.21 | 3.77 |
| Total | 2.87 | 16.69 |
| Cotton Year 1984-85 | | |
| Name of Agency | Quantity Exported (In Bales) | Total Procurement (In lakh Bales) |
| C.C.I. | 4,655 | 5.28 (As on 30-3-85) |
| M.S.C.M.F. | 3,580 | 16.22 (As on 16-3-85) |
| Gujarat Federation | 5,017 | 7.00 (As on 15-3-85) |
| Total | 13,252 | 28.50 |

Scheme to Increase Exports of Different Commodities

2930. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the value of exports of different commodities from India during the last two years, year-wise, and value of the exports expected during current year; and

(b) the scheme drawn up to increase exports in the coming years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The value of Selected Principal exports from India for the fiscal years 1982-83, 1983-84 and the latest available figures for 1984-85 (April-September, 1984) are given as under :

India's Export of Principal Commodities/Commodity Groups

(Value : Rs. Crores)

| Sl. No. | Items | 1982-83 (P) | 1983-84 (P) | April-Sept. 1984-85* (P) |
|---------|--|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Tea and Mate | 367.53 | 501.37 | 330.38 |
| 2. | Coffee and Coffee substitutes | 184.20 | 183.26 | 106.40 |
| 3. | Tobacco unmanufactured | 208.54 | 149.61 | 100.17 |
| 4. | Sugar and sugar preparations | 62.35 | 138.86 | 14.84 |
| 5. | Cashew kernels | 133.97 | 156.62 | 107.98 |
| 6. | Vegetables and Fruits (other than cashew kernels) | 158.80 | 155.16 | 71.46 |
| 7. | Oil cakes | 149.35 | 146.29 | 62.91 |
| 8. | Spices | 88.93 | 109.26 | 91.67 |
| 9. | Marine Products | 349.45 | 327.30 | 128.48 |
| 10. | Rice | 199.50 | 147.13 | 48.18 |
| 11. | Cotton, Raw | 101.16 | 148.96 | 48.01 |
| 12. | Iron Ore | 378.79 | 385.34 | 142.22 |
| 13. | Cotton Fabrics | 265.52 | 276.54 | 162.05 |
| 14. | Readymade Garments | 527.50 | 607.20 | 357.22 |
| 15. | Jute Manufactures | 202.76 | 164.52 | 141.01 |
| 16. | Leather and Leather Mfrs. (including Footwear) | 371.80 | 373.11 | 251.33 |
| 17. | Chemicals and allied products | 308.20 | 277.63 | 164.33 |
| 18. | Handicrafts of which Pearls, precious and Semi-precious stones | 1172.21 824.91 | 1599.30 1213.99 | 765.45 576.28 |
| 19. | Metal manufactures (Excl. Iron and Steel) | 201.56 | 194.29 | 98.21 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 20. | Machinery and transport equipment | 584.60 | 493.98 | 232.40 |
| 21. | Iron and Steel (incl. mfrs.) | 55.75 | 46.43 | 27.01 |
| 22. | Crude Oil | 1063.37 | 1231.09 | 516.33 |
| Grand Total (incl. other items) | | 8907.75 | 9865.30 | 5120.50 |

P—Figures are provisional/preliminary and subject to revision.

Source : DGCI and S, Calcutta.

* The export target fixed for the year 1984-85 is Rs. 11,127 crores, and the latest provisional figures for total exports during April-December, 1984 is Rs. 8146.2 crores.

(d) Import and export policy measures are being continuously evolved for increasing India's exports. These include measures for increasing and diversifying the production, making our exports more competitive, finding new markets for our products and processing commodities for higher value realisation. Different instruments of policy available to Government are being utilised for this purpose and adjusted as and when necessary.

Seminar on International Finance

2931. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the conclusions arrived at by the two day Seminar on International Finance, organised recently in Delhi, by the State Bank of India and the State Trading Corporation of India; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken thereon, with particular reference to the role of banks in preventing industrial sickness ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that the following conclusions were arrived at the two-day Seminar on 'International Finance' organised recently in Delhi by State Bank of India for the senior executives of the State Trading Corporation of India/(STC) :

1. The inter-actions between the operative levels in State Bank of India and State Trading Corpora-

tion should be at regular and frequent intervals;

2. The State Bank of India as banker to the State Trading Corporation Should arrange detailed discussions on various operative aspects for the benefit of operative levels in State Trading Corporation; and
3. The State Trading Corporation and State Bank of India should jointly explore the feasibility of State Trading Corporation undertaking countertrade activities.

(b) The State Bank of India has further reported that neither industrial sickness nor the role of banks in this regard came up for discussion.

Loans given by Banks to Shipping Industry

2932. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian banks are nursing loans totalling over Rs. 150 crore given to the shipping industry both within the country and abroad;

(b) if so, whether it has been reported that at least half of these are sticky;

(c) whether these banks have provided large funds to shipping companies in India under the ship acquisition from abroad under the new scheme by which the shipping development fund committee guarantees the loans provided by the Reserve Bank to the companies in the acquisition of ships;

(d) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard by the Ministry; and

(e) the action taken against those held responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Assistance for acquisition of ships by shipping companies in India from abroad is granted by commercial banks in the country mainly under the scheme known as 'Ship Acquisition From Abroad Under New Scheme' (SAFAUNS). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that it does not have ready information in regard to precise amount of loans given to shipping industry being nursed by Indian Banks. However, as per the information furnished by the Reserve bank of India, upto 31-12-1984, a sum of Rs. 470 crores has been disbursed to 23 shipping companies by the commercial banks in the country under the aforesaid scheme. Due to recessionary trends in the shipping industry as a whole, some of the shipping companies are finding it difficult to adhere to the schedule of repayment of their liabilities to the banks. While no enquiry into all the cases of these loans has been made, whenever any specific allegation is made the same is got looked into.

W.C.L. decision to Boost Coal Production

2934. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a massive effort to boost coal production Western Coalfields Ltd. has decided to invest at least Rs. 1,600 crores for excavation of new coal mines and expansion and upgradation of the existing mines;

(b) whether Western Coalfield Limited has decided to double their annual production capacity from 46 million tonnes in 1984-85 to well over 90 million tonnes by 1989-90; and

(c) if so, whether any assistance and help is being provided by Union Government to achieve this aim ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The Working Group on Coal and Lignite for the 7th Five Year Plan have recommended an investment of over Rs. 1,700 crores during the 7th Five Year Plan (1985-86 to 1989-90) for increasing the coal production of W.C.L. from present level of 46 m.t. (Provisional) in 1984-85 to about 65 million tonnes by 1989-99. Government will provide necessary financial support to the coal company and any other help that may be necessary in achieving the production targets finally fixed by the Government.

Shortage of Steel

2935. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of steel in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the exports and imports of steel in the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). For the year 1985-86, the Working Group on Iron and Steel has projected a demand of 11.2 million tonnes of finished steel in the country against an indigenous availability of 9.9 million tonnes. It is normal practice to allow adequate import of various items to meet the needs of the engineering industry and other users.

(c) Steel exports and arrivals of canalised steel imports through SAIL were as under :

| Year | Canalised Imports Quantity (in million tonnes) | Canalised Exports Quantity (in million tonnes) |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1982-83 | 1.401 | 0.011 |
| 1983-84 | 0.656 | 0.024 |
| 1984-85 (Provisional) | 0.700 | 0.153 |

**Gold Mines in Chittoor District
(Andhra Pradesh)**

2936. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any gold mines in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of gold extracted so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). There are no regular gold mines working in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. Only exploratory mining is in progress to estimate gold deposits in Chigarqunta and Mallappakonda areas of this district.

Exploratory mining since 1978-79 to February, 1985 has yielded 64 Kgs. of gold from these prospects.

Export of Ready-made Garments

2937. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the garments exported during the year 1984;

(b) whether there is decline in the export of ready-made garments during this year;

(c) if so, by how much and the main reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to boost the export of ready-made garments during the year 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) On the basis of the available information, the value of garments exported during the year 1984 is estimated to be Rs. 850 crores.

(b) No, Sir. The exports of garments have gone up by 33% during 1984 as compared to 1983.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The following main steps have been taken by the Govt. to boost the export of ready-made garments :

(i) with effect from 1st January, '84 rates of CCS have been revised

upwards for certain categories of ready-made garments.

(ii) 105 garment and hosiery making machines have been placed on OGL, 97 of these machines are allowed to be imported on payment of concessional duty.

(iii) The Govt. has announced its decision to permit deduction of 50% of export profits from net taxable income subject to certain conditions.

(iv) Entitlement under REP licences for import of essential inputs is permitted. Essential inputs are also permitted to be imported under the Advance Licensing Scheme for export production.

(v) A Scheme of 100% Export Oriented Units is in operation which includes several textile items including readymade garments.

(vi) Inspection procedures for ready-made garments meant for exports have been simplified.

(vii) Govt. has been sponsoring and funding promotional activities such as market studies, Buyer Seller Meets, participation in International Fairs/Exhibitions etc., in order to increase and diversify exports.

Export of Ground-nut Seeds

2938. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of groundnut, seeds exported during the year 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) whether there is decline in its export;

(c) if so, the main reason therefor;

(d) whether the State Trading Corporation has been exploring fresh export markets for the export of the groundnut; and

(e) if so, the extent to which success has been achieved in this regard during the year 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). Export of groundnut seeds other than the HPS variety is not allowed. Export of HPS Groundnuts in the last three years has been as under :

| | Quantity (Tonnes) | Value (Rs. Crores) |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1982-83 | 28,343 | 27.09 |
| 1983-84 | 24,702 | 22.08 |
| 1984-85 (Estimated) | 25,000 | 21.00 |

(c) The increase in the price of oil seeds and shortage of edible oils in the country have eroded the profitability of export of HPS Groundnuts of late. There have also been problems of non-tariff barriers in European markets on account of aflatoxin levels.

(d) and (e). NAFED is the canalising agency for export of HPS groundnuts. Export by private trade as associates of NAFED within the overall policy of canalisation is allowed. State Trading Corporation does not export HPS Groundnuts.

Prices of Jute Fibre and Jute

2939. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the prices of jute fibre in the country during the last ten years, grade-wise;

(b) whether these has been an unexpected rise and fall in the jute prices during the last decade;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) measures adopted by the Government to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) There has been fluctuation in prices of raw jute from year to year as well as within the year depending upon supply-demand position in the country. However, during 1983-84, and 1984-85 Jute Seasons (July-June) there has been sharp increase in raw jute prices as compared to earlier years.

(c) The main reasons for rise in prices are limited availability of the fibre in the country due to shortfall in jute crops.

(d) In order to improve the supply position of raw jute and to arrest undue rise in jute prices, the following steps have been taken :

- (i) Regulation of the stock holdings of jute mills under the Jute (Licencing and Control) Order, 1961 to bring about more equitable distribution of raw jute;
- (ii) Import of raw jute from abroad.
- (iii) Offer of one lakh quintal of excess raw jute by NJMC to the private sector jute mills.

Statement

The average prices of jute fibre in the country during the last ten years, grade-wise, are as under :

| Year (July-June) | Prices in Rs./per quintal for Calcutta | |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | W-5 (Ex-other States) | TD-5 (Ex-West Bengal) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1975-76 | 187.92 | N.A. |
| 1976-77 | 200.47 | 209.13 |
| 1977-78 | 222.91 | 225.00 |
| 1978-79 | 216.44 | 226.69 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1979-80 | 212.44 | 229.60 |
| 1980-81 | 216.56 | 227.56 |
| 1981-82 | 241.25 | 252.97 |
| 1982-83 | 272.50 | 286.40 |
| 1983-84 | 384.84 | 392.90 |
| 1984-85 (upto March, 1985) | 842.05 | 847.27 |

Subsidence of areas in Raniganj Asansol region in West Bengal

2940. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received reports of subsidence of some areas in the Raniganj-Asansol region in West Bengal due to coal mining operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas where subsidence has already started; and

(d) the steps taken and/or contemplated for stabilisation of these areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). As per the report of Committee on 'Safety in Coal Mines' which was constituted by the Govt. in 1976, danger from subsidence is apprehended in 80 coal mines. Some of the recent cases of subsident on limited scale have been reported from the following places :

- (i) Sanctoria Village (Sitalpur Colliery)
- (ii) Kenda Village (New Kenda Colliery)
- (iii) Kalipahari Colliery
- (iv) Jamura Nandi Road (Jamuria Colliery)
- (v) Nimca Village (Pure Searsole Colliery)
- (vi) Dhandadih Village (Parasea 6 and 7 Incline)
- (vii) Kotapara Village (Mahabir Colliery)
- (viii) Kuldanga Village (Parasea Colliery)

(d) Steps taken to deal with subsidence are as follows :

- (i) Filling up of the pot holes on the surface, as and when they occur.
- (ii) Stabilisation of the underground working to the extent possible.
- (iii) Strict enforcement of Mines Act; Rules, Regulations and Bye-laws made thereunder.
- (iv) Strict compliance with the conditions stipulated by Director General of Mines Safety in the depillaring permission.
- (v) Depillaring in conjunction with stowing, partial extraction or development as final operation etc. in built-in-areas.

Sale of smuggled goods in Calcutta

2941. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have information about the sale of smuggled goods in open markets in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in the matter;

(d) the value of smuggled goods seized/confiscated from different markets in Calcutta during the past two years;

(e) whether the number of markets/shops dealing in such smuggled goods in Calcutta has increased during the past two years; and

(f) the areas in Calcutta in which such sale of smuggled goods have increased during the past few years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to reports received by the Government, foreign consumer goods, such as, electronic items, textiles, cosmetics, are sold in some of the markets in Calcutta.

(c) Searches and raids, as and when warranted, are conducted by the Customs authorities with the assistance of police and smuggled goods are seized. Stringent action is taken against smugglers and dealers in smuggled goods under the Customs Act. In appropriate cases, detention under COFEPOSA Act is also resorted to. Further, customs authorities remain vigilant to unearth sources of supply/storage of smuggled goods and to identify the smugglers' gangs and immobilise them.

(d) The value of smuggled goods seized and confiscated from different markets in Calcutta during 1983 and 1984 is furnished below :

(Value : Rs. in lakhs)

| Year | Value of goods seized | Value of goods confiscated |
|------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1983 | 10.26 | 7.5 |
| 1984 | 16.70 | 4.93 |

(e) and (f). Smuggling and dealing in smuggled goods, being a clandestine activity, does not lend itself to any quantification. However, there are indications suggesting some proliferation of this activity particularly around the docks and in the Central and South Calcutta areas.

Requirement and Supply of soft Coke to West Bengal

2942. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have examined the allegations of Government of West Bengal that, despite increase in production, the State is not getting the required

amount of soft coke from Coal India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated monthly requirement of soft coke of West Bengal;

(d) the quantity of soft coke offered to West Bengal by the Coal India Ltd. during the past six months; and

(e) the quantity of soft coke lifted by West Bengal during the past six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). According to the Government of West Bengal, the demand of soft coke in West Bengal is 80,000 tonnes to 1,00,000 tonnes per month. However, due to various constraints in production including unusually heavy rains during June-July, 1984, the requirements of soft coke could not be met in full. To meet the full demand, in addition to soft coke, Coal India have been offering 20,000 tonnes per month of natural soft coke also to West Bengal.

(d) and (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loss in production in Public Undertakings under Department of Coal

2943. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have assessed the loss in production in Eastern Coalfields Ltd., Western Coalfields Ltd., Central Coalfields Ltd., Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. due to strikes, wild Cat strikes and absenteeism during the past three years;

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

(c) the steps taken and/or contemplated by Government to prevent such loss in production ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The loss of production of coal in ECL, BCCL, CCL, WCL and SCCL due to strikes and absenteeism during the last three years are given below :

(figs. in million tonnes)

| Company | Loss due to | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------|---------------|-------------|-------|---------------|
| | Strikes | | | Absenteeism | | |
| | 1982-83 | 83-84 | 84-85 (Prov.) | 1982-83 | 83-84 | 84-85 (Prov.) |
| ECL | 0.34 | 0.07 | 0.12 | 0.61 | 0.62 | 0.62 |
| BCCL | 0.15 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.63 | 0.77 | 0.47 |
| CCL | 0.02 | — | — | 0.61 | 0.45 | 0.15 |
| WCL | 0.26 | 0.16 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.34 | 0.10 |
| TOTAL : | | | | | | |
| CIL | 0.77 | 0.27 | 0.29 | 0.96 | 2.18 | 1.34 |
| SCCL | 1.49 | 1.41 | *1.65 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.26* |

* Loss of production in SCCL during 1984-85 is upto January, 1985.

(c) Steps taken to curb the tendency of frequent absenteeism and wild cat strikes include invoking of the provisions of the Payment of Wages Act and generally enforcing discipline amongst the employees. Steps are also being taken to create better industrial relations by frequent interchange of ideas with the labour leaders and making grievance redressal machinery more effective.

A comprehensive plan enlarging workers' participation in management, at various levels, is also in the process of implementation.

Profits of Public Sector Undertaking

2944. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the profits of the public sector undertakings during the financial year 1984-85 have not been satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The financial year 1984-85 has just ended and it will take some time for the public undertakings to compile and finalise their accounts. However, based on the provisional working results received so far, it is seen that in the

year 1984-85 Public Enterprises have shown substantial improvement in performance and have earned a net profit of Rs. 955.30 crores (Provisional).

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

Credit extended by Nationalised Banks in Goa District

2945. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of credit extended by the nationalised banks in District Goa during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total amount of credit given to small farmers, unemployed youths, weaker and poor sections of the society;

(c) the steps taken to facilitate loans to the poor and weaker sections; and

(d) the target for the year 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) : Advances of all Scheduled Commercial banks in the district of Goa during the last three years are given below :

| | (Rs. lakhs) Advances |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| December 1981 | 16447 |
| December 1982 | 17234 |
| December 1983 | 17947 |

(b) to (d). Available information as at the end of June 1981 regarding occupation-wise utilisation of outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks in the district of Goa is set out below :

| | (Rs. lakhs) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| I. Agriculture | 1183.77 |
| II. Industry of which S.S.I. | 8084.18 1663.02 |
| III. Transport Operators | 1462.01 |
| IV. Services | 611.90 |
| V. Trade | 1058.20 |
| VI. Personal Loans | 523.13 |
| VII. All Others | 479.01 |
| Total | 13402 20 |

To ensure flow of credit to weaker sections, beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme, these groups have been identified in the Priority Sector and the Public Sector Banks have been advised to raise the share of these sectors in their aggregate credit to the level of 40 per cent by March 1985 and also to ensure that at least 25 per cent of the priority sectors credit flows to weaker section borrowers. This group comprises small and marginal farmers, share croppers, artisan village and cottage industries, SC/ST, beneficiaries, D.R.I. beneficiaries and I.R.D.P. beneficiaries.

Varieties of Cotton Produced in Cotton Growing States

2946. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cotton-growing States and the variety of cotton produced in each such State;

(b) the quantity of cotton purchased by Cotton Corporation from each cotton-growing State during 1984;

(c) whether the quantity of cotton purchased from Gujarat is much less;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government are aware that the farmers of Gujarat are facing great difficulty in regard to sale of their products; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken to purchase cotton from those farmers in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The names of the cotton-growing States and the important varieties of cotton grown in each such State are as follows :

| Name of the State | Name of the variety |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Punjab | J-34, F-414, Desi |
| 2. Haryana | J-34, Desi |
| 3. Rajasthan | Desi, J-34, Agatti |
| 4. Andhra Pradesh | H-4, 1007, G.6, JKHY-1, MCU-5, DCH-32, Suvin. |
| 5. Karnataka | DCH-32, Jaydhar |
| 6. Tamil Nadu | MCU-5, MCU-7, DCH-32, Suvin |
| 7. Gujarat | V. 797, S. 4, S. 6, Dig, CJ-73, G. Cot. 12. |
| 8. Madhya Pradesh | A-51/9, Y. 1, 1007, H. 4, V.L. |
| 9. Maharashtra | V.L., H. 4, 1007, Nimkar, Jaydrar etc. |

(b) The quantity of cotton purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India in different cotton growing States except Maharashtra during the current cotton year upto 27th March, 1985, is as follows :

| Name of the States | Quantity (Bales of 170 kg. each) |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Punjab | 93275 |
| Haryana | 62028 |
| Rajasthan | 87183 |
| Gujarat | 50199 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 100739 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 64135 |
| Tamil Nadu | 2401 |
| Karnataka | 28975 |
| Others | 328 |
| Total | 489263 |
| Lint | 32953 |
| Grand Total | 522216 |

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). With a view to help the cotton growers, the Cotton Corporation of India has entered the cotton markets right from the beginning of arrival of cotton in the market. The Cotton Corporation of India has purchased a quantity of 50199 bales upto 27 March 1985 as against the quantity of 15886 bales purchased by it during the corresponding period of the last year in Gujarat. The purchases by the Corporation in Gujarat are still in progress.

Rise in Price of Tea in Overseas Markets

2947. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a sharp rise in the price of tea in overseas markets last year;

(b) if so, whether our exports are able to exploit price trends abroad by releasing additional quantities for export; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of the higher world market prices of tea, export earnings of tea from India during 1984 reached an all time record Rs. 744.92 crores as compared to Rs. 516.82 crores in 1983. The unit export price has also been higher at Rs. 34.69 as compared to Rs. 24.79 per kg. in 1983. The exports in 1984 were 215 million kgs. as compared to 209 million kgs. in 1983. The Tea Marketing Plan for 1985 envisage exports of 220 million kgs. of higher value teas, while keeping back cheaper teas for domestic consumption.

Cost structure of Steel Production

2948. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the cost structure of steel production;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether Indian steel is costly as compared to steel output in other countries; and

(d) whether steel prices are today higher than costs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) conducted a comprehensive cost and price study of the integrated steel plants during July, 1981 to October, 1982. The report was submitted to Government in October, 1982, some of its important findings are as under :

(i) Integrated steel plants should produce more and more of sophisticated and high value steel items;

(ii) Quality of coal for the steel plants needs improvement;

(iii) Net usage of coking coal per tonne of steel produced should be comparable for different plants;

(iv) Steel plants should pay adequate attention to energy conservation;

(v) While considering capital investment, first priority should be accorded to input feed improvement;

(vi) Consumer prices of steel should by and large provide for the replacement cost of the steel plants;

(vii) Customers taking their requirements of steel from the stockyards should be charged stockyard inventory costs, and

(viii) The cost study conducted by the BICP should be updated on a continuing basis.

(c) The net realisation of the main producers compares favourably with the domestic listed prices of steel in various other countries.

(d) Current steel prices over the present costs of production.

Time and cost run offs in programme of expansion of Public Sector Steel Plants

2949. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been considerable time and cost run offs programme of expansion or public sector steel plants:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons thereof; and

(d) whether steps have been taken to reduce these run offs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHIR K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). The approved schedules, the likely dates of commissioning, sanctioned costs and the revised costs of the expansion schemes of public sector steel plants are given below :

(Rupees in crores)

| Unit/Scheme | Commissioning Schedule | | Sanctioned cost | |
|---------------------------|--|------------|-------------------|---------|
| | As envisaged in the original estimate, | Now likely | Original | Revised |
| Bokaro Steel Plant | | | | |
| 4-MT Expansion | June 1979 | June 1985 | 947.24 | 1637.55 |
| Cold Rolling Mills | Dec. 1982 | March 1987 | Included in above | |
| Bhilai Steel Plant | | | | |
| 4-MT Expansion Phase-I | Dec. 1981 | June 1986 | 937.78 | 1600.58 |
| 4-MT Expansion Phase-II | June 1983 | July 1987 | Included in above | |
| Alloy Steels Plant | | | | |
| Stage-II Expansion | Jan. 1985 | Dec. 1986 | 65.98 | — |

Project cost estimates are based on the rates prevalent when the estimates are prepared. No provision is kept for future escalations.

The reasons for the delays are primarily the failure on the part of the equipment suppliers and construction agencies to adhere to the schedules.

Frequent review meetings are held at various levels with all concerned agencies responsible for the delays to impress upon those agencies to adhere to the committed schedules by increasing their resources and efforts. In addition, the performance of the various public sector undertakings and the foreign agencies are brought to the notice of the concerned Ministries and Organisations respectively so as to improve the performance of these agencies.

Formation of a Public Sector Steel Executive Cadre

2950. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the formation of a public sector steel executive cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the other steps proposed to be taken to provide a cadre of trained executives for public sector steel plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Over the years, SAIL has built a strong Management Development Training System. In addition to the general development programmes, special programmes are conducted in collaboration with other institutions and professional bodies. Apart from the training provided to executives in Technical Institutes located at each Plant, SAIL runs a Central Management Training Institute at Ranchi exclusively devoted to the development of Managers of Public Sector Steel Plants.

Survey conducted by G.S.I. in Manipur for Tapping Mineral Resources

2951. PROF. MEIJNLUNG KAMSON : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey in Manipur with a view to tapping the minerals resources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As a result of the surveys carried out in Manipur, resources of about 80 lakh tonnes of cement grade limestone, 820 tonnes of refractory grade chromite and minor occurrences of lignite have been identified so far. The survey work in the State is still continuing.

Special Import Licences issued to Companies Affected in November 1984 Disturbances in Delhi

2952. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI D. P. JADEJA :
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether special import licences have been issued to companies whose imported machineries were damaged during the November 1984 disturbances in Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of companies granted such licences in excess of Rupees five lakhs;

(c) whether proper verification of damages was done;

(d) if so, by whom; and

(e) whether the licences carry exemption from import duties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Names are given in the statement attached.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In all the six cases, copies of reports made to Police Authorities/Insurance Companies were produced. Essentiality of import was certified by the sponsoring authorities and indigenous clearance was given by DGTD. In four cases at Sl. Nos. 1 to 4 of the Annexure, certificates of verification of damage from Insurance Companies and Chartered Engineers were also submitted.

(e) In two cases at Sr. Nos. 5 and 6 of the Annexure import licences have been issued with an endorsement for concessional rate of import duty as per Notification issued by the Department of Revenue. In other cases, requests for similar facility are under consideration.

Statement

Statement showing the names of Companies whose Machineries were Damaged in the November 1984 Disturbances and to whom Import Licences have been Issued for more than rupees Five Lakhs.

1. M/s. Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Ltd. New Delhi.
2. M/s. Mohan Machines Limited, New Delhi.
3. M/s. Kool Crown Corks Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
4. M/s. Cee Jay Crown Corks Mfg. Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
5. M/s. Delhi Colors Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
6. M/s. Katana Food Industries Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

Closure of Textile Mills

2953. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI T. BALA GOUD :
SHRI R. M. BHOYE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills closed in the country during the years 1981-84, State-wise;

(b) the number of sick textile units taken over by Government during the above period; and

(c) the cause of closure or of the sickness of the mills ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES
(SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) :**

(a) A statement showing State-wise details of Cotton Textile mills which were closed at any time during the year 1981 to 1984 is enclosed.

(b) During the period 1981 to 1984, 16 Cotton Textile mills have been takenover.

(c) There are a number of causes of closure or of sickness such as obsolescence of plant and machinery, financial difficulties, labour problems etc.

Statement

Statement showing state-wise details of Cotton Textile Mills which were closed at any time during each of the year 1981 to 1984.

| States | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 1 | 4 | 5 | 7 |
| Assam | 1 | 2 | — | — |
| Bihar | 1 | 2 | — | — |
| Gujarat | 4 | 4 | 9 | 22 |
| Haryana | 7 | — | 4 | 1 |
| J and K | — | — | — | — |
| Karnataka | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| M.P. | 4 | — | 2 | — |
| Kerala | 12 | 6 | 10 | 6 |
| Maharashtra | 8 | 47 | 9 | 3 |
| Orissa | 2 | 1 | — | 1 |
| Punjab | 3 | 3 | 1 | — |
| Rajasthan | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| Tamil Nadu | 54 | 47 | 55 | 70 |
| U.P. | 15 | 8 | 2 | 19 |
| W. Bengal | 5 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Delhi | — | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Pondicherry | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Goa | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 120 | 134 | 109 | 151 |

[*Translation*]

Objection on Section 43(b) of Income Tax Act

2954. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the industrial units/trade associations/State Government have drawn the attention of Union Government towards any sort of objections or problems following the insertion of Section 43 (b) in the Income-tax Act; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to meet those objections and to solve the problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes. Sir. Certain representations were made against new section 43B, which was introduced in the Income-tax Act by the Finance Act, 1983.

(b) Government have not considered it necessary to modify the provisions of section 43-B.

[*English*]

Recovery of Bank Loans in Transport Sector

2955. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been poor recovery of bank loans in the transport sector which falls under priority sector lending;

(b) if so, the percentage of recovery made in transport sector in different States; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure better recovery of bank loans from transport sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India have reported that the recovery position has not been satisfactory in respect of advances to transport operators. However State wise information is not available with them.

Reserve Bank of India have also advised the banks to scrupulously follow their procedures and norms of lending and not to relax the terms and conditions on which advances are granted to transport operators. They should tighten the monitoring and follow up operations after the loan disbursement. Banks should ensure, in particular, that the vehicles hypothecated to them are kept insured, taxes

are paid by the borrowers and that vehicles are inspected by the branch officials at regular intervals.

Loans given by Banks to Shipping Companies in India

2956. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Indian banks have given loans to shipping Companies in India and abroad for the acquisition of ships;

(b) if so, the name of the Indian banks given such loan; and

(c) the name of the shipping companies to which Indian banks have given loans for the above purpose with details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Assistance for acquisition of ships by shipping companies in India from abroad is granted under the scheme known as 'Ship Acquisition From Abroad Under New Scheme' (SAFAUNS). The scheme is operated through State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India and Central Bank of India.

(c) As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Shipping and Transport, the amount of loans sanctioned and disbursed under 'SAFAUNS' to various shipping companies since the inception of the scheme in February, 1977 till 31-10-1984 is given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Information relating to amount of loans sanctioned and disbursed under SAFAUNS as on 31-10-1984

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of the Shipping Company | Amount Sanctioned | Amount disbursed |
|---------|---|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Shipping Corpn. of India Ltd., Bombay | 30743.76 | 29203.51 |
| 2. | Chowgule Steamships Ltd., Bombay | 2127.10 | 2007.73 |
| 3. | Essar Bulk Carriers Ltd. | 2065.06 | 2065.06 |
| 4. | Garware Shipping Corpn. Ltd., Bombay | 807.52 | 807.52 |
| 5. | Panchsheel Shipping Ltd., Calcutta | 183.50 | 183.50 |
| 6. | Scindia Steam Navg. Co. Ltd., Bombay | 1080.38 | 1080.38 |
| 7. | Ratnakar Shipping Co. Ltd., Calcutta | 1134.75 | 1134.75 |
| 8. | Thakur Shipping Ltd., Bombay | 366.23 | 366.23 |
| 9. | Tolani Shipping Ltd., Bombay | 425.80 | 425.80 |
| 10. | Indoceanic Shipping Co. Ltd., Bombay | 385.74 | 384.74 |
| 11. | Deccan Shipping Ltd., Bombay | 132.78 | 115.08 |
| 12. | Mogul Line Ltd., Bombay | 1936.15 | 1936.15 |
| 13. | Sagar Shipping Co. Ltd. (Amalgamated with M/s. Surrendera Overseas Ltd., Calcutta) | 1358.18 | 1358.18 |
| 14. | Sujwala Shipping Co., Bombay | 78.51 | 78.51 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 15. | India Steamships Ltd., Calcutta | 1309.79 | 1309.79 |
| 16. | Hinengo Lines Ltd., Calcutta | 45.73 | 45.73 |
| 17. | Karnataka Shipping Corpn. | 224.47 | 224.47 |
| 18. | Hede Navg. Ltd. | 265.90 | 265.90 |
| 19. | Surrendra Overseas Ltd., Calcutta | 2569.94 | 1751.47 |
| 20. | Streamline Shipping Co., Bombay | 75.47 | 75.47 |
| 21. | South India Shipping Corpn, Madras | 1825.71 | 1825.71 |
| 22. | Varun Shipping Ltd., Bombay | 135.32 | 135.32 |
| 23. | Dempo Steamships Ltd. | 106.93 | 106.93 |
| 24. | Nilhat Shipping Co., Bombay | 270.00 | — |
| 25. | Arabian Shipping Co. Ltd., Calcutta | 24.00 | — |
| 26. | Himalaya Shipping Co., Calcutta | 264.00 | — |
| | | <u>49941.72</u> | <u>46887.93</u> |

Family Pension Scheme

2957. SHRI N. V. RATNAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Family Pension Scheme, 1964 has been made applicable to those who retired prior to 1964;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether such pensioners have been agitating for making that scheme applicable to them also; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not making it applicable to them till now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The claim to pension or family pension is regulated by the provisions of the rules in force at the time when a Government servant retires or dies as the case may be. The Family Pension Scheme, 1964 was introduced w.e.f. 1-1-1964 and accordingly, the families of the Government employees who had retired or died before that date were not allowed family pension under this scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The reasons are indicated in para (b) above. However, certain persons not eligible for the pension in question, have filed writ petitions in the Supreme Court of India claiming the benefit of Family Pension Scheme, 1964, and the judgement of the Supreme Court is awaited.

Funds given by Union Government to State Governments

2958. SHRI N. V. RATNAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts due to the State Governments from the Union Government during the last three years actually;

(b) the amounts actually given to the States by Union Government, the principles for distribution of funds by the Centre to the States;

(c) whether there are some States which were given more than their due and some States were given less than their due; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and

(b). Two statements, Statement-I indicating the total amount due to the State Governments and actually given and Statement-II indicating the principles of distribution of funds by the Centre to the States, are attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement-I

| | (Rs. Crores) | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | 1982-83 | | 1983-84 | | 1984-85 | |
| | Budget Ests. | Revised Ests. | Budget Ests. | Revised Ests. | Budget Ests. | Revised Ests. |
| I. Share in Taxes : | | | | | | |
| (i) Income Tax | 1097.83 | 1131.77 | 1140.05 | 1171.64 | 1186.52 | 1231.47 |
| (ii) Basic Excise Duties | 3118.78 | 2999.69 | 3417.87 | 3403.43 | 3651.20 | 3690.55 |
| (iii) Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax | 538.83 | 491.83 | 604.40 | 653.96 | 795.63 | 834.70 |
| (iv) Estate Duty | 14.34 | 15.98 | 15.93 | 16.56 | 16.47 | 20.20 |
| Total (I) : | 4769.78 | 4639.32 | 5178.25 | 5245.59 | 5649.82 | 5776.92 |
| II. Grants-in-aid | | | | | | |
| (i) Plan | 1383.65 | 1511.24 | 1583.06 | 1744.26 | 1790.67 | 1853.56 |
| (ii) Central and Centrally Sponsored schemes | 1075.80 | 1143.89 | 1596.41 | 1670.80 | 2235.57 | 2231.79 |
| (iii) Non-Plan | 618.60 | 833.17 | 762.41 | 870.60 | 792.65 | 994.24 |
| Total (II) : | 3078.05 | 3488.30 | 3941.88 | 4285.66 | 4818.89 | 5079.59 |
| III. Loans : | | | | | | |
| (i) Plan | 2013.29 | 2232.87 | 2160.24 | 2400.43 | 2466.86 | 2554.74 |
| (ii) Central and Centrally Sponsored schemes | 118.54 | 118.19 | 133.58 | 121.39 | 149.27 | 170.81 |
| (iii) Non-Plan | 1731.92 | 3723.63 | 1969.76 | 3008.44 | 2597.46 | 3565.54 |
| Total (III) : | 3863.75 | 6074.69 | 4163.58 | 5530.26 | 5213.59 | 6291.09 |
| Grand Total (I+II+III) | 11711.58 | 14202.31 | 13283.71 | 15061.51 | 15682.30 | 17147.60 |

Statement-II

Non Plan :

Share in taxes : The shares of States in Central taxes (Income tax, Excise duty and Estate duty), statutory grants in aid and grant-in-aid in lieu of tax on railway passenger fares, which form the bulk of the

non-plan transfer of resources to the States are distributed in accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Commission. Non plan grants for relief of distress caused by natural calamities like floods, cyclone, earthquake (other than drought), are given in accordance with the recommendations of

the Finance Commission, the non-plan grant from the Centre covering 75% of the expenditure in excess of the margin money. Other non-plan grants, the amount of which is very small, are generally allocated on an objective criteria. Loans to State against collection of small savings are given to the extent of 2/3 of the net collections of small savings mobilised in each State.

Plan :

Central assistance for State Plans : Since the beginning of the Fourth Plan period (1969-74), the Central assistance for the State Plans has been allocated on the basis of the Gadgil Formula which was modified by the National Development Council while approving the draft Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85. Under this modified formula, a lumpsum amount is set apart for meeting the requirements of 8 Special Category States which include Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The balance of the Central assistance is distributed among the remaining 14 States in the following manner :

- (i) 60% on the basis of population.
- (ii) 20% on the basis of per capita income—only to States having per capita income below the national average.
- (iii) 10% on the basis of tax effort.
- (iv) 10% for special problems of States.

Assistance for meeting expenditure on drought is provided based on the Finance Commission's recommendations.

Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes : These are schemes where the Centre takes the initiative because of their national importance. Proposed and formulated by the Ministry concerned, approved by the Planning Commission and financed largely by the Centre, the schemes are implemented by the States. There is a slight difference between the two types of schemes—Centrally Sponsored Schemes are generally financed both by the Centre and the States whereas the Central Sector schemes are financed 100% by the Centre.

[*Translation*]

Non Payment by Banks Against Bank Drafts

2959. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will

the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether bank in the country are not making payments against bank drafts deposited by their customers;

(b) if so, whether attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that bank-drafts deposited by the customers are returned by banks without making payment against them;

(c) if so, the policy of Government in regard to making payment against bank drafts and the details thereof; and

(d) if there is no policy in this regard, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Pursuant to a recommendation of the Working Group on Customer Service in banks, Reserve Bank of India has advised the banks that payments of drafts should not be refused for the only reason that the relative advice has not been received. This procedure is being followed by and large by all the public sector banks.

Specific complaints brought to the notice of the Reserve Bank or the Government can be looked into for remedial action.

[*English*]

Revision of Royalty on Coal

2960. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times coal royalty has been revised and to what extent from 1972-73 till now;

(b) the impact of royalty revision on the coal price;

(c) at what interval the present law provides for royalty revision; and

(d) the number of times coal price has been revised during the last 12 years and to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) From 1972 till now royalty rates on coal have been revised twice, on 1-8-1975 and

13-2-1981. Royalty rates with effect from 1-8-1975 ranged from Rs. 1.00 per tonne to Rs. 5.00 per tonne while with effect from 13-2-1981 it ranged from Rs. 2.50 per tonne to Rs. 7.00 per tonne.

(b) The royalty on coal is collected by the coal companies from the consumers of coal in addition to the pit-head prices of coal fixed by the Central Government and is passed on to the State Governments concerned. The impact of revision of rates of royalty on coal on the consumers had not been significant.

(c) Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 empowers the Central Government to hance or reduce the rate of royalty en on minerals including coal once during a period of four years.

(d) After nationalisation the average pit-head prices of coal have been revised six times as under :

| Date of revision | Average pit-head price per tonne of coal produced by | |
|------------------|--|------------|
| | CIL | SCCL |
| 1-4-1974 | Rs. 47.59 | Rs. 50.50 |
| 1-7-1975 | Rs. 64.92 | Rs. 67.65 |
| 17-7-1979 | Rs. 101.18 | Rs. 99.92 |
| 14-2-1981 | Rs. 128.02 | Rs. 136.85 |
| 27-5-1982 | Rs. 145.90 | Rs. 154.75 |
| 8-1-1984 | Rs. 183.00 | Rs. 192.00 |

Production per man shift in Coal Mines

2961. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the production per man shift in our coal mines compared to other coal producing countries; and

(b) how it can be augmented in the existing conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The average production per man-shift during 1984-85 (upto December, 1984) in the coal mines of Coal India Ltd., and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., is as under :

CIL

0.81 Tons.

SCCL

0.68 Tons.

However, productivity in the coal industry in other advanced coal producing countries is higher than that of India.

Under the existing conditions, the productivity in India can be augmented in the following manner :

- (i) by mechanisation;
- (ii) by adopting advanced technology;
- (iii) by re-deployment of surplus labour;
- (iv) by having more open cast mining; and
- (v) by improving the working conditions in coal mines.

Review of the Working of Hindustan Diamond Corporation

2962. SHRI B. K. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Diamond Corporation has fulfilled the needs for which it was set up;

(b) whether there is any proposal to modify its pattern of working so that dependence on monopolistic supplier like Diamond Trading Corporation would lessen;

(c) whether almost all the sight holders of Diamond Trading Corporation are from Gujarat and have their business in diamonds at Bombay;

(d) whether Government propose to initiate any action to break the monopolistic hold of diamond trade both imports and exports;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if so, the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hindustan Diamond Company buys rough diamonds also from open market,

(c) to (f). Majority of the sight holders of Diamond Trading Company in diamond business at Bombay hail from Gujarat. There is freedom for entrepreneurs all over the country to deal in diamonds according to the Policy.

**Non-Purchase of Tobacco by STC at
Floor Prices Fixed by Union
Government**

2963. SHRI BEZHAWADA PAPI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has failed in their duty to come to the rescue of tobacco farmers by not offering to purchase the tobacco at floor prices fixed by the Union Government;

(b) whether the tobacco farmers are in distress and left at the mercy of exporters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) State Trading Corporation purchased tobacco in the past when there was distress in the market. With the introduction of auction system, Tobacco Board is itself purchasing tobacco at minimum support prices at auction floors if there are no bidders.

(b) The tobacco farmers are not at the mercy of exporters as the Tobacco Board is also intervening in the market for residual purchases to stabilise the market.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Closure of Krishna Textile Mills in
Byawar, Rajasthan**

2964. SHRI VISHHU MODI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Krishna Textile Mills in Byawar, Rajasthan has been closed since 1983;

(b) if so, whether Government have

received any representations in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The initiative for restarting Krishna Textile Mills, Byawar, lies mainly with the Government of Rajasthan who are seized of the matter.

[*English*]

**Representation from all India Foodgrains
Dealers Association, Delhi for abolition
of Sales Tax**

2965. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a letter dated 22nd January, 1985 addressed to the Prime Minister, from the Federation of All India Foodgrains Dealers' Association, Delhi regarding abolition of Sales Tax;

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

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). A letter dated 7th February, 1985 addressed to the Union Finance Minister enclosing therewith a copy of a letter dated 22nd January, 1985 addressed to the Prime Minister was received from the Federation of All India Foodgrains Dealers' Association, Delhi. In the copy of the letter dated 14th January, 1985 addressed to the Prime Minister enclosed with the aforementioned letter dated 22nd January, 1985, the Federation requested for the abolition of sales tax on foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds.

As sales tax is mainly a State subject of taxation, any reform in sales tax system can be undertaken only in consultation with and cooperation of the States. There is no proposal with the Government at present to abolish sales tax on foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds.

Help from Independent Consultancy Organisations to Save Industries Going Sick

2966. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the financial institutions are taking help from the independent consultancy organisations to save an industry from being declared sick;

(b) if so, the criteria for hiring the services of such organisations;

(c) whether the financial institutions are taking timely action before an industry is declared sick and closed; and

(d) whether the number of sick units are increasing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The financial institutions take the help of Consultancy Organisations, wherever considered necessary, for carrying out and or vetting of techno-economic viability/diagnostic studies of assisted sick units. The Consultants are usually drawn from a panel maintained by the institutions.

(c) In accordance with the policy of the Government, the financial institutions are expected to identify sickness in an industrial unit at the incipient stage itself, carry out viability studies and nurse such units as are considered potentially viable. For this purpose institutions have a system of continuous monitoring of the accounts of industrial units at various levels and stages.

(d) The number of sick units in the assistance portfolio of the all India financial institutions viz. Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India, Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation of India and Unit Trust of India has increased from 275 units as at the end of December, 1982 to 314 units as at the end of December, 1983.

Pending adjudication cases against Indian Tobacco Company

2967. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made by the Director General, Customs and Central Excise, in the matter of pending adjudication cases against Indian Tobacco Company;

(b) the reasons why these cases cannot be adjudicated by the concerned Collectors of Central Excise, who issued the original Show Cause Notice to the respective Indian Tobacco Company factory within their jurisdiction; and

(c) the special reasons which led to the decision of Government in entrusting the matter to the Director General for Centralised adjudication ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The case records are being scrutinised by the Director General Inspection and Audit, Customs and Central Excise.

(b) and (c). Generally the cases are adjudicated by the Collectors concerned. However, in cases where the manufacturer is having a factory manufacturing the same goods in different jurisdiction, the adjudication of cases may be entrusted with one authority with a view to have uniformity in approach. M/s. Indian Tobacco Company are having cigarette manufacturing units at five places in the country. The cases pertaining to determination of assessable value have been given to Director General of Inspection for adjudication with a view to have a uniform approach as these involve identical issue.

Manufacture and Imports of Synthetic and Regenerated Fibres

2968. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of synthetic and regenerated fibres manufactured in India and imported from abroad in 1982-83 and 1983-84;

(b) whether a study has been made to find out the effect of man-made fabrics on textile industry and Handloom sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and recommendation made, if any ?

TILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEX-

(b) and (c). Government is not aware of any specific study on this subject.

Statement

Statement showing Production and Imports of Synthetic and Regenerated Fibres during 1982-83 and 1983-84

(Qty. in tonnes)

(Value in Rs. lakhs)

| S.No. | Item | Production | | | | Imports (Provisional) | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------------|-------|---------|--------|-----------------------|-------|---------|---------|
| | | 1982-83 | | 1983-84 | | 1982-83 | | 1983-84 | |
| | | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value |
| 1. | Viscose Staple Fibre (*) | 49,285 | 8,058 | 82,783 | 13,917 | 64,851 | 9,693 | 35,702 | 5,540.0 |
| 2. | Acetate Staple Fibre | 2,041 | 808 | 1,625 | 588 | N.A. | N.A. | 297.12 | 115.21 |
| 3. | Polyester Staple Fibre | 26,095 | 2,645 | 27,393 | 10,417 | 6,513 | 978 | 9,987 | 1,251 |
| 4. | Polypropylene Fibre | 302 | 132 | 361 | 169 | — | — | — | — |
| 5. | Acrylic Fibre | 16,002 | 6,192 | 16,589 | 7,306 | 1,924 | 348 | 1,277 | 223 |

(*) The Import includes regular Viscose Fibre, Polynosic Fibre and HWM Fibre.

Seizure of Chinese Torches from Assam Mail

2969. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chinese torches were received from Assam Mail in Railway Parcel Office, New Delhi in June, 1984 and the same were confiscated by the Customs authorities on receiving the information;

(b) whether the name of consignee in the above receipts were assumed and bogus and their addresses were not available;

(c) whether there are reports to the effect that real owners were Railway and ex-railway employees who tried to change the goods;

(d) whether there are also reports that the same persons have been receiving smug-

gled goods under assumed names previously also; and

(e) the measures contemplated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Efforts made to find out the exact address of the consignee were not fruitful.

(c) to (e). A complaint regarding the involvement of a railway employee in this case was received in November, 1984. However, enquiries made did not indicate involvement of the railway employee.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : I have two points. I have written a letter to you regarding the rules to be framed under the . . .

MR. SPEAKER : We are doing it.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Something is happening in Kerala. . . **

MR. SPEAKER : These are moral questions. I cannot allow this to go on record.

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not make my position uncomfortable.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : That is not my intention. But fortunately or unfortunately, you have been given this authority under the legislation. . . **

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I have already done it. We are doing it very seriously. Rules are being framed. I am after them. Actually I have done it very very expeditiously.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Rules are very seriously violated.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : It is a question of violating the spirit of the legislation.

MR. SPEAKER : I will do my best to get them expedited. That is what I can do.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Secondly, I have given a notice for an adjournment motion. . .

MR. SPEAKER : That is not a question for adjournment. Not Allowed.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : That is not a very serious matter. Everywhere in the world I have seen exhibitions and I have seen great art treasures being taken from France to Germany and all that. They must be taken care of. There is no problem. You can come and discuss with me if you so like.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : There has been no agreement as yet between India and the United States. . . *(Interruptions)* I think, you cannot be a party to this.

MR. SPEAKER : No, I am not a party.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : They are taking out priceless treasures in the name of Festival of India.

MR. SPEAKER : They are not so ignorant of these facts.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Who are not so ignorant ?

MR. SPEAKER : Government.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : The House has every right to know. . .

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I do not agree with that. You can know them, but there is no question of disagreement. I will not allow a discussion on this. Not allowed. You can ask for a calling attention or 377 or whatever else you like. But it is not a subject for adjournment motion. I have not allowed it.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : What Mr. K. P. Unnikrishnan has stated** that is absolutely baseless. Nobody has been allowed to join the party. . .

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : That is not my concern; I am not concerned about it. It is not on the record. I am not going to enquire into the affairs of the Kerala Legislative Assembly. I am not going to allow any discussion on the Kerala Legislative Assembly or any action taken by it or by its hon. Members. So simple it is.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I am referring to something that has happened in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing has happened here. It is not on the record.

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : When there is nothing on the record, why should you go on ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : But something has happened in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : What is that ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : An hon. Member of this House, who was elected on the DMKP ticket, was persuaded to join the Janata Party. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know. I cannot do anything unless and until rules are framed. Law will take its own course.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mehboobnagar) : Yesterday, I raised the issue of two Governors in Punjab. . .

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing; no problem. Not allowed. It is irrelevant. There is only one Governor in Punjab and there is no second Governor. He might be on leave. Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Sir, democracy is under a very great strain...

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : No, democracy is never under strain. . .

*(Interruptions)***

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Democracy itself is not a State subject...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. This is a State subject. Unnecessarily why do you inject these things? . . .

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Look here, Mr. Kabuli. If you have got any decorum, if you have got any rule, you must understand that law and order is a State subject. I cannot allow a discussion here. Otherwise, there will be a free fight here. . .

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed gentlemen anything. They are irrelevant.

[Translation]

You are adamant. It is not proper.

*(Interruptions)***

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Not a single word will go on record.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the epidemic of meningitis is spreading throughout the country and we are importing vaccines only against A and C bacteria. . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You give in writing and then I shall see.

[English]

I can find out. You can give it to me in writing.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : For that reason, Sir, I have given Calling Attention notice under Rule 197.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. Why should you raise it here. You could come and tell me.

12.07 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 and Regional Rural Bank Act, 1976, etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Non-Resident (External) Accounts (Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G S R 254 in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 1985 under sub-section (3) of section 79 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973. *[Placed in Library. See No. LT-695/85]*
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the notification mentioned at (i) above.
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 29 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976:
 - (i) The Sahdol Kashetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984, published in Notification No. SO 2047 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.

- (ii) The Saryu/Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2048 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (iii) The Mizoram Rural Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2049 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (iv) The Akola Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2050 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (v) The Ratlam Mandasaur Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meeting of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2051 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (vi) The Ratnagiri Sindhudurg Gramin Bank (Meeting of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2052 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (vii) The Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984, published in Notification No. SO 2053 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (viii) The Jamuna Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2054 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (ix) The Surendra Nagar-Bhavnagar Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2055 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (x) The Solapur Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2056 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xi) The Bhandara Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2057 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xii) The Chambal Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2058 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xiii) The Valsad Dang Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2059 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xiv) The Surat-Branch Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2060 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xv) The Bundi-Chitorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2061 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xvi) The Bhilwara-Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2062 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xvii) The Dungarpur-Banswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2063 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xviii) The Ganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2064 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- (xix) The Mahakaushal Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. SO 2065 in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1984.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-696/85]
3. A copy of the Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Posts and Telegraphs) for the year 1983-84 (Hindi and English versions).
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-697/85]
- (4) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983-84—Union Government (Posts and Telegraphs) under article 151(1) of the Constitution.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-698/85]

Notifications under Coffee Act, 1942 and Cardamom Act, 1965 Review on the working of and Annual Report of British India Corporation Ltd., Kanpur for 1983-84 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy of the Coffee (Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 256 in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 1985, under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Coffee Act, 1942. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-699/85].

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 33 of the Cardamom Act, 1965 :

- (i) The Cardamom (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 2873 in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1984.
- (ii) The Cardamom (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 2874 in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1984.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-700/85]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) Annual Report of the British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-701/85].

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1981 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1982 along with Audited Accounts.

- (iii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1983 along with Audited Accounts.

- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the years 1981, 1982 and 1983.

- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-702/85].

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report, (Hindi and English versions) of the Leather Export Promotion Council Madras, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Leather Export Promotion Council, Madras, for the year 1983-84.

- (7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-703/85].

- (8) A copy of the corrigendum (Hindi and English versions) to the Audited Accounts of the Tea Board for the year 1982-83. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-704/85].

Review on the Working of and Annual Report of National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd., Lucknow for the period from 22-2-83 to 30th June, 1984

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the National Handloom Development Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the period from 22nd February, 1983 to 30th June, 1984.

(2) Annual Report of the National Handloom Development Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the period from 22nd February, 1983 to 30th June, 1984 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

12.09 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the following twelve Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 14th March, 1985 :

1. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1985.
2. The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1985.
3. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 1985.
4. The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 1985.
5. The Punjab Appropriation (Note on Account) Bill, 1985.
6. The Punjab Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1985.
7. The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 1985.
8. The Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Bill, 1985.
9. The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Bill, 1985.
10. The Compulsory Deposit Scheme (Income-tax) Payers Amendment Bill, 1985.
11. The Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Amendment Bill, 1985.
12. The Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Amendment Bill, 1985.

12.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : EXPORT-EXPORT POLICY FOR 1985-88

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Sir, I am happy to place on the Table of the House the Import and Export Policy for 1985-88.

2. The objective of the Government is to provide a stable regime of economic policies, which would minimise year to year uncertainties and thus help industry to plan their economic activities in a longer term perspective. In pursuit of this objective, the Import and Export Policy is being announced for a period of three years.

3. The major objectives of the policy are :

- (i) to impart continuity and stability in Import-Export Policy;
- (ii) to facilitate increased production through easier and quicker access to inputs that need to be imported;
- (iii) to strengthen the base for export production and strive for a major thrust in exports;
- (iv) to make all possible savings in imports, to support indigenous production, and to promote efficient import substitution;
- (v) to facilitate technological upgradation and modernisation in production; and
- (vi) to reduce licencing, to streamline procedures and to de-centralise decision-making, which should reduce costs in terms of time and resources.

4. The broad structure of the Import and Export Policy, which has evolved in recent years, has been maintained in the new policy. In order to save the valuable time of the House. I would highlight only some of the import features.

5. This policy attempts to provide easier and quicker access to inputs that need to be imported. For this purpose, the area of specific licencing has been sought to be

reduced by abolition of the category of automatic licensing. The reduction in licensing would save both time and resources, which should eliminate avoidable delays and particularly benefit the small scale sector.

6. The list of items, imports of which were canalised, has been reviewed, to bring it in conformity with the basic objectives of canalisation namely purchases in bulk and thereby securing better terms of trade, development of long term sources of supply etc., which are undoubtedly sound and in the overall national interest. Consequently, imports of 53 items which did not meet the criteria have been decanalised. The procedure for supply of imported inputs to actual users by the canalising agencies has also been streamlined, so that avoidable delays are eliminated.

7. A new scheme known as the Import Export Pass Book Scheme has been introduced for manufacturer exporters to provide duty free access to imported inputs for export production. This scheme which is wider in its scope and more flexible in its operation than the present advance licensing scheme shall come into effect from 1st October, 1985. This would also eliminate possible delays in getting licences under duty exemption scheme every time an export order has to be executed.

8. For meeting the requirement of machinery for modernisation of export production, 201 items of industrial machinery have been included in the list of Capital Goods allowed for import under Open General Licence. The major sectors to benefit from this liberalisation are automobiles, leather, electronics, jute manufacturers, garment/hoisery/made-up, pen manufacturing, oil field services, etc.

9. The value limit per unit to cover foreign exchange requirements for import of balancing equipment having impact on quality and/or quantity of output, acquisition of technical know-how, foreign consultancy service etc. under Technical Development Fund has been enhanced from US \$ 5 lakhs to US dollar equivalent of Rs. 100 lakhs.

10. Trading Houses, and Export Houses with prescribed minimum level of exports have been allowed to import technical designs, drawings and other documentation required for their supporting manufacturers to the

extent of Rs. 25 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs respectively against their own REP/Additional licences.

11. The concept of eligibility for additional licences based on the net realisation of foreign exchange, which was first introduced in the last year's policy, has been extended to the growth rate prescribed for the renewal of Export/Trading House Certificate. This provision shall particularly benefit those Export/Trading Houses which are diversifying and progressively exporting products with higher net foreign exchange earnings.

12. Flexibility for utilisation of REP licences by manufacturer-exporters has been enlarged.

13. Import policy for computer systems has been liberalised. Imports of computer systems costing less than Rs. 10 lakhs (c.i.f.) has been allowed under Open General Licence by all persons for their own use. In this case higher Customs duty is leviable. Otherwise, if the importer takes prior clearance of the Department of Electronics lower rate of Customs duty would apply.

14. The scope of computer software export scheme has been extended to cover satellite communication also.

15. To provide protection to the indigenous industry, 67 items of raw-materials, components etc. from Open General Licence and Automatic Permissible List have been shifted to Limited Permissible List; 7 items from the Limited Permissible List have been shifted to the Restricted List; 20 items from the Canalised List have been shifted to the Limited Permissible List and 16 items to the Restricted List. Similarly, 4 items of Capital Goods have been taken out from the list of Capital Goods on Open General Licence.

16. In keeping with the objective of quicker decision-making through decentralisation, larger powers have been delegated at various levels both for import of capital goods and for import of raw materials, components etc.

17. There can be little doubt that if we have to reconcile a manageable balance of payments situation with a tolerable debt profile, we have to manage our balance of

trade situation through rational export promotion and efficient import substitution. Towards this objective, the framework of trade policies set out in this document seeks to strike a balance between export promotion on the one hand and import substitution on the other. It needs to be stressed, however, that any significant improvement in the foreign trade situation cannot take place in isolation from the improvement in the overall economic situation. We must, therefore, strive to improve the performance of the economy as a whole. The new Import-Export Policy is a step in that direction.

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Shillong) : This should be circulated to Members.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, I suggest that on a very important policy statement like this, let there be discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : You can give notice for it, there is no problem.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, the Minister just now announced a very important policy decision.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can give notice, we can discuss.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : Sir, this should be subjected to discussion. That is the request I am making.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I am saying. You are free to give notice for a discussion on this very subject.

12.16 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : DECISION TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR REVIEW OF INDUSTRIAL DEARNESS ALLOWANCE FORMULA FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CENTRAL PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Mr. Speaker Sir Government of India set up a Tripartite

Committee in May, 1983 under the Chairmanship of the Labour Minister, consisting of representatives of the Government of India, Central Trade Union Organisations and Public Enterprises, to review the existing Industrial Dearness Allowance Formula for employees of the Central Public Enterprises. The Government, after receiving the Committee's Report, had further consultations with the representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations and has taken the following decisions :

(i) The existing Industrial Dearness Allowance rate would be raised from Rs. 1.30 per point Shift in AICPI (Simla Series, 1960-100) to Rs. 1.65 per point Shift. This will be effective from 1st April, 1983 and will apply to all increases in AICPI beyond 492 points.

(ii) The revised rate would be payable from the current period *i.e.* from the 1st April, 1985. The arrears for the period from 1st April, 1983 to 31st March, 1985 would be calculated and one half of it would also be disbursed in cash. The other half would be retained with the Public Enterprises concerned and would be disbursed after one year along with interest at the rate of 25% per annum.

(iii) The frequency of revision of the Dearness Allowance would continue to be quarterly.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : The representatives of the AICPI—that gives a wrong impression.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : Some of the undertakings are paying more than this. So, will it be reduced? (Interruptions). Sir, some of the undertakings are paying more than what you have declared.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : This is by consensus that we have agreed to with the trade union leaders. We had a discussion with them and we had agreed to it.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Some of the undertakings are paying more than what you allow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : The union leaders are happier than you are.

(Interruptions)

12.18 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

[English]

(i) Tea Board

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (f) of Section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953, read with rule 4 (1) (b) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That in pursuance of sub-section (3)(f) of Section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953, read with rule 4(1)(b) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder.”

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Cardamom Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That in pursuance of sub-section (3)(c) of Section 4 of the Cardamom Act, 1965, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the

Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Cardamom Board subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That in pursuance of sub-section (3)(c) of Section 4 of the Cardamom Act, 1965, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Cardamom Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

The motion was adopted.

(iii) Central Silk Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That in pursuance of sub-section 3 (c) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That in pursuance of sub-section 3 (c) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

The motion was adopted.

(iv) Marine Products Export Development Authority

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : I beg to move :

“That in pursuance of sub-section 3(c) of section 4 of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such

manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That in pursuance of sub-section 3(c) of section 4 of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. G. Vijaya Rama Rao—not present. Shri Venkatesh—not present.

(i) Need to establish electronic Industries at Jabalpur or Kanti in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the electronic revolution is on its way in India. The wave will be triggered by the growth of telecommunication and micro-computer industry. The Government must indentify places all over the country to establish electronic technology parks.

12.21 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair.*]

So far electronic industry is concentrated in a very few cities like Bangalore, Hyderabad, Delhi and Bombay. There is a strong need to spread this base further, especially in Central India.

The essential requirements for an electronic industry.

- (a) Moderate climate.
- (b) Local availability of skilled and professional manpower.
- (c) Steady and stable power supply.
- (d) Good transport and communication link.

The city of Jabalpur not only fulfills the above conditions but has all the other industrial infrastructure requirements. In the immediate neighbourhood are also rural areas for whose development electronic industry can play an important role.

There is a very strong case for the Government to establish one such electronic industry park in Jabalpur or Katni. This central town can have an indentified area for setting up telecommunication and micro-computer industry. In telecommunication, the Government should set up the factory of manufacturing under public sector :

- (a) Electronic SPC-telex equipment, collaboration for which is proposed to be with Siemens.
- (b) The third SPC electronic exchange equipment processed in 8th Telecommunication plan. In computer field, any future collaboration between multi-national and Indian companies resulting in a manufacturing unit being established should find a place in Jabalpur electronic industry park.

The public sector telecommunication and computer industry would form the nucleus for a grant electronic industry park in Jabalpur which can develop into an amalgam of combined public and private endeavour.

[Translation]

(ii) Demand for taking over the Bhakra Control Board by the Centre

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a large part of my constituency, Ganganagar, falling under the Bhakra area, gets water from Sirhand Feeder. Sirhand Feeder is under the control of the Punjab Government. The Punjab Government, after meeting the requirements of water of their own canals, supply surplus water to the canals of the Bhakra area of Rajasthan State. Consequently there is a sharp increase or decrease in the supply of water to these canals, which causes a good deal of loss to the farmers of the area. When the Punjab Government do not need water, they release water in abundant quantity but when Punjab is in need of water, the farmers of the Bhakra area have to go

without water, with the result the entire crops of the farmers wither away every year.

Therefore, I urge the Government to take over Bhakra Control Board so that adequate water could be provided to the farmers of Ganganagar falling under Bhakra area.

(iii) Need to declare 14th April a holiday in memory of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in deference to the wishes of the people of India, particularly the intellectuals, the depressed, the exploited, the poor and the have-nots, the Government should declare 14th April a public holiday in commemoration of the death anniversary of the revered Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the founding father of the Constitution. His biographical sketch and outstanding work done by him should be included in the text-books so as to enlighten the people about the constructive work done by him with selfless dedication and notable contribution made by him for the crores of people belonging to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and the backward classes. By taking this step, the prevailing discontent among the people can be removed and the sentiments of the countrymen will be respected.

(iv) Growing unemployment in the country

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Maharajgang) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the unemployment problem is very acute in our country. According to the statistics, the number of unemployment in the country have gone up to nearly 5 crores at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan. The number of educated unemployed out of them is about 45 lakhs. Not only this, the number of unemployed doctors and engineers is increasing day by day. The number of unemployed doctors is about 20,000 and that of engineers is about 25,000. The major sufferers on account of unemployment are the youth.

Our education is also responsible to a great extent for this situation. The young people do not find themselves fit for any job even after acquiring high degrees. The education should be made job oriented. The increasing population is putting pressure

on land. As such, the number of people living below the poverty line is increasing continuously.

There is need to make radical changes in the process of development. We shall have to increase the growth rate. The unemployment problem has to be tackled on war-footing. Besides giving encouragement to the small and cottage industries, the industries in the public sector would have to be expanded and made viable. The increase in output on the energy front will be greatly helpful in accelerating the growth rate. If this problem is not solved immediately, it may assume serious proportions. It is high time that immediate and long-term measures are taken to tackle the unemployment problem.

The hon. Labour Minister is requested to make a statement in this respect.

[English]

(v) Financial assistance and other relief to the drought affected people of J and K State

SHRI G. L. DOGRA (Udhampur) : The people in Jammu province of J and K State have suffered a great loss due to drought conditions in those areas. People have no foodgrains and there is not enough fodder for the cattle also. It is requested that the Central Government should give liberal assistance and also give relief to the people of those areas.

(vi) Disputes over the rival tenancy claims between the farmers of Ballia (U. P.) and Bhojpur (Bihar)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government of India to the long standing boundary dispute between U.P. and Bihar. The concerned districts of the respective States involved in the dispute are Ballia and Bhojpur. Following strenuous efforts of the local representatives, the Central Government appointed a Commission under an Act of Parliament and the Commission gave its award for a detailed demarcation of the boundaries and settlement of the tenancy claims of the farmers concerned. The dispute arises mainly due to constant shift in the course of the Ganges which forms the natural boundary between the two States.

In the guidelines laid by the Commission, adequate provisions have been made for adjustment of the rival claims of the farmers affected by the shift in the course of the river.

Unfortunately, sincere efforts have not been made by the States authorities for the settlement of the rival tenancy claims resulting in interminable private litigation and more often than not use of unrestrained violence.

Farmers of Bhojpur in Bihar are the worst victims as their tenancy rights are not being recognised whereas their counterparts in U.P. have been duly accorded the tenancy rights by the Government of Bihar.

As the harvesting of the rabi crops is approaching, the entire area is tense and seething with discontent.

I once again urge the Central Government to intervene in the matter and provide a lasting solution to this vexed problem.

(vii) **Air Pollution in Visakhapatnam (A.P.)**

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam): Sir, It is shocking to know that even after the Bhopal disaster, the industrialists are still playing with the lives of people by not taking all the necessary steps to control the emission of smoke, dust, toxic fumes and poisonous gases of specified by the Air Pollution Control Authorities under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

As a consequence of violation of pollution control by the private and public sector industries in Visakhapatnam, thousands of people are exposed to serious health hazards. For instance, in the early hours of 2-2-1985, thousands of people in the industrial neighbourhood experienced serious air pollution demaging effects including serious pain the throat, cough, breathing difficulties, pungent smell, watering of the eyes and irritation in the lungs. The fumes were so dense that for about an hour one could not even see a person at a metre's distance. Some people have fled to safe places towards the North of the port area that harbours highly polluting major industries like Hindustan Zinc, Coro-

mandal Fertilisers, Hindustan Petroleum Refinery and a few medium industries like steel mills.

Among the pollutants discharged into the air are, sulphur dioxide toxic metallic dusts, smoke, fumes and gases that contain harmful substances including the Benzopyrines that cause cancer.

In view of the above facts, I would like to make the following suggestions :—

- (i) Necessary air pollution control equipment may be installed in the industries at Visakhapatnam.
- (ii) The industries may be directed to instal necessary meteorological instruments to gather daily weather data for forecasting atmospheric inversions and to cut down some of their operations during critical hours as they do in Japan and USA for protecting the public health.
- (iii) An emergency response system be developed to avoid repetition of industrial accidents of the Bhopal type.
- (iv) A special Commission may be set up to plan and implement this system as in U. K., Canada and Netherlands with representatives of the Navy, State Pollution Control Board Industries concerned and the local university.

[Translation]

(viii) **Need to conduct elections to local bodies on schedule.**

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : The roots of democracy have gone deep and become strong in our country. The people of India have accepted it. They have, from time to time, given proof of their discretion, knowledge and wisdom in this regard. But it is a matter of regret that even today the democratic bodies in our country, which are the foundation-stones of democracy, are being administered not by the representatives of the people but by the bureaucrats. In many States, the elections of Panchayats, Munciple Committees and City Councils are not held for years together and the fate of the people is entrusted to the bureaucrats. The consequences of all this have to be

borne by the people as they are deprived of their fundamental rights. The funds realised through imposition of taxes by these democratic bodies are not utilised for the benefit of the people or for solving their basic problems or for providing facilities to them. It is an ironical situation. It is just playing with the rights of the people. I, therefore, urge the Central Government that it should enact a law which should provide for elections to these bodies on schedule just as elections to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are held on time. These should not be left in the hands of bureaucrats. If necessary, this provision should be incorporated in the Constitution itself. People will heartily welcome it.

12.34 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(GENERAL), 1985-86

[English]

Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we will take up Item No. 11. Already we have taken 5 hours 53 minutes. Only 7 minutes are left. Within these 7 minutes, two Members can speak. They can put forth their points. The hon. Minister will reply. Many Members already participated. Therefore, I request the Members to make their points by taking two or three minutes each and not more than that.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal. I would like to give two or three suggestions. Firstly, all the mines exist in hilly areas which are inhabited by the Adivasis. When the mines are taken over by the Government, these Adivasis are uprooted. Before take-over, they earn their livelihood through cultivation on small scale or by doing labour, but after the take-over of the mines, buildings are constructed in those areas, mines start functioning, dust starts spreading in the atmosphere and they become jobless. I request the hon. Minister, through you, that he should arrange for the education of the

Adivasis' children and arrange employment for the Adivasis so that the contract system is abolished completely. You should ensure regular employment to their families.

Secondly, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa are very backward States and all these mines are located in the areas which are inhabited by the adivasis. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the Railways allot 30,000 wagons to Madhya Pradesh but it gets only 15,000 wagons, whereas the State requires one lakh wagons for the transportation of coal. In the absence of wagons, the coal is moved by road transport but if you see the condition of the roads there, you will find that they cannot be used even by men, bullock carts or cycles. The Madhya Pradesh Government have asked for Rs. 200 crores for improving the condition of the roads. I would request Shri Sathe to allocate Rs. 200 crores for the construction of roads in Madhya Pradesh so that at least coal could be transported properly.

So far as mining is concerned, whether it is dolomite mining or super phosphate mining, you should fix minimum wages for the miners, just as minimum wages have been fixed for agricultural workers, and also ensure their payment.

I would like to say something about steel also. So far as steel production in our country is concerned, if you compare it with the figures of South Korea's production, you will find that even five mills of ours put together do not produce as much as is produced by one mill of South Korea. I would request that along with new technology, you should ensure utilisation of our manpower also.

I may also submit that Coal India had promised to open coal stock-yards at 12 places in Madhya Pradesh, but till today no action has been taken in this regard. In Madhya Pradesh, small scale industries are run in districts and it is necessary that Coal India's decision to open coal stock-yards at 12 places should be implemented at an early date. With these words, I thank you and support these Demands.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, by keeping the three Departments of Steel, Mines and Coal under one Ministry, the

intention of the Hon. Prime Minister is to see that the production capacity increases and the programmes are implemented smoothly. I welcome this move. It has been shown in the Budget that as compared to 1983-84, the profits in 1984-85 have increased and the production capacity has also increased. I come from Bihar. At Dhanbad, mines are being operated illegally and mafia gangs are active there. I would submit to Shri Sathe that if he succeeds in curbing the activities of these gangs, coal production will definitely increase in the coming years. But the situation today is that the Government are unable to curb the activities of mafia gangs in Bihar. You issue orders to them to implement programmes but no action is taken thereon. Big people are involved in it. I am sure unless you take interest in it, mafia gangs cannot be curbed. Due to paucity of time, I would submit two or three points to the hon. Minister, through you.

So far as Bihar is concerned, 50 per cent of the total production of iron and steel is produced in Bihar. Then how is it that the controlling office has been set up in Calcutta instead of Bihar? I urge the Government to shift its controlling office to Bihar. Why do Government not take necessary steps to meet the shortage of power and coal for the production of iron and steel so that this industry may become a profit-earning industry and, simultaneously, the corruption prevalent in the industry may also be brought to an end.

More than 50 per cent coal and other minerals are produced in Bihar but its Head Office has been located outside Bihar. I would request that the same may be located in Bihar. Illegal mining of coal should be checked and mafia gangs liquidated. Wagons may be made available in adequate number for the transportation of coal and the corrupt officers should be dealt with sternly.

I want to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that the industrialists, after obtaining coal permits for their companies, sell those permits at Raniganj itself. In our area, there is a silica company at Rajmahal which was issued a permit for 500 tonnes but that coal permit was sold at Raniganj itself. You should make arrangements to curb the practice of selling coal permits in black market by industrialists, who obtain them illegally,

The coal mine workers have to work in appalling condition and their wages are also very meagre. Large scale corruption in the matter of employment prevails there. The Head Office of Hindustan Copper is in Calcutta whereas mines are in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. You should look into this aspect also.

All the companies of Coal India are incurring losses. Why is it so? This shows that there is large scale corruption in our public sector. We should find new sources of minerals because the present mineral deposits of India will be exhausted in a few years time. In our country, about Rs. 700 crore worth of coal is accumulated at the pitheads of coal mines whereas the country is facing shortage of coal. Therefore, immediate arrangements should be made to transport coal from the mines and distribute the same in the country.

The bungling in the allotment of stainless steel sheets should be checked. All the units of the Steel Authority of India are incurring losses. Government should find the reasons for that. Despite huge investment in the coal sector, unemployment opportunities are decreasing instead of increasing. In Bihar, a system of issuing slips is in vogue for taking out coal, which is the main source of corruption. This system should, therefore, be dispensed with. Cases of large scale pilferage in coal mines should be investigated. There is need to bring basic improvement in coal and steel production, their transport and distribution system and administrative management. The presence of criminal elements in coal mines should be checked immediately. The wasteful expenditure in mines and factories in the public sector should be controlled and production increased.

With these words, I support the Demands of the Ministry of Coal, Mines and Steel.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 20 years back, the youths of Andhra Pradesh had agitated for the setting up of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and many persons had died during that agitation. Subsequently, the Central Government agreed to set up a steel plant at Visakhapatnam but gave half share of the Project to Madras and half to

Andhra Pradesh. Agreement to this effect was concluded in 1970. Now it is 1985, which means a period of 15 years has elapsed since then. At that time, an expenditure of Rs. 2500 crores was estimated to be spent on the Project which was later on increased to Rs. 3000 crores and now this estimate has reached up to Rs. 8000 crores. Out of this Rs. 8000 crores estimate, Rs. 1300 crores have so far been spent and a provision of Rs. 215 crores only has been made for this year. With the present speed and allocation of funds, it will take 35 years to complete the Project. This shows the attitude of the Central Government towards the people of Andhra Pradesh.

You may be knowing that 20,000 acres of land was acquired from the farmers for this plant. 15 years have passed and they have so far not been paid compensation for their land. Whatever small amount has been given, has been given at the rate of Rs. 1250 per acre which is quite inadequate keeping in view the market price of the land. At the time of the acquisition of land, the farmers were promised that after the commissioning of the plant, local people would be offered some vocation or jobs. But I am sorry to say that nothing has been done. All the big officers bring men from their own villages for cooking, cleaning and other daily chores and local people are not taken on these jobs. The people of the State are very much perturbed over such an attitude towards those people. The State Government and the Members have made repeated requests that maximum funds should be provided to complete this project, but the Government are not paying any attention towards this. We would have to give a serious thought towards this attitude of the Central Government. You sanctioned one factory and that too after such a prolonged agitation, which claimed several lives; what purpose would it serve if it is completed in 35 years? All the Members of Parliament, who are present here, would not perhaps be able to see this factory in their life-time. I do not see this possibility of this factory starting production even during the third generation of the persons who sacrificed their lives during the agitation.

All the steel plants under the control of the Steel Authority of India are running at a loss. Japan is prepared to sell steel at a price of Rs. 4000 per tonne, which is produced by Japan with the iron ore imported

from India. Though coal and all other raw materials are very cheap, yet the price of steel in India is Rs. 8000 per tonne. May I know the reason why Japan is prepared to sell at half the price the finished product which is produced with the help of iron ore imported from India? It has to be given a serious thought to as to why our finished product is costly.

With such costly steel, a person living in a city cannot build even a bathroom, what to speak of a person living in a village. There is the Singareni colliery in my area. Our Government of Andhra Pradesh have written to the Centre to provide more funds so as to start work in more mines, but nothing has been done in this regard.

I would like to say one more thing. Industries should be set up at a place where raw material is available. But what is happening in actual practice is that Coal is transported from Andhra Pradesh and is used for generating electricity at other places. It is not proper. Cement factory should be established at a place where cement containing stone and coal are available. People are running from pillar to post for getting licence to set up cement factories, but they are not able to get it. I would, therefore, request the Government that licences should be given for places where raw material is available and industries should be set up at places where coal is available. Coal is available at a depth of 10 feet at Bhopalpalli in District Warangal. A unit of N. T. P. C. could be established there and a thermal power project could be set up there.

Huge coal deposits are available in Godavari basin, but the Central Government are not prepared to utilise that black gold. Black gold deposits should be exploited and utilised. Many cement factories and thermal power projects could be established there, but the Central Government are meting out a step-motherly treatment towards the Andhra Pradesh Government. An annual loan of Rs. 80 crores is being given for Singrauli collieries. At the expense of local industries, coal is being supplied to you. I would like to submit to you that more projects could be established there if additional funds are provided. According to technical reports, coal deposits are likely to last for a 100 years there. I would, therefore,

request the Central Government that more funds should be provided for the Singrauli collieries which are very old collieries in Andhra Pradesh and new mines should be drilled and coal deposits there exploited. There is no scope for white-collar jobs there, but unskilled labour could be provided with employment in Singrauli collieries. I would, therefore, request that more mines should be operated at Bhopalpalli, Pada-puram and Chilpur, as coal is available there at a depth of 10 feet only. The mines are not being operated due to shortage of funds. I would request the Central Government that this work should be undertaken by providing more funds for purpose.

I would also like to bring one more thing to your notice.- The poor people engaged in brick kilns have to pay royalty for the same. I would like to submit that this royalty should be abolished.

I would also like to add that black and red granite of Andhra Pradesh is being exported to Japan and other countries. These countries process it and export it back to India and other countries. These countries are earning crores of rupees in this way. I would request the Central Government that this granite should be processed at the place where it is found and thereafter it should be exported to other countries. You can earn crores of rupees thereby.

I would also like to say that clay is available in reserved forests. If someone wants to set up any industry in an area of 5 acres or 2 acres of land, permission of the Central Government has to be obtained for taking the land on lease as the land falls under the reserved forests. Valuable minerals are available in the reserved forests. In my view, permission of the Central Government should not be required for this purpose and it is not good to depend on the Central Government in this regard. Permission is not given for obtaining clay on lease or for setting up of industries on a piece of land falling in reserved forests. The Central Government should authorise the State Government to grant permission in this regard so that small industries could be set up there. In the end, I would like to express my thanks for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first, I would like to thank all the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on the Demands for Grants of my Ministry. They have made very valuable contributions and I am really thankful to them. At the outset, I would like to deal with the general problems.

Sir, my Ministry deals with most of the items that are underground. (*Interruptions*) Those who are used to underground would probably appreciate it and our job is to expose and bring it on the surface and use it for the good of the people. This country is endowed with rich mineral resources. There is hardly any mineral that is not found in our country. The exploration with modern technology and other means is being done to find more and more useful minerals with which we can become self-sufficient. But the most important mineral that we have is coal. I am not going to touch petroleum because that does not come under my Ministry, although we have discovered very rich deposit of this product in off-shore and on-shore. But as far as the minerals with which I am to deal with are concerned, coal is one of the most important energy minerals. Then, iron ore, bauxite, manganese, zinc and copper are some of the various minerals which we have discovered in good quantity in our country. The need is to use these minerals in a coordinated manner, to improve the economy and the quality of life of our people. India is the Eighth country in the world in energy resources. We have very rich deposits of what is known as power energy. Although coking coal required for steel is not available in enough quantity, yet the non-coking coal deposits are very much. It means that this quality of coal can be produced in adequate quantity for thermal power and power is one of the biggest needs of the country. Without power we can neither increase the agricultural production nor increase the industrial production. So, power today has got top priority. Now, from where can we produce power? We are thinking of renewable resource as well as non-renewable resources like coal which can be exhausted.

13.00 hrs.

Hydel resources are there, coal resources

are there; we are also using nuclear energy resources. We are making great efforts to see how we can have enough R and D effort to use solar energy. If that succeeds, it will revolutionise; but till then, at least in the foreseeable future, one of the best resources for producing power is coal. And power quality coal is available in plenty in this country. The idea is that we must produce more coal to generate more power, that means have power plants. Hon. Members while speaking have demanded more Super Thermal Power Plants which can be best located at the pitheads. If we locate these plants at the pitheads and produce adequate power, two things will happen. It is easier to transport power than to transport coal. Every now and then, one problem that is raised and that comes is transportation of coal. It is no use blaming the railways. After all, they have also the limitation of railway lines. To what should priority be given? Demands are made to start more trains. Engines get blocked. On the same line either you can move passenger trains or you can move goods train. How can you block the lines all the time by moving coal at long distances to places in northern India, U. P., Punjab, Haryana and right upto Gujarat, because coal belts are located in eastern sector, Madhya Pradesh and Central sector and going down upto the seams of Singrauli. Therefore, the concept now is to move power, produce power where coal is available. And, as I said, power grade coal is available in plenty.

I have had the privilege of speaking earlier on fertilisers and the main grievance of fertilizer industry was shortage of power. I had spoken on steel, and one of the main constraints in respect of production of steel is power. You talk of any industry, cement, aluminium, or any other industry, it is the same story. For aluminium, the main input is power and it is called power guzzler. For all these industries, unless we have power, we will not be able to work these units effectively and profitably. Therefore, there is one general concept. I am making this general remark about our policy and it is to have dedicated power plants. There is a concept of captive power plants, but that is restricted only to the industry and it cannot be very big, about 50 or 60 MW only. What we are thinking is to have dedicated power plants of 250 MW for the complex of indus-

tries in a particular area. All those industries which need power need not have to depend on the State grid. I am not blaming the States. I have been repeatedly stating here and giving examples, that whether it is Karnataka, Orissa or any other State, they are all eager to have big projects for fertilizers, steel or cement. Who does not want? At the time they also assure power; they are willing, they are sincere. When it actually comes, they have other priorities also. The pressure from agriculture is so great that you cannot take away power from agriculture and give it to these projects. As a result, because of the priority, States are not in a position to give power to these big projects. We are, therefore, very seriously considering and if the House also approves of the idea, we should have dedicated power plants for these major national projects. I think then we will be able to have these plants like Vijayanagaram Plant or the Plant in Orissa and all these things.

We are also very keen, as far as steel is concerned. As I said, India produces one of the best iron ores in the world with very good Fe content. But see the tragedy. We have huge iron ore deposits of best quality, we have the best manpower, technical as well as non-technical and cheaper compared to other countries, and yet we have to export iron ore. Example of Japan was given. It began more or less on the same level in 1945 as we. It has reached over 100 million tonnes, that too, importing everything, limestone, iron ore, coking coal, etc. and yet it is producing so much. Why? Why can India do it? India had kept a target, as was pointed out yesterday by our friend Shri Anil Datta, of 75 million tonnes by the end of this century. It was a modest target and we are not likely to reach even that. Why? This question has to be put to ourselves. Sharing these feelings with you and with the House, I feel that we can and we should do it. How can you industrialise a country? What is the meaning of industrialisation? Industrialisation of a nation means that the whole people, 70 crores of people of this country, must be provided with the wherewithal, with equipment to produce goods in their own habitat and not be forced to migrate from the rural areas to urban metropolitan cities like Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi, Madras or elsewhere and virtually choke the cities. Some day Sir, these cities,

like ships will get so much overloaded that with the very weight of population, they will sink. These small islands we are creating, it is very dangerous.

Therefore, for a balanced growth of the entire population, it is necessary to take industries to the rural areas, and provide productive employment. That is the objective of the Seventh Five Year Plan which we have kept. Productivity, work and food. If we have to do this, as I said, we must be able to provide the inputs. Industry today means metal. Without steel, even agriculture cannot work. If you have to convert the wooden ploughs into iron ploughs in this whole country, you may need about two million tonnes of steel. Think of other industries that you want to start. Tools, equipment, small machines, motors, any item that you can think of, you need steel or aluminium or copper or some metal. Therefore, we must produce more steel. How can we do it? It needs priority in resources. Now, I know that Planning Commission has other priorities. After all we all have to think together. There is no such thing as sectoral thinking. Where can we get the money? Resources also can be generated only from production. Unless we have production, where can the surplus come from? So, I have been wondering whether, in the sphere of coal, of steel and of minerals we can have a growth culture. How can growth culture come about? We must go in for the best technology. It is a misconception to think that modern technology means less manpower. No; on the contrary, if you use the best technology and produce steel, the basic material cheaper, the industries downstream grow, and that provides employment. The real employment comes through, not in the coal mine, and not in the steel factory.

When hon. Members were giving examples about Japan and Korea, compared to the manpower, say in Durgapur, Rourkela or elsewhere else, a comparison between the employment or the number of people that we have, and the employment for the same tonnage that they have in those countries would be worth making.

Japan's example was given, and I was asking the other day for some figures, *i.e.* about how much investment was done in Japan. I was surprised to see that from 1978 to 1982, the investment in steel in Japan has been Rs. 4,000 crores. In SAIL, it has

been Rs. 270 crores. We can not say: 'You invest less and produce more.' So, we have to see that the total investment in SAIL upto now, right from its inception is only Rs. 6,000 crores.

An hon. Member was just now asking about the Visakhapatnam plant. I want to assure him of one thing: irrespective of whether Vizag is in Andhra, Karnataka, Orissa or elsewhere, it is in India. We need to produce steel. We are committed, we are keen; and, therefore, I want to assure the House that we are committed to complete the Visakhapatnam plant. We will try to find necessary resources.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY (Adilabad):
By what time?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: As early as we can. I will tell you why.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY: To-day's newspapers say: 'By the turn of the century.'

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In your life time. I can assure you that much. That means you have to live long, naturally; and I am wishing you long life also.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY: What is the life time of the plant?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The life time of the hon. Members.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY: Our life—physical life or political life?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Political life I cannot guarantee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are younger people in the House.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: About political life, they have to take care of it themselves.

Government of India is very keen. We are trying to find from where we can get adequate resources, because adequate resources are necessary. We will try to raise the necessary resources, to see that the Visakhapatnam plant is completed on schedule, according to the plan. We will try to adhere to the schedule.

I had replied in detail about Vijaynagar, Daitari etc. the other day. Again I want to say we are keen to see that with the latest technology we will be able to complete the

project both in Orissa and in Vijayanagar, according to the plan.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What about Salem ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as Salem is concerned, we have stabilized it. For Salem, I want to assure you that we are intending to expand and double the production in Salem. As I said, when I was referring to Karnataka power situation, it was not to this present government or that government; it is the entire situation right from all these 14-15 years. I am not blaming anybody. I am not finding fault with anybody. I am telling the reality. The reality of the situation is that they could not make available power even for Kudremukh, even for Vishweswarayya Project of their own. Therefore, let them not feel angry or upset. You must find a way out. The way is again to have dedicated power plants. This is how the problem will be solved. Therefore, I am keen that as far as steel production is concerned, we must go in for production of more steel.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : The Chief Minister has given a very definite assurance about power.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Every Chief Minister has been giving a definite assurance.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : It is a committed reply on the Floor of the House and also he sent a letter to you.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Every hon. Chief Minister has up till now been giving the same assurance both on the Floor of the House of the State as well as outside. He has written a letter to me in which also he has said the same thing. I am thankful to him for the assurance. But if one could live only on assurance, then I can give you an assurance and that will be the end of the matter. Let us not go by assurance.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : We find some difference. So far as Visakhapatnam is concerned, they are very firm and we are very happy. So far as Vishweswarayya and Vijayanagar Projects are concerned, you are not firm.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : How can we be firm. The power is not in my hand.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : The Karnataka Government assured you that they

will give power, we also assure you. The only thing is that you must make up your mind,

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am thankful to you for your assurance. On your assurance of power, I will assure you, . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. H. RANGANATH (Chitradurga) : The hon. Minister knows the story of Vijayanagar Steel Plant. He also knows that power shortage in Karnataka is there. But what we want is the commissioning of that project as early as possible. He was making a very good point about dedicated power. So, what we want is that the hon. Minister must see that the dedicated power Plant is also established in Karnataka and that the Vijayanagar Steel Plant is commissioned in Karnataka as early as possible.

AN HON. MEMBER : Don't say Karnataka ? Say in India.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I agree with the hon. Member and we shall try to do that. Members after members have been saying that public sector units have not been performing well; coal public sector has been incurring losses; steel public sector units have been incurring losses year after year.

Now, may I say that sometimes I feel that it has become a fashionable thing to run down the public sector and praise the private sector and demoralise the public sector. The fact is, I have never tried to defend the public sector for the faults that they have and I believe that public sector units must become more efficient, must become accountable; no question on that. The word 'public sector' does not mean that they should be treated as a holy cow. There is nothing sanctimonious about them. But may I say that public sector units should remove the constraints ? Give them assistance, show confidence in our officers and men and you will find that together when they work as a team of employees, you will see the results. And with the late Prime Minister giving a definite direction and directives to public sector units to improve the performance and with the young Prime Minister saying firmly that now the approach has to be result-oriented and accountable, let us see the results. In one year—and this is what the House should note and really compliment those who have done a good job—in the field of coal, you know what happened.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA
(Rabertsganj) : I have done it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Some Members have done, I am not denying that.

Coming to steel, SAIL units, you will be happy to know that in 1982-83 the loss was Rs. 105.76 crores, and in 1983-84 it was Rs. 214.53 crores. This loss of Rs. 214.53 crores has been made good this year.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : By increasing prices.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is wrong. I knew that you will say that. I will come to it. We have now turned the corner and we are likely to make a profit which come somewhere about Rs. 50 crores or equal to that much, making up all these losses. No talk of price rise. Price rise, I have given it. Price rise altogether accounts for only 40 per cent : sixty per cent is due to better performance.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about stocks ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Stocks have also been reduced. In every field there is a better performance. As far as SAIL units are concerned, there are units, I am myself aware, units, like Durgapur, IISCO—these are some of the units which are our problem units, problem units technology-wise, equipment-wise and management wise. The production of Bhilai is making up.

Now, Bhilai, Rourkela, Bokaro and even Salem are doing well. Even out of these five, four units, namely, Bhilai, Rourkela, Bokaro and SSP—that is Salem—are making profits—and good profits.

What I am saying is 'Do not condemn the public sector the whole hog; try to find what the constraints are, what the difficulties are and remove them.'

Take coal. Coal also, you will be happy to know that the Coal India Limited has suffered a loss of Rs. 242.68 crores in 1983-84. And do you know that all this loss has been made up ? Mind you, it is not due to price rise alone. It has made profits mostly because of better performance. And the profit now is Rs. 13.83 crores this year,

having made up all those losses. Who is to be given one credit ?

When the management, the workers and all the team together work well, that can bring wonderful results. I have been to those places and we have seen how things have changed. My colleague, the Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers, who also toured along with me, will tell you as to what happened in Durgapur. There was a plant which was closed down for nine months. With the labour's cooperation, it not only started but it gave record production. And after that, not a single day there has been problem in that plant. It is giving one of the best production. So labour cooperation and management participation can give miraculous results. But that participation must be whole-hearted, complete and full.

The ECL and BCCL are still running in losses. And the loss has been made good by CCL and WCCL. Therefore, I come to this question of participation of labour. I would like to plead with you and with the House to consider this question most seriously. If you really want to bring about transformation and achieve the objectives of a democratic socialist republic which we have enshrined in the very Preamble of our Constitution, then what is necessary is that there must be full participation of labour in management, at least beginning with the public sector.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why is it not being done ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : In public sector who is an employer and who are the employees ? This whole concept of employer-employee, owner-servant, master-servants in public sector is a misnomer and a wrong concept. Therefore, in public sector, at least right from the Chairman and Managing Director upto the safaiwala, all are employees; all working together and all are workers. Why should they not share together in the management from shop-level to top level ? What is the hindrance ? The hindrance, unfortunately, is vested interests in labour unions. I have been a trade unionist. You and I have worked together and we know this. You do not want elections. Who will be participating the representative in the management committee ? The Labour Minister has sent to us the whole concept of

participation. He has been sending us reminders as to why we are not implementing it. The moment you try to do it, whom will you take on the management committee, Recognised union. Do you know in some of the units there are 20 unions—all recognised. Let us go deeper. If you hold elections, it is all right as far as Lok Sabha or the country is concerned. But suppose, 30 per cent representing majority, send a representative and that person comes, but if the rest of the 70 per cent decide that they will not cooperate, they can stop work. So this is not the way, I will suggest the way as a trade unionist, if the trade unions are willing to accept it.

The only solution in my humble opinion today is either have election of a representative union by secret ballot or better still is—because that also will not solve the problem I know—as our own slogan was, 'one industry—one union' which we used during independence days and afterwards also, we used to mouth it every time that we spoke, and we said, "The Britishers are wanting to divide us and rule, that is why under the Trade Unions Act," seven members can make a union. There are so many trade unions and they want to keep us querelous with one another. Therefore, our slogan was 'one industry—one union.' Why should all trade unions in this country not come together and say: "Yes, amend the Trade Unions Act and have one industry one? Automatically you will have their representative in the managing committee and the problem of participation and who should be in the management will be solved. Or, I had suggested a third way also. All right, let the unions remain, let the workers be treated, at least in public sector, as partners, nominal shareholders with a taken share to be given by the company itself. Rs. 100 or Rs 10 or whatever it is, that is immaterial right from the manager to the last employee, and then let these shareholder employees, as partners elect their representatives on the management in different categories—managerial, technical, supervisory, non-technical annually or biennially: I had called a meeting of the leaders of the trade unions and discussed with them, I am again meeting them and pleading again and again with everyone to please accept it. May I tell you friends, and I appeal to the House through you, Sir, that this one change of

honest participation of labour in the management will bring a revolutionary change in the production of this country in the public sector? Please accept this and cooperate. This was our slogan, we have been telling the employees, "You must become masters of the means of production where you sweat your blood." When are we going to fulfil that slogan and that dream? Here is an opportunity. Let us do it, I am pleading with you today, at least in public sector. Then alone public sector units will produce better, produce with a sense of accountability, with a sense of belonging, and will set an example to the rest of the productive sectors of the country, and will achieve a commanding height which was visualised by the great founder of our country, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. But he also said, "For anything good, you have to take sometimes bold decisions." And our young Prime Minister is known to take bold decisions, when necessary, if they are in national interest. If the feeling on the House is that it is in the national interest to implement the concept of participation of labour in its true spirit, I am sure, one will hesitate in bringing necessary legislation, provided we are all agreed that this is required in the interest of the country. And as I said, if this is done, success often comes to those who dare and act, it seldom goes to the timid. These are not my words, these are the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Therefore, let us dare and act in this sphere. I feel that the most important thing in public sector in fact, this can apply to all sectors is participation of labour at all levels in management in the true spirit of the concept. Having said this, I have covered most of the general things.

Since my learned colleague Shri Natwar Singh has already dealt with coal at length, I would like only briefly deal with coal. As I said earlier in the field of coal we have already turned the corner. This shows how certain problems with a little bit of coordination can be solved. As soon as I took over, on my table I found letters from Chief Ministers of most of the States—Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh—everyone complaining that in the power houses with the supply of coal they found extraneous matter like stones boulders and, what my good friend, Mr. Kamal Nath said, rubbish. So, the Railway Minister, myself and the power Minister sat together

and called the Officers. I gave surprise visit to Badarpur. Later on I went to Patratu in Ranchi. I got those Officers together and asked them what the problem was.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : What did you find ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : There was some old stock of stores also which had been accumulated to substantiate their complaint. They had been taking photographs of the same several times. I reprimanded them for this attitude. But as regards the stones which were there.

[English]

I asked my coal people who was responsible for this. I told them that they were selling coal and were charging money for the coal. Then how do they send stones ? I said nothing doing, this should not continue in future. I must say thanks to the Prime Minister, as soon as we took over, one of the first things he did was to call a meeting of most of the Secretaries of our Departments. He gave a listening to these problems for nearly two hours. And that has, its impact. Then we followed it up and the result is that the problem which had been plaguing the power houses for all these years, within two months has been solved with one declaration 'if a single stone goes from the coal-mines the concerned Manager will be held responsible. They said we do not have the washeries, we do not have coal-handling plant. I said nothing doing, sort it out with your hands. When you are selling coal, you cannot sell anything else. And believe me, today within two months there is no complaint. Now I have got letters from all these power houses saying they were glad that there are no extraneous matters and no stone. This has happened because I said if a stone was supplied along with coal, that stone will fall on the head of the Manager of the coal-mine from where it goes.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I think you for doing it, but you could not do it for the last ten years.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Don't have the attitude of fault finding.

The second thing was the quality of calorific value. I share with you that the calorific value of coal in India is not of

high standard, but as I said, it is of power grade. Our power houses and boilers must be so designed as to use this coal. If that is done, this very coal can give you excellent power. And that is what we are doing. Fortunately, my right hand and left hand is steel and coal. This combination is all right. Up till now we were passing the blame. In every steel plant report you will find one of the accusations was that coking coal is of poor quality and of higher ash content. This was the reason which became an excuse also. So, I called both the people the other day to a meeting. In this meeting it was decided that the coal washeries will ensure that the coking coal is of required ash content plus-minus two per cent. That is all. And this is now being followed. Joint Sampling Committees, Supervising Committees of both Ministries are established to see that this is done. With a little coordination, results can be improved. With Railways also we have had a series of meetings. About wagon shortages, I said this morning : What can you do if you have choked the lines ? But we are seeing how we can have a better turnover so that we have better supplies. In the South the problem was both of steel and coal. There was shortage because wagons could not move. We took up the matter with the Railways and they rushed wagons to South with steel and reduced the pressure in South.

About Singareni I have already replied. One thing I would like to say in the field of coal is—I have said about production improvement, labour relations improvement, better discipline and I must publicly compliment the Chairman and his staff and all the employees for the excellent performance shown in the field of coal. I have already dealt with labour relations.

About price rise you have been asking. Now, tell me honestly...

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Dual slip system in Bihar.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : What is that system ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I told you yesterday. You give some slip and some person buys at the coal pit and sells at a higher price there itself.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : No, no. We are sorting out that thing permanently. I

will tell you what I am doing. I am making an announcement about this whole concept of lifting coal from the pitheads and giving the slips. I will come to this presently, if you like.

Sir, in order to remove the anomalies and to reduce the pithead stocks, we have decided to liberalise the sale of coal by road from the collieries and stockyards of Coal India as follows :

- (1) Coal India has earmarked a number of collieries in each coal company for liberalised sale of coal by road. Any party can approach the area or the colliery sales office of the specified collieries and purchase 500 tonnes of coal at a time for movement by road without sponsorship or production of any other document as this slip on first-come-first-served basis. Wide publicity would be given to the names of these collieries by the coal companies for the information of the public.
- (2) Sale procedures have been simplified and streamlined and the purchaser will not have to approach more than two points for the purchase of coal.
- (3) Consumers in the South who are linked with Singareni collieries and are unable to get their requirement till this Singareni improves its production would now be able to draw coal by road from specific collieries of the Western Coal Fields Limited to the extent of 500 tonnes at a time.

I believe this statement of policy will reduce the load and much of the malpractices that are there.

You were mentioning about mafia and all these things. May I say that the real answer is again participation. Who has the real stake in production? The employees. Who knows the mischief that is going on? The employees. Give them real participation with a stake, rights with responsibilities. They will deliver the goods, then they will not allow theft. That is the real solution. There is no half-hearted solution to this problem of mafia. You may try to induct this force or that force, this man or that

man. Everyone is capable. Human beings are human beings and they are capable of being pressurised.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Then, you gave them protection from the wrath of the high officers. (*Interruptions.*) Many of the officers are engaged in corruption.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Officers will also be involved. The best thing is to involve the officers also. And then, link benefits with productivity, link benefits with production.

[*Translation*]

Let anybody go and loot ot.

[*English*]

This sort of thing will not do, must not do and this must be put a stop to. This is the right attitude being pursued by us.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BAPULAL MALVIYA (Shajapur) : I would like to know why you object to that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have stated that I have no objection. On the one hand we plead for abolition of the contract system. It is demanded by one and all industry the trade unions that the contract system should be abolished. It is the contract system which is coming trouble they want that others should not do so, though they themselves may do so. The problem cannot be solved till such attitude is maintained

[*English*]

Let us be very honest. We really cannot solve the problem until the vested interest in the field of trade unionism is behind the back of our mind, it is the real constraint in the field of participation. If this whole House is one, bring a resolution, I am saying to you. Let our trade union leaders come together and bring a Private Member's Resolution, if we want, "one industry, one union."

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : We will support. Let them accept. Come on by ballot.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : You start from Bombay Textiles. 90% vote.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Again in the ballot also, you will have to put some con-

straints— 50% or more. And then, only those unions will contest which have a minimum 10% membership or some such things.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Let it be 90%.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I do not mind. The only question is, why don't you go one step ahead and say, "One industry, one union."

DR. DATTA SAMANT : That too with voting strength. You are not prepared for that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Voting will be there.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : In the Bombay Textiles, you are recognising the INTUC.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am not talking of political parties. I am not naming anyone. I am not interested. I am not interested in naming. I am interested in the philosophy. Accept the principle and accept the philosophy : there is one industry one union. Internal elections every year is the executive are bound to take place in democracy. (*Interruptions.*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Satheji please do not speak like this, otherwise you will be ousted from the Congress.

[*English*]

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : I am afraid the Minister is adopting a traditional managerial outlook and depicting the trade unions as villain of the piece. I think, this is not desirable.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Who is the villain of piece ?

DR. DATTA SAMANT : The Government is not prepared to accept the single principle of ballot. That is harming the Government.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Where did I say that the trade unions were villains of the piece ?

DR. DATTA SAMANT : You say that the trade unions are behind these contractors and all this. In that way, you are misleading the House.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I did not say

this at all. In fact, earlier I said that the trade unions had cooperated in Durgapur. I was paying compliment to them. When you asked me the question—when that hon. gentleman at the back said who is stopping you, to that, my reply was, there are vested interests which are coming in the way and vested interests of those...

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam): You have propounded a philosophy which is contrary to the exposition of facts. You have given certain facts. Your philosophy is to strengthen the public sector. Actually, when it comes to labour, you are...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I want their participation. I want to give more rights to the employees, direct to the employees. More rights should be given to create a feeling of belonging that they are the masters. They are the partners. This is what I wanted to do now. Are you opposed to that ?

Dr. Datta Samant, are you opposed to that.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : As partners in all the management ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Partners in the management, in the entire undertaking.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Public sector undertakings are run by big bosses.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am putting the bosses and the employees to go as one. If you do not like that concept, that is a different matter.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : We like it. Also, sharing the profits.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Everything will come provided you are there as shareholders and partners. You make up your mind.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Ours is made up. You made up your mind.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have dealt with steel; I have dealt with coal and I have said how we are trying to remove the constraints.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BAPULAL MALVIYA : Will the hon. Minister implement this policy in the private sector also ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Let it be implemented in the public sector in the first instance. Let us set our own house in order first.

[English]

Incidentally, while dealing with coal, I want to correct one figure of lignite. On p. 3 of the Report of the Department of Coal, there is a typing error. The profit figure of 1983 is mentioned as Rs. 262.97 crores. That digit "2" got printed by mistake. It should be Rs. 62.97 crores. While dealing with Neyveli Lignite, already on p. 52, the correct figure has been given. I would request that this error may kindly be corrected.

Bharat Aluminium Co., National Aluminium Co., Hindustan Copper, Bharat Coal Mines, Mineral Explorations Corporation, Hindustan Zinc Corporation, Geological Survey of India India, Bureau of Mines, all these undertakings are under this Ministry. I have said that a very serious effort is being made by the Geological Survey of India to find more and more minerals to be explored.

Bauxite, fortunately, is one of our biggest resources, the best resource and the most useful resource, for production of aluminium. Today, aluminium requires more power. That is the real need. Both in BALCO and NALCO, we are thinking of setting up captive power plants, also dedicating their power plants, to ensure supply of power. BALCO, beginning with Korba, has shown an excellent performance. NALCO is coming up on schedule. Even today we are importing aluminium. By the end of the Seventh Plan, we hope to achieve substantial production in aluminium. Aluminium, as the hon. Members know, next to steel is the most important material, not only for power and power input but even for bodies of coaches, aeroplanes, buses, furniture—everywhere you need aluminium. If we produce aluminium with our own bauxite, it can substitute steel and help the industries. Many a small-scale industry come up with the help of aluminium and also steel. Therefore, we are emphasizing the production of aluminium and we are doing well.

Lignite is another very important mineral. I am proud to say and the House will be glad to give compliments to the management and the workers of the Neyveli Lignite that they achieved record production this year, both in power as well as in lignite. We are

thinking of expanding the production of ore in Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

Mr. Girdhari Lal Vyas yesterday had mentioned a lot about Rampura Agucha project.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Sir, the hon. Minister has said nothing about Palana.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I am coming to that question. You please listen to what I say.

[English]

He mentioned that this project with an investment of Rs. 525.26 crores was approved. At present, the cost will become Rs 640 crores. We are going through it. But he says that the other plant should be at Chandaria.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Hon. Minister has totally ignored the point of Palana Lignite. You should say something about that also.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Wherever lignite is available in sufficient quantity and its commercial and economical exploitation is possible, we would make all efforts to exploit it at all places. We would not spare any efforts...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : You are saying Chandaria. I have said Rampura.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : You have said it should be at Rampura smelter plant. We have appointed an experts committee consisting of M/s. Stolberg of West Germany and Mecon. After all, these are all technical things.

[Translation]

There should not be any scope for any controversy at least on your part as it is being established in Rajasthan and not in any other State. If you want that it should be established at your residence in Rajasthan and if you raise a controversy over it, it is not going to serve any purpose.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : The site is 40 kms. away from the place where you want to establish it. You can well imagine the expenditure which you are going to incur on it. It would be crores of rupees. I am explaining all the points...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : all your arguments have been examined and it has been found that water which is absolutely necessary for the smelter would be available from the dam being constructed at Chanderia. Therefore, after examining Kota, Sawai Madhopur, Chittorgarh, Rampur, Aguja and all other places, it was found that its establishment at Chanderia would be suitable and it would be in the interest of the plant also.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : When you establish it at Chanderia, water would have to be brought from Gosunda which is 40 to 50 kms away from the site, whereas if you establish it at Rampur, water could be supplied from Nandrai which is at a distance of 15 to 20 kms.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Would you like to listen to me or will you go on speaking ?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : The distance of Chanderia from Gosunda dam and Bairachh river is nearly 15 to 20 kms. Water is easily available here, but you would have to incur more expenditure there. The Transportation of the raw material to that place would involve considerable expenditure and in view thereof have you reconsidered this question because we also want the expenditure to be low...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We have considered all the aspects. We are getting good quality water here and, therefore, in the interest of the country and in the interest of the plant, we have decided to set up the plant at a place which is most suited. It cannot be set up at your Rampur. We cannot overrule the technical personnel.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Hon. Minister, Sir, keeping in view the points raised by me you just reconsider where the cost of setting up of the plant will be less.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : If we give further consideration, the expenditure will

get further escalated and at the same time, the project will also be delayed.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Your assertion is right, but we are also being deprived of our right. I am saying this because you propose to set up at least one industry in each district, but you are taking away this industry to some other place while the raw material is being extracted in our area. In the event of the setting up of this industry in our area, the expenditure will also be less. I want you to reconsider our case. We repeatedly demand and request that you reconsider it and then take any decision.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : You just ask those coming from Chanderia district as to what is their point of view...

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : What is the need to ask them; you are taking away our raw material to that place and giving this project worth Rs. 600 crores to them for nothing, whereas the entire raw material will be extracted from our area, and still it is not being given to us.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas made an allegation yesterday that some officer had sent some copper to Germany at lower price and all that. I want to clarify to the House that this matter was referred to the CBI. After CBI, a Departmental enquiry committee went into it. After that, the Central Vigilance Committee went into it.

14.00 hrs.

And it was found by all these bodies that no officer was to be blamed or was at fault for anything and, therefore, they have absolved him. After this has been done, it is really unfair to continue to say such things in the House...

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : He was found guilty by the C.B.I. but he was absolved as a result of manipulation by the Vigilance Committee.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We must not use the privilege of the House to make

allegations against officers even after they have been absolved by the most competent authorities who cannot be challenged...

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : It means that in case there is a charge of bungling of Rs. 21 crores against an officer...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This is very ridiculous. I am not able to accept this charge and I strongly refute this charge against the officer. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. The Minister will continue his speech.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : 35 full wagons of coal were going from Churi colliery near Ranchi. The coal was being sent to Pakistan, and police caught hold of it. It was in the year 1983. Your Coal India said that the coal did not belong to them. I have mentioned this particular case.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : When ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I mentioned it yesterday. The entire coal India is dodging on this...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We are not dodging on any case.

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : What happened during the last 3 years ? C.B.I. is being pressurised not to do it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We cannot pressurise anybody.

[English]

We are not putting pressure on anybody.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Not you, but the Coal India.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : What can Coal India do ? When I cannot put, and I am not putting, any pressure, what can Coal India do ?

SARI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You may come and go, put the bureaucrats remain there permanently. You must do something about this.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will not allow any more. I will not allow this kind of thing. Nothing will go on record. Let the Member meet the Minister in his Chamber and discuss. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, I think I have covered most of the points. All the minerals that we are likely to find in this country, serious efforts are made to explore; as far as the Geological Survey of India is concerned, they are making all efforts to explore as much area as possible; nearly 60 per cent of the possible mineable area has been explored and we are now going into more detailed exploration of our mineral resources. I am hopeful that we will find more and more resources and we will be able to use them in the national interest.

As far as this allegation is concerned, the complaint was that a rake of 29 box wagons was loaded during the night hours on 9-6-1984 with the connivance of the company officials and the Station Master, Ray Railway Station. This coal had been stolen and was allegedly loaded in the name of a contractor of the area. The rake, however, was stationary at the Ray Railway Station. It has been reported that the local Police Station has taken up the matter for inquiry. We shall try to follow the proceedings. . . (Interruption)

The Geological Survey of India is also interested in the off-shore exploration because we feel that in the off-shore area we may be able to find substantial resources of minerals. So, the entire effort is directed to making maximum survey of all the resources because I remember at one time it was said that there was no petroleum and that we should not waste our time on this. But with the help of our friends in Soviet Union we have been able to find petroleum on the off-shore. To-day the modern technology, deep drilling, arial survey and even space that is, satellite observation all these methods can be used to make a detailed survey and

it is our effort to find every mineral that may be available both off-shore and on-shore.

(Interruptions)

The hon. Member my write to me. I will reply.

Sir, in the Geological Survey of India, as hon. Members know, officers and particularly the field staff do very arduous work. They have to go into the jungles and inaccessible areas alone in search of minerals. Recently two of our very good officers of the GSI lost their lives in the forests in Maharashtra. The matter is under investigation by the Police. We do not know the cause. Their bodies were discovered and later the body of the guide was also found. We at our highest level took a decision to give substantial compensation in addition to the pensionary benefits to the widows till the time their husbands would have lived and we have also given a sum of Rs. 50,000 to each of the families. We have also given a substantial amount to the guide's family who also lost his life.

May I say that in the field of coal for the welfare activity we were spending Rs. 42 crores in 1982. We have now increased the quantum to Rs. 99 crores. This shows our intention to attend to the welfare of our employees and to provide better facilities and more opportunities to the Adivasis, the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the poorer sections everywhere. This is our objective and we will continue to play our role to serve our country to the best of our ability.

Thank you very much.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No clarification, please. If I allow one member, I will have to allow others also. You can go to him and discuss the matter.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : For the noncoming of new steel plants and the delay in starting the work of the new plants in Orissa and elsewhere the Minister has observed that lack of power or want of power is the greatest constraint. But since he deals with coal also and we have huge coal reserves of good quality capable of generating

power, he should take up this matter with the Energy Minister and also the Planning Commission for making provisions to start super thermal power plants.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will do that. Thank you.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir I raised the question of Vijayanagar Steel plant. The hon. Minister has given a conditional reply. We are sorry, Sir and the whole of Karnataka is agitated over this. He has chosen to deal with this important issue in a casual manner.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Casual manner ? You do not want the plant ? You say I have discussed it in a casual manner ! Do you want the plant ?

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Yes, we want it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have given the assurance. *(Interruptions)* Do you want me to go just now and start it ? I have said the plant of Vijayanagar with the modern technology will be set-up according to schedule. All that I am requesting to you is that you also ensure in the mean time that you make adequate provision of power. I will also help you in that. Is this a casual manner ? *(Interruptions)* Don't make such allegations ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I find Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao is not here. I shall put cut motions 1 and 2 to the vote of the House.

The cut motions No. 1 and 2 were put and negatived

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital shown in the fourth column of the order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of

March, 1986 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos.

83 to 85 relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal."

The Motion was adopted.

Demands for grants for 1985-86 in respect of Ministry of Steel Mines and Coal voted by the Lok Sabha

| No. of Demand | Name of Demand | Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985 | | Amount of Demand Grant for voted by Lok Sabha | |
|--|---------------------|--|----------------|---|----------------|
| | | Revenue Rs. | Capital Rs. | Revenue Rs. | Capital Rs. |
| Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal | | | | | |
| 83. | Department of Steel | 2,43,11,000 | 1,17,32,83,000 | 12,15,60,000 | 5,86,64,17,000 |
| 84. | Department of Mines | 20,47,79,000 | 50,24,16,000 | 1,09,89,00,000 | 1,47,12,84,000 |
| 85. | Department of Coal | 24,74,48,000 | 1,77,50,01,000 | 1,23,72,44,000 | 8,87,50,05,000 |

14 21 hours

(ii) **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 9 relating to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers for which 6 hours have been allotted.

Hon. members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case

any member finds any discrepancy in the list he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986 in respect of the heads of the Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 9 relating to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers."

Demands for grants for 1985-86 in respect of Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers submitted to the vote of the House

| No. of Demand | Name of Demand | Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985 | | Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|---|----------------|
| | | Revenue Rs. | Capital Rs. | Revenue Rs. | Capital Rs. |
| Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers | | | | | |
| | Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers | 2,06,31,51,000 | 27,27,83,000 | 10,35,04,22,000 | 2,58,24,17,000 |

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, fertilisers and chemicals are the key inputs for the development of agriculture. 70 per cent of population in India depend upon agriculture. Therefore, development of agriculture is a must. The key inputs should be supplied at a cheaper rate to the farming community but even after 37 years of Independence we are not producing enough fertilisers and we have not made ourselves self-sufficient in this field.

During 1983-84 about 35.6 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 10.56 lakh tonnes of phosphate fertilisers have been produced indigenously and 6.56 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 1.3 lakh tonnes of phosphate and 5.56 lakh tonnes of potash fertilisers have been imported which cost nearly Rs. 365 crores. This is a very unfortunate thing. We have got both technology and raw-material but we are not properly utilising them. Hence there is unnecessary drain on our foreign exchange resources.

14.25 hours.

[*Shrimati Basava Rajeswari in the Chair*]

The estimated production of nitrogenous fertiliser is 39 lakh tonnes against the production capacity of 55.6 lakh tonnes and 12.5 lakh tonnes of phosphoric fertilisers as against 16.15 lakh tonnes of phosphoric fertilisers during 1984-85. This clearly indicates the gap between production and utilisation capacity. I do not know how the Minister will ensure the standard 80 per cent of utilisation of production capacity. We are very much less compared to some other countries in respect of utilisation of fertilisers per hectares. The Indian farmers are using 39.9 k. g. per hectare of chemical fertilisers which is very much less when compared with other countries. It is 111.6 k.g. per hectare in USA; 154.5 k.g. per hectare in China and 81 k.g. per hectare in USSR. We have got nearly 60 million hectares of irrigated area available in our country which has the potentialities to produce 300 million tonnes of foodgrains if proper care is given. But at the rate at which we are going, I very much doubt whether we may be producing that much in future.

Now, coming to fertilisers manufacture, first, for the manufacture of fertilisers we were using naphtha. Now thanks to the scientists and technologists we have developed the coal based fertilisers industries. Two coal based industries have started in India at Ramagundam and at Talcher. I don't know why they have not started them simultaneously and completed them. If they have not got enough fund they should have started one unit first and completed it and then only they should have gone for the second unit. Due to cost escalation the cost of the project is going up 3 or 4 times more. This is the case of any project anywhere in the country. I request the Minister at least to take up these two projects and complete them and then only proceed for the next ones.

We are fortunate enough to have oil and gas in our Bombay offshore and now we are switching over to gas based fertiliser. Two industries have already been started. I request the Minister to complete these two and then only proceed to other units wherever they may be necessary. Either they may be in clusters or you may resort to pumping of gas to other places and establish factories there, whichever is economical. By the end of the 7th Plan our fertilisers requirement would be 92.5 lakh tonnes of urea and 28.9 lakh tonnes of phosphoric fertilisers. If the fertiliser industry is not provided more money they will not be able to produce this much quantity and we will have to go in for imports.

Coming to budget allocations, during 1985-86, Rs. 1531 crores have been provided in the said Demrnd as against Rs. 1818 crores during 1984-85. (Revised Estimates). Under the retention price scheme Rs. 1,200 crores have been provided. Under various subsidies to chemical pesticides, Rs. 105 crores have been provided, Rs. 153 crores have been provided for on-going schemes. If the Minister takes it up seriously we may even reduce this Rs. 1200 crores of foreign exchange. To a great extent, we may be able to develop our own indigenous fertiliser units.

Sir, we have got many sick units in our country which have to be nourished and strengthened. Fertiliser Corporation of India has got 5 major units, namely, Sindri modernisation, Sindri rationalisation, Talcher

and Ramagundam with a total installation capacity of 8.0 lakh tonnes of nitrogen, out of which the production is only 3.47 lakh tonnes. This is equivalent to 43% capacity utilisation. Sir, the National Fertilisers Limited has four units under its control, namely, Nangal, Nangal Expansion, Bhatinda and Panipat with a total installed capacity of 7.02 lakh tonnes. The present capacity utilisation of these four units works out to only 69%. I would request the hon. Minister to provide sufficient funds for the on-going schemes so that production may increase and the units are strengthened.

Sir, it is commendable that units like Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd., and Madras Fertilisers are having reasonably higher capacity utilisation in some of their units and they are doing well. There is no marketing problem for any of the fertiliser factories. The Demand for fertiliser is so much that we are not able to cope with the indigeneous production. Instead of importing substantial quantities of fertilisers, we should try to improve the capacity utilisation of all the existing units in the best interest of the nation.

Sir, we have got many project development consultancy agents. But we are not utilising the indigenous technology in the production fields. For everything we are depending on foreign countries. Even in the case of equipments to be installed in such of these units, 70% of the equipments are available indigenously. I would request the hon. Minister to make sure that the entire equipment available indigenously be utilised so that foreign exchange to that extent is saved. No doubt chemical fertilisers are the key inputs for agricultural development, but with the constant application of the fertilisers to the soil year after year it is likely to deteriorate the soil fertility and texture. This will have a harmful effect on crop yields. After ten or fifteen years, the soil is likely to lose fertility. So I would request the hon. Minister to go in for more use of organic fertilisers simultaneously by indigenous production. We should develop bio-gas and leguminous micro-bacteria which help produce natural nitrogen in the soil. The continuous and indiscriminate and imbalanced use of fertilisers in the soil would make the soil alkaline or acidic.

Another point I would like to submit is that the fertilisers is generally packed in

plastic bags whenever we import this item. The indigenous fertilisers should also have the same packing system and this would avoid wastage as well as contamination.

Now, coming to the pesticides. Sir, per capita consumption of pesticides in our country is very low compared to other countries like Japan, Europe and the USA. More than 50 technical grade pesticides are manufactured in India. At present, we are importing about 9,000 tonnes of pesticides from foreign countries. We are producing 62,000 tonnes of pesticides indigenously. We can meet our shortage of pesticides by proper utilisation of full capacity of the existing units. The most unfortunate thing is that many private companies are manufacturing spurious pesticides and they are coming into the markets. These adulterated spurious products are even available in my district, Guntur, where many people are selling the products with duplicate brand names. The spurious adulterated products are causing irreparable loss to the farming community.

All the pesticides should be brought under the Price Control Order. At present, some pesticides are not there and different companies are charging different rates. Rates for the various pesticides, therefore, need to be fixed on similar basis.

Then, certain toxic pesticides are being manufactured and used in our country even now. Many countries have banned toxic pesticides like BHC, DDT and Parathene; these have got residual effect. We are, however, using them and playing with the human life and cattle life. These pesticides not only kill predators and parasites but they also kill other insects which are useful to the human beings. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to see that these harmful pesticides are banned immediately.

The Pesticide Act, of course, does not concern this Ministry, but it is not as effective as it should be to prosecute the offenders. Some more teeth have to be put in this Act to prosecute the offenders. The banning of toxic pesticides, as I said, is very essential, as it is causing nuisance and it is affecting the ecology and environment of the area.

Further, expansion of pesticide industry in the rural areas is a must. These should be away from the cities. The recent

Bhopal tragedy is the uppermost in our mind. Any pesticide industry should be at least 50 km away from a city. I hope, the hon. Minister will make sure and will take suitable action whenever a question for given licence to such an industry comes up.

Though many pesticides are there in the market, the availability of fungicides and selective herbicides must be ensured in the rural area in the required quantities. I would request the Minister to ensure that selective herbicides are supplied to the farmers at cheaper rates.

Now, I come to the chemicals. Chemical industry is a highly technical oriented industry. It has got many organic and inorganic chemicals and we have to develop sufficient quantity of caustic soda, soda ash, chloride, organic chemicals, phenol, methanol, formaldehyde acetone and acetic acid etc. All help should be given to the small scale industries in the rural areas. Much incentives have to be given to prime rural development and to help rural people. For that, liberalisation of licencing policy is welcome. That would help the rural masses to have more and more industries in the rural areas.

Then, shortage of alcohol is causing a great concern to the public. During the year 1983-84, a large quantity of sugarcane was produced, but due to market difficulties, the farmers have not grown sugarcane during 1984-85. Consequently, we are going to be short of alcohol. Our State Government has fixed Rs. 220 per tonne as the cane price in Andhra Pradesh for giving encouragement to the growers. I think that the same system should be followed everywhere all over the country.

Plastic industries should be encouraged. Plastic is now being put to many uses like utensils of daily use, toys etc. In fact, plastic has replaced iron and steel in many areas and it is very cheap and helpful to the poor people. Small scale and cottage industries in plastic should be spread all over the country and more licences should be given for this liberally. So also, the dye and paint industry should be developed in our country. Large amounts and more incentives should be given to the chemical, plastic and all these other industries.

Now, coming to drugs, drugs are life-saving and essential. We are not getting good drugs in rural areas. Spurious drugs come into the open market and people are making a racket of it. This Drugs Act is under the Minister only and I request that stern action should be taken against the offenders and they should be prosecuted. Many multinational companies are involved in it. Then, the licensing policy should also be liberalised. It should be made a small scale industry and it should be rural based.

There are two drug manufacturing companies, *viz.* the IDPL and the Hindustan Antibiotic Company. They have not developed any internal resources so far. They have got all facilities. But due to the lack of proper managerial skills, these two companies have not been getting profits. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the matter and see that these companies produce more and more useful drugs essential for human life.

I would also like to mention about the Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceuticals. It is said on our part that even after providing two to three hundred crores of rupees every year, we are not able to produce more drugs as was expected by us. Hence I request the Minister that this may kindly be looked into.

Lastly, with regard to fertilizers, pesticides and even drugs, quality is a must. We should aim at quality, quantity and cheaper rates. We should develop indigeneous technology using indigenous skills. Our motto should be rural oriented and rural based and the licensing system should also be liberalised. These industries should go to the poor and economically backward people, which would help the unemployed and other backward classes. Thank you.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO (Vijaywada) : I beg to move :

“That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced to RE. 1.”

[Failure to improve the working of Hindustan Antibiotics' plant at Pimpri.]
(2)

“That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced to RE. 1.”

[Failure to manufacture more vaccine for measles to control widespread transmission of measles.] (3)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to expedite action on the proposed Nagarjuna fertiliser project at kakinada.] (4)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the performance of the plant of Fertilizer Corporation of India at Ramagundam.] (5)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to review functioning of Hindustan Insecticides which is engaged in production of dangerous banned insecticides.] (6)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malfunctioning of the Units of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals and review its monopolistic functioning.] (7)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malfunctioning of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited.] (8)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to review the working of Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited.] (9)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malfunctioning of Fertilizers Corporation of India.] (10)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check malfunctioning of Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited.] (11)

SHRI R. P. DAS (Krishnagar) : I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to commission the Haldia fertilizer unit of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited.] (17)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the performance of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited.] (18)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to step up development of Bengal Immunity Limited with a view to making the unit economically and commercially viably.] (19)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to help Smith Stainstreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, to achieve its full potential in the manufacture of drug formulations.] (20)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to abolish the loan licence system in pharmaceutical industry which defeats the drugs policy of the Government.] (21)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to construct buildings for head office and residential quarters for staff of the Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, Dehri-on-Sone, Bihar.] (22)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to modernise the plant of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited at Gorakhpur.] (23)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take over the management of M/s. Dey-Se-Chem. Ltd., Calcutta, which stopped manufacturing life saving bulk drug Chloramphenicol.] (24)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a leading role to the public sector undertakings of the Ministry.] (25)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure quality control of all drugs.] (26)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attain quick self-sufficiency in the production of drugs with a view to reducing the quantum of imports.] (27)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to abolish brand names and introduce generic names for all drugs with assured quality.] (28)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to establish a national corporation for the distribution of drugs.] (29)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for comprehensive legislation to ban production of hazardous drugs in the interest of public health.] (30)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure availability of safe, essential and quality drugs in consonance with the health needs of the people.] (31)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to eliminate irrational, useless and hazardous drugs.] (32)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to prepare a graded priority list of drugs.] (33)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make drugs available to the public at a low price, particularly the essential drugs.] (34)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to attain self reliance in drug technology.] (35)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to foster and encourage the growth of the Indian drug industry.] (36)

[Translation]

SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN (Damoh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support Demand No. 9 for Rs. 1035 crores on Revenue Account and Rs. 258 crores on Capital Account whole heartedly. At the same time, I also support the policy of the Government.

I want to draw the attention of the House to one thing. It is true that the output increases with the use of chemical fertilizers, but the produce loses its original taste which is there otherwise of chemical fertilizers are not used. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the production has certainly increased, but research should be conducted as to how the original taste of the produce could be preserved and nutritional value not reduced and information to this effect should be given to our farmers.

Rock phosphate is available in abundance in Sagar district of our Madhya Pradesh State. A licence was issued there for setting up a Super Rock Phosphate Plant, but it has been cancelled. Another application for

licence, it is learnt, is pending and that proposal is for the setting up of a plant in the joint sector in Madhya Pradesh. If that plant is set up there, Sagar district will have an industry. Raw material is available there in plenty.

I want to say a few words about my hon. colleagues. They criticise the Government and give suggestions also. I want to tell them that if their criticism is accompanied by suggestions as to how improvement could be brought about, it will be a good tradition, a nice practice.

Another thing which I want to bring to your notice is that once a note is put up by the Secretariat that this work cannot be done, than ultimately, the Minister also has to endorse their stand that this work cannot be done and if next time another note is put up saying that this work can be done, the work is done. Such kind of discrepancy should be done away with.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Not discrepancy, the key is with the officers.

SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : What I mean to say is that the officers are also citizens of this country, they are our brothers. They should take interest in the progress, development and production of the country, but when such things happen anywhere, we are pained. This system should be changed.

There is another point which I want to raise. Our hon. Minister had send that the officers who did good work would be given incentive and those who fared badly would be punished. I would like to know whether responsibility has been fixed or not in respect of loss being suffered by one factories or the Government undertakings and the action taken, if any, in this regard against those found guilty should be brought to the notice of the House.

In the end, I only want to submit that a S.S.P. factory should be set up as soon as possible either in the Public Sector or in the Private Sector or in the Joint Sector in our Sagar district where rock phosphate is available in abundance.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA (Mahasumand) : You belong to district Damoh but you are speaking for Sagar district.

SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : I am grateful to my respect elder brother Shuklaji that he has drawn my attention to it. I was going to make a reference in respect of Damoh and Panna District. Lime stone is available in abundance in district Damoh and therefore, a cement industry should be set up there. Similarly, diamond mines in district Panna have been closed for some reason. It has been said in this House many a time that work is undertaken by the Government with the sole objective of providing jobs and the profit and loss aspect is not kept in view. Therefore, I would like to request the Panna mines be reopened. Similarly, stone quarries have also been closed down for the last few years on the ground that they fall within the forest area, whereas there is no question of ony forest being there. Therefore, these quarries should also be reopened soon so that the unemployed workers could get work. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak today in the debate on fertilizers. When our country attained independence, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was farsighted and set up heavy industries. Earlier almost all goods used to be imported. Today, Pandit Nehru's far sightedness is bearing fruits. Besides, Bhakra Dam was built on account of his inspiration. It facilitated irrigation of more areas leading to increase in production. There are about 38 big fertilizer units in the country whereas the number of small units is about 40. We cannot meet our fertilizer requirements with these factories. Wherever irrigation facilities exist, fertilizers would be needed. Earlier, foodgrains used to be imported as we did not have enough irrigation facilities and fertilizer production. I would like to say that with better irrigation facilities and availability of quality fertilizers the crops have been so good that. We have been able to meet the food requirements of the entire country because of increased production. Now, we are in a position to export foodgrains. The scarcity of fertilizers is persisting because the farmers have started using more and more fertilizers. Fertilizers are being used everywhere at the instance of the Government which has resulted in increased production. It is a matter of regret that the prices of fertilizers are very high. Factories are located at distant places. The high transportation cost by rail or by

trucks further escalates the prices. I would like these factories to be set up at a distance of every five or eight kilometers so that the farmers may not have to go to a distant place and they may get fertilizers at cheap rates. Some hon. Members of Parliament have criticised that Government have allowed a very small hike in the price of wheat. We want that the prices of fertilizers should be brought down. We have been told that Government are giving a subsidy of Rs. 1200 crores. This subsidy is very meagre for a country of India's size. This should be further raised. The increase in subsidy will lead to increase in production. If you set up factories at a distance of every five to eight kilometers it will help in providing employment to the unemployed under the 20-point Programme, the fertilizer will become cheap and production will also go up.

The wheat crop raised by using compost or other manures is more nutritious than the wheat raised by using ammonium sulphate. Our scientists know what is to be mixed in it to increase production. The use of manure or '*sani manure*' raises production and the grain of wheat so raised is also quite solid. Delhi Administration have given wide publicity in our villages to the salt. That the *moong* crop given there by a fairly good yield. *Moong*, *urad* and *guwar* have more nutrition. If we do not raise such crops, the prices of Ammonium Sulphate will rise further. Today, the use of fertilizers has increased as the farmers want to get a higher yield.

I would also like to say that some such chemicals should be mixed in the four types of fertilizers like DAP, NPK, Urea and Potash etc. which could enrich wheat and other crops with more vitamins and make them more solid just as coned manure makes wheat more solid. Many experiments are being carried out in this direction these days. I would like to say that more such experiments should be carried out so that production could increase as also wheat and other crops could be more nutritious and enriched with vitamins. Such methods should be discovered by government and publicised among the farmers living in the villages through video and other publicity means. If the farmers are apprised of such new methods, our produce is bound to increase.

I would also like to say that the

Government adopted a lot of measures to check crop diseases and pesticide and weedicide and other chemicals are sprinkled in the fields before sowing so that termite, other pests and insects or weed could not damage the crop in any way. Many such chemicals are being supplied by government which protect crops from harmful effects. There is also a chemical which controls 'Ratna' in agricultural land. But it has been my experience that a lot of medicines are available in the market, but these medicines are so costly that an ordinary farmer is unable to purchase them. I would, therefore, request that fifty per cent subsidy should be provided to the farmers on medicines so that every farmer could use them in his field and the crops could be protected from the menace of pests and insects.

As I have said earlier also, if the fertilizer factory or shop is situated near the field of a farmer, he can bring fertilizers on his bullock cart, tractor or even on his cycle, but if fertilizer has to be brought from outside, and as you have said it would be supplied from Gujarat, it would definitely be costly. We want that maximum subsidy should be provided to the farmers on fertilizers.

Eighty per cent of our people live in the villages and are engaged in agriculture or other vocations connected with it. If cheap fertilizers are made available to them, it would not only increase agricultural production, but their standard of living would also be raised. I would, therefore, request that fertilizers should be made available to them at a fair price, whether subsidy be provided to them for this purpose or any other arrangement be made. You should set up small fertilizer factories. This would not only provide cheap fertilizers to the farmers, but would provide jobs to the labourers also.

Similarly, there are many societies or Panchayats in our villages, which should be given licences by the government so that factories could be established there at the earliest and people could get employment. I would not take much of your time. I would request the hon. Minister to take action on the points which I have mentioned. It is essential that farmers are provided with cheap fertilizers so that agricultural production could increase. Government should take steps in this direction. Effects should be made to ensure that the crops are nutritious,

enriched with vitamins and free of any ill effects. Experiments should be carried out in this direction and new chemicals should be discovered. With their use agricultural production would increase and the produce would be nutrition and enriched with vitamins. A good crop is obtained by using Ammonium Sulphate and Phosphate in the fields. More such chemicals should be invented.

At present a subsidy of Rs. 12 crores is given on fertilisers. If the amount of this subsidy is increased to Rs. 24 crores, the farmers would be able to get cheaper fertilisers and would use them in their fields.

I would also like to mention that Banks were nationalised by our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, and farmers installed tube-wells after taking loans from the Banks. Previously, they were not able to get loans from the Banks. After nationalisation of Banks, agricultural production increased immediately. The Government should ensure that agricultural production is increased and nutrition yield is obtained. New chemicals should be invented for this purpose. The result of these efforts would be that we will be healthy and strong. The fertilisers could be available at cheaper rates only when they are produced indigenously. In this way we have been able to increase the production of wheat. People would not get employment in big factories, but small factories would generalise the employment potential and cheap fertilisers would also be available. I am very thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY (Bettiah) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Modern age, as a matter of fact, is an age of fertilisers. By using fertilisers, our productivity has increased nearly by two and a half times during the last one decade and on account of that we have become self-sufficient in the production of foodgrains.

At present, there are nearly 38 fertiliser units and 40 small units which supply fertilisers to the farmers. The distribution system of fertilisers functions at the block level from where fertilisers are supplied to the farmers from time to time. There are no two opinions about it that our production of fertilisers has increased to a considerable

extent. But the report which has been supplied to us says that at the end of this Five Year Plan, our production would fall short of our requirements of fertilisers. We would have to see to it that our fertiliser production is able to meet the requirements of the farmers.

The foremost-requirements of the farmer is that of nitrogen phosphate and this is the fertiliser whose production has been the maximum. The production of phosphate has increased, but it should be increased further. The phosphatic fertilizer is either sprinkled or mixed in the soil. This fertiliser is used in the organic form and the production of organic phosphate is short of our requirements. Fertilisers are produced by us as single Super or Triple Super varieties, but mostly there is a shortage of organic phosphates.

Inorganic Phosphorus and Phosphate are found in the soil itself. It is in black form which is called black phosphate. This black phosphate when mixed with organic phosphate is released in the inorganic form and provides nutrition to the plants. Thus the need for organic phosphate is the greatest today and generally we mix fertilisers in the soil in the organic form. It does not benefit us, because phosphate in the inorganic form is already there in the soil and it is useful to plants only when it is released in organic form. It is a technical subject. The production of organic phosphate is necessary so that inorganic phosphate could be released. The production of organic phosphate should, therefore, be given greater attention.

Secondly, most of our fertiliser plants are outdated. As an illustration, I would like to draw your attention towards Sindri Plant. I came from Bihar where the Sindri Fertiliser Plant is situated. In this plant, fertilisers are produced with the old process. At present the work in progress there to produce Single Super Phosphate. This factory is already producing hydrochloric acid and H_2SO_4 which is called sulphuric acid. Sulphuric acid is produced with the help of Pyrites and there are a number of pyrite mines in the districts of Chhota Nagpur and Palamau. With the help of pyrites, sulphuric acid is produced. This acid is used in the production of fertilisers also. Sulphuric acid is also required in Steel Plants and other industries. This is the minimum requirement towards which I want to draw your attention.

Then, there is the Barauni Fertilizer Plant in Bihar which is not producing as per its capacity, as has been mentioned in the Report. Reasons for less production have also been given in the Report the first reason is the power shortage and the other is the shortage of alcohol. The production has been less mainly due to power shortage.

It is correct that there has been power shortage since 1977 till today. Power shortage might end by the end of this year. A thermal power plant has been installed, which would supply power, but the power shortage in Barauni, which has been the cause of less production, is to be remedied. For this purpose, a captive power plant should be installed in Barauni and work on the captive power plant should be started and completed at the earliest, because the loss of production cannot be tolerated for long.

Sir, we always talk about fertilisers, but in addition to fertilisers, there are certain other factors which contribute toward the growth of plants. The greatest need is to strengthen the plant so that fruit could also be nutritious.

We have not been able to increase sufficiently the production of plant hormones. We are still at an experimental stage. We started with the application of hormones in the soil, which has proved useful. It should not be restricted to experimental stage only, and hormones should be utilised by the farmers to maximum extent so that other farmers could also be benefited. The production of hormones should be increased to the maximum possible extent so that we could exchange it with the farmers living in foreign countries, who are far ahead of us in the matter of production. If other such hormones are invented and are made available to the farmers at subsidised rates, it would be beneficial to them.

As the member who spoke before me said, despite a subsidy of Rs. 1200 crores, the prices of urea, ammonium sulphate or phosphate are higher. A bag of urea is being sold for Rs. 114 to Rs. 120 in the market.

15.00 hrs.

There is another thing which I want to point out. During the last elections, the

price of a bag of urea in our area was about Rs. 200. The farmers could not get urea for use in spite of the fact that it was available there. I agree that distribution is the concern of the State Governments. There are agencies of the State Governments engaged in their distribution. But the Central Government should have an agency of their own which could ensure timely supply of urea to the farmers at a reasonable price. We have done so much publicity for chemical fertilisers, but if they are not available in time, our publicity would be of no use.

Moreover, we should pay attention to the fertilizer plants in the private sector and the services of the private sector can be utilised to bridge the gap between the production and the requirement by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. This gap can be bridged by using the improved technology in the private sector.

Now, I would like to say a few words about I. D. P. L. We have an I. D. P. L. factory at Muzaffarpur in Bihar. The production of medicines in the Muzaffarpur factory is also below its capacity. The reason given for this in this Report is the shortage of alcohol and power. I have a suggestion with regard to the shortage of alcohol. There are a number of sugar mills at and to the north of Muzaffarpur. The sugar mills are there at Bettiah also to which I belong, and in the area of Champaran which had been the centre of activities of Mahatma Gandhi. There are nine sugar mills in this area including Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali and Sitamarhi. In spite of all these sugar mills, you say that there is shortage of alcohol. My suggestion is that in consultation with the State Government, we should convert the molasses, which is a residue in the process of the production of sugar in these mills, into alcohol and supply it to I. D. P. L. factory. This is not a big thing. But, initiative in this regard should come from the Government of India so that the production in I. D. P. L. factory at Muzaffarpur does not suffer. This factory should produce to its full capacity and when production will be more, our brothers will, in fact, be able to get medicines at cheap rates.

Another thing I would like to say is about starch, glucose and dextrose solution

which are used in treatment of cases of diarrhoea, vomiting and dehydration. These medicines are used in the treatment of a variety of kidney problems. If Government sell these medicines after subsidising their prices, it can benefit the people to a great extent. You come across many types of patients in the hospitals and many of them do not have money to buy medicines. Therefore, it is necessary to raise the production of items such as glucose and dextrose and to make them available to the patients at subsidised rates. These are very much needed for ailments like dehydration. Today one set of medicines Rs. 12 to 13, which no poor man can afford. Therefore, there is dire need raise its production and reduce its price. Punjab Maize Products Limited has started this work and a small unit also exists in Patna Medical College Hospital in Bihar, but these are not being produced there on a large scale. What I mean to say is that if arrangements could be made in the hospitals and normal saline, glucose and dextrose etc. I produced there, it will have very good results.

Besides, as you know, three diseases—tuberculosis, leprosy and filaria have a high rate of prevalence in India. You also spend a lot of money on the treatment of these diseases. The incidence of tuberculosis and leprosy is very high in Eastern and Western U.P. and the prices of the medicines being used for their treatment are also very high. Three medicines are used in the first of defence against tuberculosis—the first is I.N.H., the second is PAS (Para amino-Salicylic acid) and the third is streptomycin. These are the basic drugs which are given to a patient of tuberculosis at the initial stage. Of these, streptomycin is given for the first three months and the other two are given continuously for 18 months. If the cost of these medicines, which are supposed to be taken for 18 months, is worked out at current prices, it will come to Rs. 1200 per patient, whereas these are only basic drugs. Apart from these, some new drugs have also come, such as rifampicin, thycetazone and ethambutol, etc. Not all patients of tuberculosis use rifampicin, because one capsule of it costs Rs. 3.50 and it has to be taken regularly for 18 months. Therefore, the prices of these drugs need to be drastically reduced. A small reduction will not make much difference, because these medicines have to be taken for a long time. Therefore,

I request that the prices of the medicines used in anti-tuberculosis treatment, which are being produced in the country and are not being imported, should be substantially reduced. These diseases are carried mostly by the poor whose social status is low. These diseases mostly affect those whose purchasing capacity is low. They cannot even take the medicine for 18 months. That is why I am making this submission to the hon. Minister.

The second submission I want to make is about leprosy. The price of the medicine called D.D.S. which is used for the treatment of leprosy is very high and it also needs to be reduced. I also want to say something about serum and vaccine. I agree that their production has increased, but no vaccine or serum has been developed for common diseases. Vaccines for diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus have been in use for long, but no anti-viral vaccine has yet been developed. Their production has not increased that much. Therefore, I want to say that attention should be paid to the development of vaccine and serum.

In the end, I want to say that today the chemical industry has progressed well as compared to the past and it has played a vital role in our national life. With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry.

[English]

SHRI R. P. DAS (Krishnagar) : Madam Chairman, it has already been said that our *per capita* fertiliser consumption is far less than that in the developed countries. Even it is less than what China consumes. This shows the dismal situation in regard to fertiliser production in this country.

Madam, this Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizer claims in its annual report for 1984-85 that it has been able to maintain good progress in respect of fertiliser production and chemical production. To envisage this position, the report says that in the case of nitrogenous fertiliser production, they have surpassed the target in that year. It was able to produce to the tune of 3.7 million tonnes of nitrogenous fertiliser. Madam, the production of fertiliser or nitrogenous fertiliser for this year is to be seen in the light of total production of fertiliser for the year 1983-84 and 1984-85.

In 1983-84, the total domestic production was 4.53 million tonnes. The production for 1984-85 is near about 5.88 million tonnes. But in that year the total off-take was to the tune of 7.72 million tonnes and the target fixed for the year was 8.4 million tonnes. If we compare it with the nitrogenous fertiliser production which actually was to the tune of 3.7 million tonnes, I should say that the target set was very low. I do not know why the nitrogenous fertiliser production target was fixed so low. No doubt, that low target was achieved; there was a surplus also and this year it may cross even 4 million tonnes. But if we judge the entire matter in the light of total requirement of fertiliser in the country, then we will find that a very low target was set and it was only to make the people believe that this Ministry has been working in a good manner and that it has done a good job.

I should say that this ministry in regard to the production of fertiliser has not been able to register any bright performance. We have been told that this year the Ministry had to import a larger quantity of fertiliser to meet the demand in the country. If this be the position in regard to the production of fertiliser, there is very little chance that this Ministry will be able to cope up with the demand of fertiliser in the country. The supply is always less than the demand. Therefore, this Ministry has to import fertiliser in a large quantity every year. This year, it proposes to import a larger quantity to meet the demand of fertiliser in the country. It has to import a very large quantity of fertiliser from other countries.

Now, if this is seen from a different angle, we will find that the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers is not in a position to meet the demand of fertilisers in the near future. The hon. Minister may say that six plants are under construction and that these six plants may be commissioned in a short time. But no time-frame has been mentioned in the Annual Report of the Ministry. Therefore, nobody knows when these six plants will be commissioned. When these six plants are commissioned, these will produce another 2 million tonnes of fertiliser. If one adds 2 million tonnes to 5 million tonnes that the country has been producing now, it will come to about 7 million tonnes of fertiliser

in the near or distant future. This shows the real position of the Ministry in regard to the production of fertiliser.

In this connection, I would like to point out how the managements of certain fertiliser plants under construction are working in the last few years. If you take the case of Haldia Fertilisers, you will find that this Haldia Fertilisers, was mechanically completed as far back as 1979 but it could not go into commercial production as yet. It is due to the inability of the management of the Haldia Fertiliser. They shifted their responsibility by saying that West Bengal Government were not able to supply power to them and that is why they were not able to commission the plant. But Government of India approved the gas turbine in December, 1981 of 20 MW and this gas turbine was installed in 1981 and it started giving power to the plant from April, 1982. Afterwards, Haldia Fertiliser was commissioned and with the commissioned of the plant, some defects were noticed in oxygen and nitrogen compressors. These defects coupled with some other problems in control valve and synthesis gas compressor which actually put this Haldia fertiliser in a tight position and it postponed its commissioning till May, 1983. After rectification of some of the defects and repair of the equipments, the plant started its production in May, 1983. But the plant could not stabilise because of the defects of some equipments and it was found that there was a major break down in the oxygen gas holder. Actually it blasted at that time and oxygen compressors were not working properly. It happened in September, 1983. That is why the entire commissioning was postponed to a later date. Nobody knows when it will be commissioned. The management says that it will be commissioned in the September or October, 1985. Actually, the entire matter of Haldia Fertilisers rates on the management of Haldia. This management was working in such a manner that it could not commission the plant on time. Therefore, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister as to how the managements in different public sector undertakings are responsible formal-functioning of the projects. This further causes escalation of cost of the plants.

In regard to chemical industry also, the annual report says that it has been able to register good progress in the year preceding.

But the progress was not up to the mark. Actually, the Annual report of the Ministry claims progress in different fields of chemical industry as if it was attaining the much-professed self-sufficiency of the Government of India. But it could not in fact reach anywhere near self-sufficiency. Therefore, there is no room for self-complacency. But if one goes through the annual report of the Ministry, one's impression will be that the Ministry is more or less self-complacent about their progress in different fields.

In the chemical industry we find that phenol, industrial alcohol and soda ash are always in short supply. Sometimes the position becomes so acute that soda ash sells at a very high price in the market. Short supply in respect of some of these chemicals can be seen almost all the time during the year.

I will point out another item, namely, industrial alcohol, which is a scarce commodity in West Bengal. Industrial alcohol is an important item for chemical and other small scale industries. It is not produced in West Bengal in good quantities. It is produced in other States like Bihar, U.P. and Maharashtra. West Bengal has to get it from them. But it is not easy for West Bengal to procure this industrial alcohol as much as it required. The All India Molasses Board controls the distribution of industrial alcohol to the States. But West Bengal is suffering acutely for want of industrial alcohol. The hon. Minister must look into the matter and see that industrial alcohol is made available to West Bengal.

I would like to raise another matter, and that is about Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex. The Minister knows very well that the West Bengal Government had a proposal under which the Government of India could participate directly in implementing the project. The proposal said that the Government of India's share in equity participation should be 40 per cent as against the State's share of 40 per cent and the financial institutions' share of 20 per cent. That was to be a joint venture. But all of us know that this proposal of the West Bengal Government has been dropped by the Central Government on the ground that no

funds have been allocated for Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex in the Sixth Five Year Plan. On the other hand, a petro-chemical complex costing Rs. 1200 crores is being set up in Maharashtra. We have no objection to that. We only want to emphasize the point that, according to the Government of India themselves, Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex is a worth-pursuing project. Therefore, I would again make out a case before this House that a petro-chemical should be given to West Bengal and it should be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The Government of India can bear the entire cost if they do not want to have it as a joint venture. In any case, it should be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

15.29 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*]

The setting up of Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex would rejuvenate the existing sagging chemical industries of West Bengal, including the nationalised ones and it will also open up opportunities for creation of a large number of chemical industries—large, medium and small. As a matter of fact, the basic petro-chemicals will lead to a chain of conversion industries thereby ensuring all-round economic development of the State...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Member will continue on the next occasion. We have to take up the Private Members' business.

We will now take up private Members' business. Now, Bills for introduction.

Shri B. V. Desai

15.30 hrs.

BAN ON RELIGIOUS CONVERSIONS BILL*

[*English*]

SHRI B.V. DESAI (Raichur) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to ban religious conversions in India.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : On a point of order, Sir. I feel that the Bill now before the House is violative of Art 25 of the Constitution which gives the citizen the right freely to profess practise and

propagate religion. I am of the view that even the very discussion of the Bill will create illwill and hatred among the different sections of the people. At a time when unity of the nation is what is wanted, I feel this Bill may not be allowed to be discussed in the House. I plead that this may not be allowed to be introduced at all because it is violative of the Constitution of India and it violates the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the discussion comes, it is left to the House to take the decision.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): He has a right to take objection to even the introduction of the Bill. Let the mover reply.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : First of all, when the agenda is circulated, you should have given the notice if you want to oppose it. Simply now you are raising this when he is moving.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : His merely standing up is notice to you.

SHRI A. CHARLES : In fact I gave a note this morning to the Speaker in his Chamber.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have not received.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A.K. SEN) : Constitutional objections have always been taken at the time of considerations—they are never taken at the time of introduction.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Why should the Minister intervene now? It is for the mover to reply. This is not the practice.

SHRI A. K. SEN : Further the objection that it is unconstitutional does not seem to be right because nobody's right to be converted is taken away. All that the Bill seeks to achieve is that there should be no forcible or induced conversion. There should be no objection to that.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Are we to understand that the Government is in favour of such a Bill now because of his intervention?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only the legal point he wanted to clarify. He is only helping the members.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : We must protest against this—without the Bill being discussed the Minister has come forward to open and place before the House the mind of the Government. I am sure this is a wrong practice....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Not the mind. Only the constitutional point he has clarified.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : This is quite objectionable. To-day we have been taken for a ride in this particular manner....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only he has helped the members. That is all.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : I do not deny the right of the hon. Minister. He has a right, but such a practice has never been there—for the Minister to intervene at this juncture. It is for the Member to oppose and for the mover of the Bill to say something in favour of this Bill....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Member is going to reply.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : If you want to open a full-fledged discussion, we are prepared for it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request all the Members to please sit down.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Only one member is allowed to oppose and the mover of the Bill is allowed to reply.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Member is on his legs. All of you please sit down.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Has the Minister no right to speak about the procedure? He has only clarified the procedure—he has not said anything about the mind of the Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has only helped us.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : This is hon. Minister intervening. You allowed the Member who wanted to oppose and he spoke. Now it is for the mover of the Bill

to defend his Bill and it rests there at this particular juncture....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Order, please. The Member is on his legs. He just wanted to help us. That is all.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : It is highly inappropriate. I must protest against that.

SHRI A. K. SEN : On a point of order touching on a constitutional point—I have been a little longer in the House than the hon. Member—as a Law Minister, in the olden days I have always been called upon by the Speaker to enlighten the House whether there is *prima facie* any constitutional objection....

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : A very unfortunate procedure.

SHRI. A. K. SEN : The hon. Member seems to think that he knows the procedure inside out which I do not think I can see.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : I don't deny your right but it is very unfortunate.

SHRI B. V. DESAI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, instead of a routine introduction of the Bill I am sorry this Bill has attracted so much attention of the hon. Members. Now, having heard so much I would like to say a few words. There is nothing in the Bill which I have brought which injures the feelings of either my friend at the back or hon. Member Shri Banatwalla. The Law Minister has replied. It is not that I could not reply the same thing but because he is a senior member and he has also got a right to direct the proceedings in this regard. I would like to request the hon. Member to read the Bill. What does it say? There is no infringement on the Constitution and no ban on the religious conversions. So, I may be allowed to introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to ban religious conversions in India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI B. V. DESAI : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.37 hrs.

REGULATION OF ADMISSION TO MEDICAL AND ENGINEERING COLLEGES AND OPENING OF NEW INSTITUTIONS BILL

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for regulating admission to medical and engineering colleges and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for regulating admission to medical and engineering colleges and for matters connected therewith.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

COMPULSORY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION BILL*

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory vocational education in educational institutions.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory vocational educational in educational institutions.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.38 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL* (Amendment of article 316, etc.)

[English]

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Kirshnagiri) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*
(Amendment of article 74, etc.)

[English]

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.39 hrs.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY BILL*

[English]

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for convening of a Constituent Assembly of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for convening of a Constituent Assembly of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE BILL*

[English]

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : (Krishnagiri) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the taking over of the import and export trade by the Central Government or an agency set up for that purpose.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for taking over of the import and export trade by the Central Government an agency set up for that purpose."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.40 hrs.

CEILING ON MARRIAGE EXPENSES
BILL*

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for ceiling on marriage expenses.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for ceiling on marriage expenses."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I introduce the Bill.

15.41 hrs.

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF
MINISTERS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(Substitution of Section 3)

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA introduce the Bill.

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 12-4-1985.

15.42 hrs.

PREVENTION OF SOCIAL DISABILITIES
BILL*

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent the imposition of social disabilities by a member of a community on a member or members of his or their own community; to provide for penalties for such an act or acts and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent the imposition of social disabilities by a member or members of a community on a member or members of his or their own community; to provide for penalties for such an act or acts and for matters connected therewith.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I introduce the Bill.

15.43 hrs.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Omission of section 309, etc.)

[English]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I introduce the Bill.

15.44 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL
(Omission of article 44)—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now resume further consideration of his following motion moved by Shri G. M. Banatwalla on 29th March, 1985, namely :-

“That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration.”

Shrimati Mamta Banerjee was on her legs and she has to continue her speech. But I find that she is not present in the House.

So, I shall now call the next speaker to speak. Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas.

Only 40 minutes we are having for this Bill.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : How many minutes for me ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : 5 minutes for you. I hope you will take 5 minutes only.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Constitution Amendment Bill, 1985 moved by Shri Banatwalla. In his Bill, he wants Article 44 to be deleted. Article 44 says :

[English]

“The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.”

[Translation]

This is not a law which can be forced on anybody. It says that the State shall endeavour to secure a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.

Now, many things have been included in this Bill on the plea that it will interfere in their personal law, and apprehensions of this kind have been expressed.

While referring to the Muslim Personal Law Shri Banatwalla said that the Muslim Personal Law was a part of the *Shariat* and based on the injunctions of *Quran* and so it could not be changed. My submission is that there is no need for making a provision for its amendment. If the members of a particular community do not want any change in their personal law, there is no need to effect such a change.

But in order to have a uniform law relating to marriage, divorce, etc., so that the whole system functions well, a provision has been made here. There is no provision for any interference of any kind in that also.

37 years have passed since the country attained independence. The hon. Member's assertion that they do not want any interference in their personal law need not be stressed because no such change has since been made therein. Therefore, it is not desirable to express such an apprehension as to demand deletion of this Article.

I think it is not at all proper. There are many Muslim countries which have brought about changes in their laws and have tried to bring about uniform laws. There are many communities also who have tried to codify their personal laws. If such an arrangement is made, that will not create any problem and that will not be an interference in their personal law.

We have enacted a law against polygamy, but in Islam, four marriages have been allowed. For example, if a person has married once but his wife is unable to bear children, he can marry again for procreation. This provision can definitely be made but if some one marries 4 to 5 times just to satiate his lust, he should not be allowed to do so. That is why we have enacted a law against polygamy which invalidates more than one marriage.

Similarly, there is the question of inheritance. There are different laws in different countries in this regard. In our earlier laws the women had no right of inheritance. Today, we have given them equal rights legally. The sons and daughters have equal rights, *i.e.*, all the members of a family have equal rights. But the provisions of those laws are quite different from therein the present law. When we want to enact a law which will be beneficial to all and which will give equal rights, then there should not be any difficulty in adopting such a law.

The law concerning divorce has been enacted for all communities. Similar law exists in Islam also. For example, if a person lives separately or does not cohabit with his wife, he is entitled to have divorce. But the provisions in the Muslim Law are quite different. If the provisions in the Muslim Law regarding divorce are codified, that law would have additional force.

For the last 37 years, there has not been any interference in their cultural and personal law and in future also our Government have no intention to interfere in their personal law.

But whenever the need is felt to bring about some improvements in their personal law the same can be done through those very provisions and this Article will help in formulating a Common Law for the people of the entire country. Whenever the need is felt to effect any change in their personal law the same can be done under this Article on the basis of consenses. Therefore, if this law is allowed to remain on the statute book, it will not cause any harm or will not create any problems so as to cause apprehension of interference in their Personal Law.

In other countries such as Pakistan, Iran and other Muslim countries, particularly in Turkey or even in the socialist countries, where there is a large population of Muslims, such as China, the USSR, etc. such provisions regarding personal laws have been introduced and these are continuously being brought forward to ensure that the members of every community get equal rights. On this basis, I think the Constitution Amendment Bill introduced here with the feeling that with there will be interference in their personal law is not correct and the provision to delete that Article is not desirable. It will be a good thing if progressive laws are enacted for every community on the lines of the existing Civil Code so as to provide equal rights to every one and also to ensure that the Directive Principles are observed. Therefore, as I said in the beginning, I oppose this Bill and this Article must remain in the Constitution.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in principle, I support the views of the moves of the Bill but the question is not that of principle only. The question is of practicability and the practical aspect is that the mover of the Bill cannot achieve his objective merely through law. If we enact a law which hurts the feelings of some one, particularly the feelings of the minorities, I think we shall have to be careful while taking any step in this direction. Keeping in view the social composition of our democratic country also, we shall have to be very cautious. We should not compare our laws with those in the countries where the State is theocratic. Ours is a secular country. Our constitution provides for a secular society and if we bring about any change in the personal law of any particular community or religion, that community or religion can feel aggrieved and that can affect our whole system. Shri Banatwala,

while moving the Bill, has said a very good thing. He has rightly taken the initiative because such an initiative should be taken only by the minorities. But this initiative should not be only for bringing about any change in the law, but this should be to educate the people also. If the followers of that religion develop an understanding, a consensus, then I think the Government too will not have any objection. But a consensus should be evolved among the followers of that religion. We can, while discussing this matter, express our different views but, at the same time, we have to take into consideration the difficulties of Government also. I think it will be difficult for Government to implement the provisions of the Bill. Keeping in view the above, I oppose the Bill, though I agree with its spirit and request the mover of the Bill withdraw it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will ask the hon. Minister to intervene.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : Lot of feelings, both emotional and religious have been introduced in the debate. Article 44 was debated elaborately before the Constituent Assembly and it was originally Article 35 in the Draft Constitution. There were amendments proposed for deleting this. This is what Dr. Ambedkar had said and the House is well aware that he represented the minority view very strongly. This is what he said :

“We have in this country a uniform code of laws covering almost every aspect of human relationship. We have a uniform and complete Criminal Code operating throughout the country, which is contained in the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. We have the Law of Transfer of Property, which deals with property relations and which is operative throughout the country. Then there is the Negotiable Instruments Act, and I can cite innumerable enactments which would prove that this country has practically a Civil Code, uniform in its content and applicable to the whole of the country. The only province the Civil Law has not been able to invade so far is Marriage and Succession. It is this little corner which we have not been able to invade so far and it is the intention of those who desire to have article 35 as

part of the Constitution to bring about that change. Therefore, the argument whether we should attempt such a thing seems to me somewhat misplaced for the simple reason that we have, as a matter of fact, covered the whole lot of the field which is covered by a uniform Civil Code in this country. It is therefore, too late now to ask the question whether we should do it.”

Now, whenever the question of a uniform code is raised, it is thought as if it is going to interfere with the law of marriages and succession of different communities, forgetting for the moment, that Civil Code and Criminal Code cover so many branches of our political and social life. For instance, we have a Criminal Code. We have the Transfer of Property Act governing the property relations. We have the Law of Contract, governing the law relating to contracts. We have the Law of Torts, which is not yet statutory. We are striving to make it statutory and we are attempting to do so. Therefore, a large part of our political life and our social life is covered by codified law and for a long time.

I am not very conversant with the law relating to crimes so far as the Koranic Law is concerned. But I have no doubt that there are certain injunctions there, penal and otherwise, which are quite different from the Penal Code and possibly the trial there, would be different from the Criminal Procedure Code. But why is it that it is not objected to by anyone? Because the Penal Code is one of the finest laws so far as crimes are concerned and nobody thinks of either chopping hands or stoning adulterers or various other punishments, which possibly prevailed in olden days and which, I think, even the Koranic Law does not make mandatory.

Now, Mr. Banatwalla has spoken only from the point of view of one community, viz. the Muslims.

16.00 hrs.

There are other communities in this country which have their own personal laws, and which also would need the same consideration as the Muslim personal law. But as I see it, the Quranic Law was an all-pervading law. As the hon. member himself has said, it is one law which covers every facet of human life, including the law of crimes, and the question of punish-

ment of criminals, and other offences. But when we talk of the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code, it is the uniform Code which applies to all. Nobody says that the Muslims will have a different criminal law, Parsi will have a different criminal law. The Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act is a different Act. Nobody says that Christians will have a different Criminal Law. These are matters where the necessity of human beings in a particular age makes it possibly very desirable that there may be a uniform Code. For instance, the Law of Contracts : it covers every community. Now take the Moneylenders' Act, for instance. The Muslim Law prohibits taking of interest. But the Moneylenders' Act or the Contracts' Act or the Negotiable Instruments Act allows the Muslim to take interest. Muslims go, particularly the typical Kabuli-wallah, to a court; and he gets the decree, with interest. Muslims go to recover the loans, get decrees along with interest. Nobody says that it is conflicting with the Muslim personal law. As far as I know, there is a thing called *farz*, in the Muslim personal law : Something which must be done, like saying prayers five times a day, or performing the Haj, or the injunction for fasting *i.e.* during Ramzan. I think there are five *farzes* according to Muslim law.

But, for instance, circumcision is not a *farz*, It is a custom. Nobody says that if circumcision is not adopted by a Muslim, he will be committing something against what is mandatory according to the Muslim law. It is entirely his option, to do or not to do it. In fact, many non-Muslims adopt the practice of circumcision, as a very hygienic method of preserving the body from a particular ailment. Therefore, it should be a mistake—and we have debated this question so many times—to think that Article 44 hits at any person. It does not. It has been our policy for a very long time that so far as minority communities are concerned—and that includes the Sikhs and the Muslims—their personal law would not be touched so far as marriages or succession or divorce is concerned, unless the community itself agrees that it should be so done, as it has been done in Egypt, Tunisia and other Muslim countries. But uniform Code in other spheres is the most desirable thing; as I said, in the sphere of law of crimes, in the sphere of the law of Torts, in the sphere of the law of contract and various other things.

But whenever we think of a uniform Code, people think that it is hinting at the law of marriages or the law of succession. Nobody tries to do it, unless Muslims themselves think, or the Sikhs themselves think that their marriage laws should be changed.

So far as the Hindu Marriage Act is concerned, it applies to Sikhs, Hindus, Jains and others because, at that time, they all consented on the Marriage Act covering everyone, including the injunction of monogamy.

So much has been said about monogamy. I think it would be a great injustice to say, as if Muslim law enjoins upon more than one wife. It says nothing of the sort. I have read the Quran. I have made it a point to read the Quran.

It only says that you may marry upto four wives. It is otherwise an injunction against multiple marriage. In a society where people used to keep any number of wives, it becomes injunction only against multiple marriages. It is not a *faraz*. You must marry four wives. In fact, one hon. member has said about it. I don't see him here. Others have said about it and I have made a study myself about it. The Muslim Law is categorical that you may marry more than one wife upto four provided you can treat every one equally; and that is the commentary of the Muslim Law. Therefore if the Muslims agree that monogamy should be the rule of the community and that it may be departed from only in extreme cases like extreme illness of the wife, insanity of the wife and various other causes, then it will be for the Muslims to say. We have not said so. But what has got article 44 to do with it ? We have seen this argument; and only, the other day, I had seen that even in Calcutta, the new wave has gone and I have been copies of certain resolution being passed by the Muslims. It is a curious thing; and it is only the Muslim community which tries to think that article 44 is at the same level. We have other communities here in this country. This country is rich in diversity. We have different categories of Christians : the Syrian Christians, the Catholic Christians, the Protestant Christians. We have different categories of Muslims—Sunnis and so on. The hon. member has not accepted *Ahamdiyas* as Muslims at all or the *Bahais* as Muslims.

But they claim to be Muslims; and we are not saying that you cannot claim to be Muslims. Everybody has the right to claim whatever he wants to do, so far as religion is concerned. Article 25 gives a complete liberty to everyone to practice his faith; and we are proud of them; we are not like Pakistan where only one religion is the State religion or some other countries where State and the religion are common. This country does not recognise a State religion. We are not theocratic; we do not believe in fundamentalism. I make it quite clear to Mr. Banatwalla—he believes in fundamentalism—that he cannot force fundamentalism on any one, not even on Muslims; and we have plenty of Muslims who think that fundamentalism is not Islam and there is no compulsion in religion. I have read Koran. The very first tenet of Islam is that there is no compulsion in religion. Therefore, everybody has his own interpretation of religion.

Now, the orthodox Hindus says that unless one goes and takes bath in the Ganges five times or worship in the Vishwanath Temple, he is not Hindu and the Arya Samajis is no Hindu or the Jain is no Hindu. But we are those who believe that Arya Samajis are as much Hindus as anybody else. There are many Sikhs who think that they are different from the Hindus or there are Sikhs who think that they are part of Hindu community. Well, who is more powerful and who is less powerless is not our business to decide. Article 25 gives the guarantee in categorical terms that everybody is free to practise his own faith, his own religion, expresses his own conviction, expresses his own belief. Therefore, this country has no religion as a public policy. The State is different from religion and the Preamble says very clearly about it. We are proud of it. This is the multi-religious; State; this is multi-racial State; this is multi-lingual State. It says, "Socialist Secular Democratic Republic." That is the Preamble. Therefore, this is the secular democracy; this is not a religious or a theocratic democracy; and those who believe in theocracy have no place, so far as our constitutional mandate is concerned. This is very clear and we are absolutely dedicated to that idea that secularism is the very essence of our constitution, is the very essence of our life; and will not allow any religious strife or trail of any religion to dominate over us to prevail.

Therefore, all this talk about Article 44 and other things and quoting Quran or the Bible or the Gita—various people have quoted the Gita—Gita is quoted not merely by the Hindus but all over the world now by so many others. Krishna is quoted. There is a Hare Krishna Society, Krishna Consciousness Society, and we allow them to do so. They are as much entitled to claim Krishna as their Avatar as we claim, the orthodox Hindu. This is the very lesson of the Gita, of the religious faiths all over the world.

Swami Vivekananda said in his speech Chicago :

"As all roads lead to Rome all religions lead to God. It is only the smaller and the bigoted who says that his road alone will lead to God and other roads are completely alien from God."

This is what the whole concept of Indian society has taught us over the centuries and we have grown with various beliefs. Among the Hindus there are so many sects and communities, the Ramanuja, the Valabhas, the Shaivites and they all enjoyed larger life of Hindus similarly, with the larger life of India. When I go to a Vishnava temple in the South, or a Shiva temple in the South, I feel the same oneness with the rest of the community; and when I dip in the ocean in Kanyakumari I always feel elated at the very sort of majesty of this country which was described as *Aasetu Himachal* from the Himachal to this Ocean. So, when so many people full of petty jealousies go and take a dip in the Ocean at Kanyakumari, you will appreciate what great India is. What do the vast Oceans teach us? All Oceans meet, all the rivers meet in the vast Ocean, carrying the message of India through the centuries, namely we have evolved a common culture, a common society, common values in diversity. The Muslims, the Mughals, the Pathans, the Hoons, the Sakas and the Aryans and the Non-Aryans, Tamilians and the others, the Adivasis have all mingled in a mighty Ocean.

As Dr. Tagore says the great pilgrimage of India the farthest tip where all the mighty rivers have flowed into one Ocean, they remain separate, yet they are merged. That is the voice of India.

What has got Article 4 to do with this religion? Let us not pollute the concept of

our secular democracy, that rich heritage from the past thousands of years with these ideas of theocracy, bigotry and pettiness. This country is far above bigotry, pettiness and strifes amongst religions.

I was only telling the Russian Law Minister today while I was lunching with him that "Years ago, Your Excellency." I said :

"There have been Jews in this country in the Sixteenth Century. In my own city of Calcutta there is a large population of Jews and there is a large population of Jews in Bombay and other places. They did very well. They are a very rich community. The first wave of Jews came," I told his Excellency, "in the Sixteenth Century when the religious bigotry of the Catholics in Spain led to the hated Inquisition system where anybody who was not a Catholic was put on the rack and shot until he succumbed to the torture and said, 'I shall become a Catholic'; and the Jews have come to us by the Inquisition and a large section came and settled in Cochin. They are still found there. The Synagogue there is built on a land which was gifted by the Maharaja. Opposite is his own ancestral Shiva temple."

In olden days when I was the Minister of law, Religious Endowment was one of the subjects under my charge. Whenever and wherever I went, I went all the religious places of worship—mosques, churches, temples and synagogues. I went to a Synagogue in Cochin. Cochin has the oldest population of Jews. They were white Jews and they married local girls and produced not such white children. They have very peculiar names. The rabbi was a very young man. He got the name of Hellen, whose cousin was a teacher of my children in Calcutta. What is the most wonderful thing about this—I will tell Mr. Banatwalla—and others that the whole tradition of India is tolerance of all religions. When I went inside the synagogue, the rabbi produced a very great copper plate before me. It was the grant of the land recorded in Sanskrit which said : "Our friends from across the seas have now come driven by fury and passion and religious intolerance. I owe it to my God and to my ancestors to give them help and succour. In the name of God and my ancestors I give this piece of land near

my own temple so that these friends driven from across the seas, will have the opportunity of worshipping their God in their own way." They have been worshipping since then, for centuries now. The synagogue is still there. A Hindu king, a Nayanar king by birth, allowed a synagogue to be built next to his temple where for centuries the Jews have been worshipping. When they were slaughtered in Germany and suffered in many other countries and when these tribes were the most unfortunate once in the Middle-East, they never suffered here. When you go to Ajanta, the Jain caves, the Hindu caves and the Buddhist caves have stood side by side for centuries. But nobody wanted to convert the other.

Mr. Banatwalla was very agitated when the question of forcible conversion was raised by some hon. Member. Forcible conversion is no conversion. This country does not believe in this. These caves have remained the sentinels of Indian nationhood, integrity and unity over the centuries proclaiming to the rest of the world though languages and racial differences distinguish us, yet we have inherited the common heritage over the centuries. The great Bhagirathi and the Godavari have been fertilising our nation and our country for centuries. From the north to the south, millions of pilgrims have travelled over the years to the Rameswaram and the Kanyakumari to offer their prayers to God in their way. And thousands have come from the south to Varanasi and Amarnath high in the snows, showing thereby how our pilgrimages have been located so that notwithstanding the difference in political divisions, geographical divisions, they have forgotten all the differences. Rajputs have gone to the south. Tamilians have come to Varanasi. This country has been knit with golden bond of unity over the centuries. Go to Ajmer Sheriff. How many Hindus go and worship every year when the urs comes, travelling all over the country? I know how many people bring to me the blessings of Ajmer Sheriff every year all the time.

I said on the Floor of this very House that whenever I have gone to Amritsar, I have never come away without saying my prayer in the Golden Temple and I never felt that I am not in a Hindu temple. Now the Sikhs say that Sikh temples are only their temples and not ours, and the Sikh Gurus are only their Gurus and not our

Gurus. We have never heard of this. In Dr. Tagore's *Jeevan Smriti*, his autobiography, he says how, as a child, his father used to take him in the morning for months to say the prayer early in the morning in the Golden Temple and how, he thinks, his own spirit was enlightened by the beautiful sounds of the prayers that he witnessed in the Golden Temple. And some of his finest poems are about the deeds of valour of Sikhs and their Gurus. This is what India is. Let us not talk and get bogged in bigotry. The whole House stands committed to secularism the whole nation stands committed to secularism. We do not believe in bigotry. Every community every religion, every faith has a right to exist. And Article 44 does not do away with this. Any lawyer should say Article 25 and Article 44 exist together. Article 25 is the guarantee for freedom of religion, expression faith and practice, and Article 44 says, try to bring about uniformity. Similar laws come by similarity. What has is got to do with the Quran, with the Geeta or with other things. I think in this country the worst thing that has happened, as in other countries, is that the worst of crimes have been committed in the name of religion only. I told the Russian Ambassador and the Russian Law Minister that when I went to Auswitz, I saw millions of little children's shoes, hair, dresses and everything, all stored in one room. Children were bashed into death in the gas chamber only because they were Jews, they belonged to a different faith, and that showed the barbarity of human mind. In the name of religion, people had to sacrifice for no fault of theirs. I read the Sikh history. Guru Teg Bahadur was murdered in Sis Ganj, right in Chandni Chowk, because he did not want to give up his faith and adopt Islam. The emperor who killed him, was he following the great tenets of Islam? He was following the tenets of barbarism. And we have banished barbarity and religious bigotry for all times to come. This country stands as the greatest champion for free thinking, free religion, free religious practice, and it will remain so for all times to come. Bigotry has no place in this country. With these words, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw this Bill. Otherwise it will be our duty to throw it out so that the country knows that this is the great bastion of secularism in the whole world.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very much thankful to the hon. Minister for his kind intervention. I am also grateful to all the Members who have participated in the debate and have made very valuable comments. The Hon. Minister has been carried away by his own eloquence and the central point has been totally neglected.

I may say that I am in agreement with the Hon. Minister with a large area of his speech. Indeed India is a secular State and that has to be protected. Those noble sentiments, which the Hon. Member has expressed are unfortunately at variance with and have been negated by the provision of Article 44 of the Constitution of India. Indeed India is a nation with so many languages, religions and cultures and I am one with the Hon. Minister when he says that the strength and the grandeur of our country lies in allowing free practice of religion. That is the spirit that has to be observed.

Unfortunately, while India is a nation with various religions, languages and cultures and while we ourselves believe in unity in diversity, at the same time we have this Article 44 in the Constitution of India, which wants a uniform civil code. The uniform civil code implies very clearly and unmistakably the steam-rolling of all the differences into a uniform pattern. That again is at variance with the secular spirit and our policy of unity in diversity. These differences are steam-rolled into one uniform pattern, which would not serve the interest of the country. The country to be truly free has to allow full blossoming of the religion and culture of every section of society. Instead the Article 44, as I have already pointed out in my opening remarks, tries to be steam-roller and have a regimentation which is contrary to the spirit of Article 25 and is contrary to the spirit of our secular democracy.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFFOR) : Supposing a uniform law is made according to the SHERIAT, then what is the difficulty?

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : You know very well that whenever the question of interpretation comes, we have to go to the *koranic* text—SUNNAT—and not to the words which you may have incorporated

here. That is the particular thing. You cut away the source. That source cannot be cut away.

Some Members have referred to what they call pernicious practice in the name of religion. I am obliged to them for these remarks. However, these form the controversial subject of Article 25 of the Constitution and not Article 44. Article 44 deals with the concept of uniform civil code and I am before the House asking the House to delete this Article. I have already emphasised in my opening remarks that the Muslim Personal Law is the religious obligation of every Muslim. There is no question of its surrender. Therefore, the continuation of Article 44 in its present form gives only impetus to controversy. It generates tension. I have, therefore, come before this House requesting the House for the deletion of this particular Article or at least for making a provision that the Muslims will be exempt from the provisions of the Uniform civil code.

An argument has been advanced that when the Islamic Law of crimes is not available here, then why an objection is taken with respect to the items which form part of the personal law? I submit that this is perverted logic. If a part is not made available, it does not mean that the other should also be surrendered. It cannot be called a healthy logic. Let me declare that we, the Muslims of India, are prepared to submit ourselves to the law of crimes as envisaged by Islam if the State is prepared to enforce it upon us. We are prepared for it, but that is the law of crimes that has to be enforced by the State. If they are not prepared to enforce it despite our willingness, how can that be termed as a healthy logic for the surrender of the other part?

Sir, I have already said that there is an argument saying that when there are so many uniform laws, then these uniform laws encourage national integration, but despite all these other uniform laws we have the present pitiable position with respect to national integration and harmonious relations. If you talk of uniformity and uniformity, throughout why have the concept of federation at all? Why have the concept of 22 Legislatures legislating in different places? What I am submitting is that this concept of uniformity

which leads to regimentation is at total variance with our policy of unity with diversity.

Some of the hon. Members have pointed out that the Muslim personal law contravenes Article 15 (1) of our Constitution. I will not go into details here in this respect because there are several cases—in the State of *Bombay Vs. Narasu Appa Mali* (AIR 1952, Bombay 65), again in *Srinivas Iyer Vs. Saraswati Ammal* (AIR 1952 Madras 193), again in *Gurdayal Kaur Vs. Mangal Singh* (AIR 1968, Punjab 396) and several other cases also, the courts have held the opinion that the Muslim Personal Law is not at all violating any of the articles of our Constitution.

Sir, some of the Members, as I have said, referred to a few practices like polygamy the concept of divorce, the scheme under inheritance—mainly these there points have been referred to in this House as a little faulty as far as Islamic injunctions are concerned. As I said, these are really the controversial subject-matter of Article 25 of the Constitution. However, since the point has been raised, I may only briefly point out that *Encyclopaedia Britannica* asserts that the institution of polygamy exists in almost all parts of the world. The question, therefore, is its proper regulation. Sir, the western civilization permits adultery on the basis of mutual consent and thus closes the door to responsible relationship.

Mr. Anne Beasant says : "The pretended monogomy of the West is, in fact, polygomy without responsibility." I submit, Sir, that by prohibiting adultery, permitting polygomy in times of need under strict conditions and making parity among the wives on essential conditions. Islam has put a top to licentiousness and has opened the way to responsible relationship. The hon. Minister is totally right when he says that polygamy is not obligatory. It is discretionary. I must submit that the word "discretion" here means the descretion of an individual. You cannot by law taken away the discretion of an individual given to the individual by his own religion. That will be compulsion. And it is this compulsion that is opposed to the "free practice of religion". I emphasis the word "free" which has been used deliberately and purposely used in article 25 of the Constitution of India. What does the concept of

“free practice of the religion” mean? “Free practice” means, when your own religion gives you certain discretions, you will be free to make your own choice to make your own discretion. Closing the doors of discretion for an individual is not free practice of religion as contemplated by article 25 of the Constitution.

I totally agree with the hon. Minister when he says that there can be no compulsion. Indeed, that is the particular point that I have been raising. A uniform civil code introduces an element of compulsion at some stage or the other. The hon. Minister himself has expressed noble sentiments of doing away with this compulsion in a secular democracy. The Quran also says:

“*La Ikrahafuddin*”

That means, there is no compulsion in matters of religion. The Quran further says :

“*Lakun Di Nakum Vale Yadeem.*”

To you is your religion and to me my religion. Where then is the controversy? Then comes article 44 which says that we will steam-roller all the differences. Therein comes the impetus to controversy which generates tension.

However, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I submit that this question about polygamy and abuse of divorce and all these things are rare instances. *Leonard : (Pages 130-131) Islam, Her Moral and Spiritual Value*, points out—

“In a greater measure, polygamy in Islam is much more a theoretical than a practical institution.”

In India, not even 1% — surveys are already there—practise polygamy. Therefore what certain hon. Members have been putting forward—the ban on polygamy as their contention to bring about a uniform civil code—is rather misguided and misinformed position. I appreciate the sympathy that they have but I submit that it is a misguided sympathy and not based upon facts.

This is also true about divorce. In Islam, it has been emphasized and re-emphasized that divorce is the worst of all permitted things. Therefore, instances of divorce are also rather rare. It is an exception rather than a rule. Moreover, the procedure of divorce in Islam is also such as to encourage

reconciliation at every step wherever possible.

I will not take much time of the House by going into the entire law with respect to it. I draw the attention of the House to the judgment given by Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer when he was the Judge of the Kerala High Court in the case of Yusuf Rawthan Vs. Sowramma AIR 1971, Kerala 271. I quote :

“Indeed a deeper study of the subject discloses a surprisingly rational, realistic and modern law of divorce.”

This is not what I say. This is what Justice Krishna Iyer says with whose various other judgments we very vehemently differ. He himself has put it on record.

There was a reference to the scheme of sharing under the law of Inheritance. The Muslim law is a very balanced and inter-related law. You cannot take up one item and talk about it without any reference to the context. I must say that under the concept of a Muslim society, men are charged with maintenance of women, children and the entire family. The greater are their responsibilities imposed upon them by law. Therefore, the higher is their share. To each according to his need and from each according to his ability. That is also translated in practice under the scheme which the law of inheritance lays down.

As I have said, the Muslim personal law is the religious obligation of a Muslim. As a Muslim, there is no questions of his surrendering it. Therefore, wherever the uniform civil code comes in at variance with the Muslim Personal law, it cannot be acceptable to Muslim. Hence the continuation of article 44 is simply an impetus to some people to create controversies and to generate tensions and so on and so forth.

A lot is said about the status of women in Islam and about improving the lot of women. All that is based upon a lot of misunderstandings. I will rest content by quoting a Paragraph from the Paper of B. Asiha Lemu which she had submitted in a conference which took place in London and to which I had referred in my opening speech. She concludes her Paper by saying :

“Fortunately, no one has changed or can change the words of Quran and

the regulations for the protection of women which were revealed in the Seventh century can be easily verified by anyone in the Twentieth century as we have just been doing. I believe that these laws and social regulations regarding women contain certain fundamental truths which will benefit whoever applies them. The present time of widespread rethinking of the role and rights of women is perhaps the appropriate time to look with fresh eyes at the Islamic point of view which has contributed to the formation of stable societies in both sophisticated and under—developed peoples in vast areas of the world over the past 14 centuries which has retained the continuity of its principles and from which the Western world may have something to learn.”

Before I conclude, I must appreciate the position taken by the Government. It has been made amply clear that there is no intention on the part of the Government to bring about any changes in the personal law of the Muslim unless and until the Muslims themselves desire it. As I have already elaborated, the question of a Muslim as a Muslim desiring the changes in the Kuran and the Sunna do not arise. However, I must welcome the announcement made by the Government. But the proviso that the Government goes on adding and the content of this Article 44 of the Constitution of India is an impetus to many to create tensions and controversies which are quite avoidable. It is, therefore, that I had come before this House to request the House to delete this Article 44 from the Constitution of India. At least if that cannot be done, let there be some other Bill in which a proviso can be added to Article 44 exempting the Muslims from such a uniform civil code.

I am totally in agreement with the hon. Minister when he talks of the concept of secular democracy, of blossoming of every culture and of the rich heritage of tolerance of our Indian society. In fact, these were the very sentiments I had echoed in my own opening remarks while moving for the consideration of the Bill. My submission is that it is the ideology of any civil code to steamroll all the differences. However, I have come forward with the hope that there would be rethinking of the subject on the part of the Government also and on the part of this

House and there will be better realisation and appreciation that the concept of Article 44 is at variance, with the concept of our own secular democracy is at variance with the concept of national integration as we understand it and is at variance with the policy of unity in diversity.

I hope that these points in due course of time will, in future, at least if not today, be appreciated by the Government.

With this hope, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Mool Chand Daga's amendment is there. He is not present in the House. I shall now put the amendment moved by Shri Mool Chand Daga to the vote of the House.

Amendment was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

16.51 hrs.

INDIAN TOBACCO COMPANY LIMITED
 (TAKING OVER OF MANAGEMENT)
 BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up the Indian Tobacco Company Limited (Taking over of Management) Bill to be moved by Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan. Before we take up the Bill, we have fix the time for this Bill. Shall we fix two hours ? . . . Yes. Two hours are fixed for this Bill.

Mr. Ram Bhagat Paswan.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have introduced this Indian Tobacco Company Bill because the company has become a web of irregularities. Therefore, it is necessary in

the interest of the country, the public and the Government to take over the company. In this company a major part of the investment has been made by our country but its profits are going to the foreign countries and to the big capitalists and directors. The investment has been made by the Government but the profits are being pocketed by private persons. Besides, the directors of the company spend crores of rupees on luxuries and show it under some other heads with the result, the cost price is increased which is borne by the consumers. Alongwith it, the directors are amassing black money through their sales agents. Large sums of excise duty and income tax are due from them. About Rs. 300 crores are due from them as excise duty. The Supreme Court has asked them to pay Rs. 109 crores out of which they have paid only Rs. 19 crores. We, therefore, hope that government would take over this company, which would not only be in the interest of workers and the country, but also in the interest of government. The assets of ITC are nearly Rs. 800 crores which were only Rs. 74 crores in 1972. Thus the assets of this company have increased manifold during the last three years. This company has violated the M. R. T. P. Act and the Companies Act and has harassed small Indian shareholders. Out of this huge capital, an amount of Rs. 250 crores is due to Government as excise arrears and out of Rs. 250 crores, Rs. 109 crores have to be realised as per the orders of the Supreme Court and the recovery of Rs. 150 crores has been held up as stay orders from various High Courts have been obtained. Whenever Government takes any action against this company, they obtain a stay from the Supreme Court. This results in protracted litigation and in the meantime they are expanding their business activities with the interest earned from Government money and with that money indulge in litigation also taking all these factors into consideration the take over of this company is absolutely necessary.

[Shri Vakkom Purushothaman in the Chair]

16.54 hrs.

The directors of this company send annual remittances of Rs. 400 crores to foreign countries. An amount of Rs. 400 to 600 crores is spent on opening and maintaining foreign offices. In this, may,

this, company is violating the MRTP Act and harassing the Indian shareholders. Not only this, a huge sum is shown as expenses on salaries and other perquisites of the directors. This company also shows various expenses in the name of setting up of new companies and indulges in tax evasion. Old and second hand machines are imported into India after having very high prices and thus the country is deprived of valuable foreign exchange. Thousands and lakhs of labourers are kept temporary to avoid application of labour laws. Workers are kept as contract labour so that the company may not be forced to provide ESI benefits and leave facilities. Many workers are working on contract basis in the factories of this company in Bihar and at Saharanpur in U. P. According to the rule, if a worker puts in continuous service for 250 days, he becomes eligible for regularisation, but this company removes them from service before regularisation. This company is not only cheating the workers but is also violating all the labour laws, the Finance Act and the MRTP Act.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, though the name of this company is "Indian Tobacco Company," yet it has so many business activities in India. Whenever this company establishes new company, it submits an application for approval, but starts its business operation before approval is received. This company is not engaged only in the business of cigarette manufacturing. It has established many companies for doing the business of marine products, printing, hotel, sale of B.O.P.P. and investing company, etc. In the name of export and import, this company is indulging in illegal trade of *charas* and smoking mixture. By providing financial help to foreign agencies, this company is giving encouragement to the anti-national elements in the country. This company is providing protection to the persons connected with foreign companies on the pretext of business.

Though this company is a multi-national company, it has entered in the field of small scale industries also and has set up small industries like Triveni Handlooms and Tuff Tools International. By adopting various methods of amassing black money, this company has encouraged corruption in the country. The entry of such a multi-national company in the small scale sector

has adversely affected the small scale industries of the country. This activity of the company is a clear violation of the MRTP Act and the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act.

Now I would like to explain how fast the assets of this Company have increased during the last three years. The assets of this Company were valued at only Rs. 74.65 crores in 1972 which had grown to Rs. 791.54 crores in 1983, in other words its assets increased ten times and now the value of its assets is more than Rs. 850 crores in 1985. An amount of Rs. 250 crores out of the profits of this company is paid to the foreign partners of this company. This company has established its offices at several places in foreign countries on which an annual expenditure of Rs. 400 crores is being incurred.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the salaries, commissions etc. of all the Directors or this Company are settled without approval as required under the companies Act.

17.00 hrs.

These persons decide their percentage of profits and get all the facilities without obtaining any approval.** Saheb is its Managing Director. He has recently received Rs. 7500 per month as salary and one per cent of the total dividend. Similarly, there are **Saheb and** Saheb working as directors. These persons are enjoying all the facilities without the approval of the Company. This escalates the cost of production and ultimately the general public have to bear the burden.

This Company has recently violated section 372(2) of the Companies Act and diverted a huge amount of the capital to another company without the prior approval of Government so that this company could be closed, if need be, to avoid payment of arrears of excise duty. The Company is incurring losses and the capital is being invested in another company so that it could avoid payment of excise duty and income-tax. It purchases shares of other companies so that the previous company could be declared insolvent. In this way this Company has adopted many methods of tax evasion. A case against them is pending in the court of Metropolitan Magistrate in Calcutta. Litigation takes a lot of time. I would,

therefore, request that a special court should be set up for this purpose so that immediate action could be taken against these persons who are evading excise duty and income-tax to the tune of crores of rupees are indulging in illegal trade.

They have decided not to pay excise duty and have diverted the capital by establishing a new company. They have also been convicted on the charge of opening the new company and they have been given warning by closing down their company under section 22 of the M.R.T.P. Act. It is a matter of great pleasure that Government are taking prompt action against them. These persons have been warned, but they are still pursuing their illegal activities.

When they realised that a huge amount was due as tax arrears, they set up a small *benami* company and started manufacturing their products so that the previous company could be closed down, if need be.

The proof for their illegal activities is that they have set up Asia Tobacco Company at Hasur. In addition to that, *benami* units the name of Crown Tobacco, Bombay and Master Tobacco, Bombay have been established. In these units, most of the products of I.T.C. are being manufactured. In their own factory, the workers are being appointed on a contract basis. As a result the workers are not getting reasonable wages and bonus and they are not being confirmed.

The number of excise cases pending against them is much that Government are consolidating all cases against them by setting up a separate cell. But that would also take a lot of time. I would, therefore, request that all the tax arrears, whether it be of excise duty or income tax, should be realised from them in the first instance. They are resorting to illegal trade practices and have entered into the small scale sector and are also violating the M.R.T.P. Act. Stringent action should be taken against the directors and action should be taken to realise the Government dues immediately and litigation may continue thereafter. An amount of Rs. 300 crores is due from them as arrears of excise duty. If this amount is realised, many projects, could be implemented in North Bihar with the tax arrears only. I would like to emphasise once again that the tax arrears should be recovered first and thereafter

litigation may continue. These big capitalists have evaded taxes in this manner. If the arrears are recovered expeditiously, many of our schemes can be completed. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was confirmed through a reply to a question when I was a member of Rajya Sabha. There is a variety of tobacco named 'Virginia', which is, perhaps, is brought from the South. This virginia tobacco is brought to the Saharanpur factory in Uttar Pradesh. This is sometimes infested by an insect and if a crop gets infested by this insect, it destroys other crops also. Government have warned them not to being such infested virginia tobacco, but, they are going ahead with their programme in spite of Government's warning. The result is that the crop gets destroyed when infected by this insect.

In reply to my Starred Question No. 309 dated 21-3-83, it was stated that L.I.C. had sought approval under Section 23 (4) of the M.R.T.P. Act and Section 108 (a), 372 (4), 269, 198 and 309 of the companies Act, whereas Vishwarama Hotel had been acquired before the approval was given. At the same time, Shri A.N. Haksar was made whole time Director with Rs. 7500 per month as salary and one per cent commission with other perks without having obtained approval under the Companies Act. His appointment was made on 1-7-80 itself whereas the approval was not obtained till 21-3-83,

Mr. Chairman, Sir in reply to my question 943 dated 1-3-83, it was stated that many of the files which Government required were deliberately placed and they were not produced before the Government. They were warned to produce all the files, but these files have not been produced so far. Action should be taken against them immediately. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was admitted in reply to my Question No. 847 dated 1-8-83 that I.T.C. had indulged in irregularities. 32,500 shares of Bihar Hoti have been acquired 980 shares of Rs. 100 each of Tuff Tools International, 22,000 shares of Rs. 10 each of Roll Print Packaging, 80,000 shares of Rs. 10 each of Vishwaram Hotel have been acquired, 202 shares of Rs. 10 each of Vinakal Investment and 202 shares of Rs. 10 each of Saga Investment have been purchased without obtaining approval. Similarly, they have also violated the M.R.T.P. Act and the companies Act by acquiring shares of

India Cement without approval, information in respect of which was given in reply to question No. 847 dated 1-8-83.

I reply to question No. 846 dated 1-8-83, we were informed that I.T.C. had disregarded the guidelines on 9 November 1978 and 4 October 1979 and had, thus, violated them.

In reply to question No. 1527 dated 8 August 1983, it was admitted that I.T.C. had violated the M.R.T.P. Act and that it was being investigated into. But, in this case also, they were let off after issuing a warning.

In reply to question No. 611 dated 3-5-82, it was stated that a 'show cause notice' was issued to I.T.C. on 8 March 1982 under Section 22 of the M.R.T.P. Act, but no decision has so far been taken in this regard.

A case of misuse of foreign exchange was revealed vide question No. 2460 dated 23-3-82, but no records have been produced in this regard so far.

It was admitted on 8 August 1983 (vide question No. 1637) that their Directors were showing excessive expenditure in foreign countries. Even details were given showing that one of the Directors had spent Rs. 7,20,000 in a year, but no report has so far been given in this regard. It was admitted in reply to question No. 554 dated 2 May 1983. That a large number of employees were kept on a temporary basis in I.T.C. and their services were terminated after three months. No inquiry has so far been made into it and the lives of thousands of employees are being spoiled. In reply to question No. 54 dated 26 April 1982, it was admitted that there were some irregularities in the matter of sale of B.O.P.P. and that the M.R.T.P. Act had been violated. Even in this case neither the inquiry was completed nor the case was handed over to the C.B.I. I insist that this should be investigated into by the C.B.I. In reply to question No. 56 dated 26 April 1982 it was admitted that they evaded tax on a large scale by setting up a factory in Sikkim unauthorisedly without obtaining a licence. No action has so far been taken even in this case. The Supreme Court had ordered in February, 1983 that a recovery of about Rs. 109 crores be effected from I.T.C. but no recovery has been made till today. It has been revealed that I.T.C.

has made a payment of Rs. 19 crores. Government have yet to realise Rs. 98 crores. In addition to the orders of Government, I.T.C. is floating the orders of the judiciary also. It is the order of the judiciary that Rs. 109 crores are to be recovered from them, but Rs. 98 crores are still outstanding. In reply to question no. 107 dated 3 May 1983, it was admitted that I.T.C. had taken out about 5776 lakh and 5953 lakh pockets of cigarettes in January and February, 1983, respectively, on carts. It is surprising that they have started using carts instead of trucks.

It was agreed that whatever quantity they produce, it should be taken out in trucks after it was properly weighed and counted. But they load on buffalo cart, for which no account is kept. There is no account as to the quantum of production. Government's excise duty is being evaded. Thus, they are openly violating the provisions of the M.R.T.P. Act and the Companies Act. In reply to question no. 1942 dated 11 August 1983, it has been admitted that by excess production, I.T.C. is indulging in huge evasion of excise duty (*Interruptions*). It was conceded *vide* reply to question no. 1076 dated 2 August 1983 that the charges of suppression of production and sales against I.T.C. would be inquired into. But no inquiry has so far been made. In reply to question No. 2264 dated 16 August 1983, it was stated that income tax to the tune of Rs. 44.73 lakhs was outstanding against I.T.C. This has not been recovered till today.

In reply to question no. 179 dated 29 April 1984, it was stated that a huge amount of excise duty was to be recovered from I.T.C., but in spite of that, a big amount was refunded to them. Could that amount not be adjusted against the outstanding dues? Similarly, in reply to question no. 107 dated 30.4.84, it was admitted that action was being taken against I.T.C. after registering a case of violations of Section 372 of the Companies Act. It was also admitted that a case was filed against the officers of I.T.C. on 11-7-84. When this case is going on for such a long time, why were the directors of the company not arrested and why were they allowed to be at large? In this way, they continue to indulge in black deeds unhindered. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would urge that the severest action be taken against

them. I am happy to know that the Government recently registered seven cases against them, which include a case of Suppression of Production and Removal of goods without payment. I would request Government that first of all action should be taken to recover the outstanding taxes from them, because they have been working against the interest of the labourers. Government have inverted the entire capital in this company, but these individuals are deriving the benefits. In view of all these things, it becomes necessary for the Government to take over Indian Tobacco company without any loss of time. It has become necessary even in the national interest.

Its managers make foreign trips in the name of advertisements, even technicians of the company frequently make foreign trips and, thus, a lot of money of the company is being spent. Keeping this also in view, I shall request the Government to take over this company at the earliest.

If for some reason it is not possible to do so, I would request Government that a committee comprising the Members of Parliament should be constituted to go into the affairs of this company to unravel the irregularities being indulged in the illegal activities being carried out there and to bring to light how the management is engaged in anti-national, anti-people and anti-government activities. That committee should inquire into it as to how the company Act and the M.R.T.P. Act are being violated and submit its report to Government and on the basis of that report Government should take the sternest action. If possible, they should take over this company.

With these words, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. With these words, I beg to move :

“That the Bill to provide for the taking over of the management of the undertaking of the Indian Tobacco Company Limited for a limited period in order to secure the proper management of the same, be taken into consideration.”

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

“That the Bill to provide for the taking over of the management of the

undertaking of the Indian Tobacco Company Limited for a limited period in order to secure the proper management for the same, be taken into consideration."

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through his Private Member's Bill, the hon. Member has brought to the notice of the House how powerful these multinationals are, how they are successful in doing away with the law of the land, and in diverting profits from one sector to the other.

I need not repeat the name which the hon. Member has mentioned. In fact, that person was very close and in proximity to the highest power in this country and it is because of that person's association with the Company that the company, namely the ITC, was able to do mischief which the hon. Member has told us. I believe it was so. He has mentioned about this malady in detail. This is a very very important matter. In fact, on cigarettes alone, the Central Government is getting Rs. 906 crores as Central excise. In addition to that, it is earning nearly Rs. 200 crores of foreign exchange. While the things stand so, Government's indifference to a grave crime, to serious lapses that have been committed by a very big giant firm like ITC is very surprising; it is deplorable. Leaving the fate of the growers, leaving the fate of the workers to the god or to the wind, is not fair on the part of the Government. In fact, several branches of this I.T.C. are closed. They are not working. Thousands of workers have no work. At the same time, this Company which has earned hundreds of crores of rupees of profit on the produce of the agriculturists, the tobacco growers as well as workers, is diverting its funds, its profits to several other concerns like hotel industry, fishing or some other exports and some such things which our hon. member has pointed out. This should not be taken in isolation. There are some more companies which are also doing the same mischief and bringing down the image of our country in the international market to the lowest ebb. They are not adhering to the scruples which they have to follow at least at a minimum level. As a result, a country like China which was importing huge quantities of

tobacco from our country, has decided to stop imports of tobacco.

So, I request the Government to take immediate action on all these companies which are not adhering to the rules of the land. The hon. member has brought specific instances, but till now action has not been taken against this ITC company. We are told simply that the Director General (Inspection, Audit and Customs and Central Excise) is scrutinising the records. How many months or how many years do they require for scrutinising papers and when are they going to take a decision? We are not able to know. Moreover, I would like to submit to the Government the case of the growers. As a person coming from Andhra Pradesh, which is producing 90 per cent of the tobacco, Flue cured Virginia tobacco, I request the Government to take care of the growers. They should see that the traders behave well. So far as the growers are concerned, they were at the mercy of the company fellows or at the mercy of the buyers. There was no guarantee that the company would pay money to the growers. Several hundreds of crores of rupees to be paid was evaded. The farmers are cheated and looted. It is only after the Tobacco Board is set up, that some protection is given to the tobacco growers. Prior to the introduction of this Open Auction Platform System, the farmers were at the mercy of the buyers. Now this system has come into vogue since the last season first in Karnataka and now in Andhra Pradesh. There are rules to the effect that 50 per cent of the money should be given to the farmers within 15 days and the rest of the 50 per cent within 45 days. I am sorry to say that this was not be adhered to as some companies had succeeded in cheating a large number of farmers of their dues previously. The farmers have yet to get their money. With this introduction of the Platform System, I am very happy to note that the farmer has got some protection because he will get his money definitely even if it were less by 5 or 10 rupees per tonne. The Tobacco Board is giving the cheques. The farmer has to go to the Bank simply and get the money within fifteen days and the rest of it within 45 days. But even now justice is not done to the farmer because there is a wide gap between minimum export price and the minimum support price. Actually, only

Rs. 250 will be enough for other operations, before exporting. I request the Government kindly to reconsider this.

It is very good that you have set up the Tobacco Board. With regard to the functioning of this Board, it has been mentioned that it will include .

“...recommending to Central Government the minimum price for the purpose of export of Virginia tobacco by exporters with a view to avoid unhealthy competition among exporters.”

It means Government is very sympathetic to the exporters, and not to the growers, who are producing tobacco and who have to face drought, cyclone, tidal wave and several other natural calamities. There is no security. So, I want the following to be included in the functions of the Board :

“...recommending to Central Government the minimum price which may be fixed for the purpose of purchasing from farmers, keeping in view the cost of cultivation, risk element involved, and relating it to the minimum export price fixed to the exporter.”

So, this should be one of the functions of the Tobacco Board. I request the Government immediately to take stringent action against the Indian Tobacco Company which is doing a lot of harm to the nation. I request the Government to take over the management of the Tobacco Wing of this I.T.C. and run it on ideal lines, so that the erring private trade will also behave well. Government can set an example because, as I said, this is a very good revenue-earning, as well as foreign exchange-earning commodity to the Government.

In view of this, I request the Government to take immediate further action, and not to waste time. The hon. Member who piloted the Bill, had narrated his questions, and the answers he had got. After all these things also, I am surprised to see that things remain in the same position.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) :
 Sir, I would like to congratulate my friend, Mr. Paswan for giving detailed information about the conditions prevailing in this Tobacco Company and the unravelling the

irregularities being committed by it. When he was placing figures before this House for our information, the hon. Minister was wearing a smile on his face at the time. I feel that he has made up his mind to conduct an enquiry into the irregularities being committed by this Company. I hope would look into their lapses and ensure that action is taken against it.

As per our information, it is a very big Company and is earning a lot of foreign exchange through its business. If such a big Company indulges in malpractices, other companies will follow suit. It is a fact that all such private companies are earning large profits by misusing Government funds and by violating the Government policies. The result is that neither are we earning revenue to the required extent nor were its ancillaries getting and benefit. Most of the investment in these companies has been made by Government, various financial institutions and I.D.B.I. Most of the funds in these big companies have been invested by I.D.B.I., which is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Industries. They are not getting return on their investment. They take advantage of loans from I.D.B.I. on one pretext or the other but when asked to return the amount, they do so by taking loans from other financial institutions and the banks. Investment is made by Government but the profit is earned by the company. Now, multinationals have also resorted to such practices. Besides, these companies indulge in other types of malpractices also. The companies engaged in export trade are permitted to import certain items in lieu of the exports made by them. By taking advantage of this facility, they import certain items and set up separate organisations to sell them. The profit earned by them is diverted to other fields. Some of our friends were telling just now that this company now wanted to enter the hotel business. It wants to divert the profit being earned by it to this field. It will set up big hotels. It will compete with government organisations in this field. It will also compete with small organisations in the country. Being a very big Company, it can withstand the competition very easily and can wipe out small companies.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister and to allow them to divert their profit, because if they enter this field, they

will wipe out these who are not yet established properly. These big companies indulge in irregularities in other matters also. Government have given many concessions to the private sector in this Budget. Through these concessions an atmosphere is sought to be created which should be conducive to increasing productivity and reducing the prices and ensuring better wages for workers. If they do not come to our expectations, people will criticise us for the concessions given by us in the Budget. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to keep a strict watch on the private sector to ensure that it meets the challenges before it and proves itself worthy of the concessions given to it.

With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I also thank Shri Paswanji, who has made us aware of many things which were not in our knowledge.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Sir, Shri Paswanji has brought forward Indian Tobacco Company Ltd. (Taking over of Management) Bill and the facts stated by him about this Company are abominable. Hence, I agree with the views of Paswanji and Rawatji that a high level enquiry should be conducted in the matter. In fact, under the mixed economy in the country, the entire capital invested in the private sector, the public sector, the co-operative sector and the joint sector belongs to the financial institutions and Government. You might have observed how these private people have misused the facilities given to them by Government, the banks or the financial institutions during the last 37 years. I had made a study that all the incidents of lay-off retrenchments and the declaration of mills as sick mills were not genuine. They only invest the money of one company in another company on one pretext or the other. As revealed by Paswanji, they are only increasing their perks. It is true that they should be given facilities. This time our Budget is job oriented, for which I congratulate our Prime Minister. This Budget has been prepared keeping in view the increasing number of the unemployed youth. I would like to tell the Minister of Industry that his Ministry has to play a major role in it, as his Ministry controls the industries. There is no such things as the private sector, the public sector, the joint sector, or the co-operative sector.

The money invested in them belongs to government or the financial institutions. Hence, it should not be allowed to be misused. There should be a monitoring cell in the Ministry of Industries for this purpose.

I would like to request the labour Minister, who is present here, to ensure that the labour laws meant for the workers are not violated and the workers are not exploited anywhere. If laws relating to industries and financial institutions are violated, I feel and this House will also agree, that if an enquiry is not possible through a parliamentary committee, a high level enquiry should be conducted and a representative each of labour, industries and the Financial Institution, which had invested the money, should be associated with it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have adopted the system of mixed economy in the country and under it if any concern in the private sector is showing good results, it should be appreciated. In the present case, considering the manner in which its capital has multiplied, it appears that it must have done very good work and we can congratulate them for that good work. But we find that they are remitting profits to foreign countries to the tune of crores of rupees. So, we would have to put a check on it. I congratulate Paswanji that he has made a very deep study about this company. The hon. Minister has admitted that there are six cases against this company. This shows that the company is indulging in irregularities. If a company indulges in irregularities one after the other, our Government's policy is to nationalise it. Under this policy, certain tea estates and some textile mills have been nationalised recently. The companies, which are functioning contrary to the interests of the country and the poor, should be taken over. You have said that six cases have been filed against this company and you know about the court's decisions. The industrialists are able to bring stay orders. Earlier we had separated the judiciary and executive, but in the present situations, I feel that we have to reconsider the question and see whether this situation should be allowed to continue. I do not say anything about the High Courts at the Supreme Court, but in the lower courts, a dinner party, an assurance about son's employment or self-employment after retirement decides the trend of the judgement. There are many such companies in our State

also, which have not paid Government dues to the tune of crores of rupees. If you collect information, you will find that crores of rupees by way of excise duty, income-tax or sales tax are due from different companies. They have taken stay orders to obviate their payment. Supposing stay order has been taken to which the payment of Rs. 10 crores, how much will be the interest on it? With the interest so saved, they float other companies.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : In connivance with advocates.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Hence, I request the Minister to get a high level enquiry conducted to know how they manage to get stay orders. Our young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has resolved to complete the pending works, to remove unemployment and to take the people into the 21st century. Hence, we should function in such a way that our coming generation may remember us. We have to ensure the development of the country, whether in the industrial field or in the field of modernisation, so that we may be able to maintain our prestige in foreign countries. It is a very small but important Bill. It covers the entire industrial policy. A few days back, our Budget was presented. You might have seen that a lot of measures have been spelt out in it to remove unemployment in the country and ensure the all-round development of the country. But the opposition says that we have deviated from our path. Mention has been made about the socialistic pattern of society. Socialism means not increase of poverty but increase of wealth and its distribution it. ...*(interruptions)*... I would like to say that the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira ji, had followed the policy formulated in 1956. Before elections in 1985, the country and the people had before them certain difficulties and some declarations were made at that time. In order to give these declarations a practical shape, it is necessary to formulate schemes for the economic upliftment of the people. I am sure that the hon. Minister will make arrangements by which the spirit of doing work with honesty is rewarded in the different sectors. With these words, I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): I rise to support this Bill. This is a very

simple Bill which seeks to take over the management of the Indian Tobacco Company Limited, whose Head Office also is at Calcutta. We are always in favour of taking over the management of private companies. We are always advocating that the public sector enterprises should grow more and more in our country.

The nation has to achieve the goal of socialism which is enshrined in our Constitution. We cannot achieve that goal of socialism if we allow such a situation in which the private sector will go on cheating the people. On that ground, we are always in favour of take-over of the management of the private companies by the Government. This company is not a losing company and by taking over this company, the Government will not have to lose anything...

(Interruption).

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Government can take over a sick company. When this is not a sick company, why should the Government take it over?

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Merely because somebody is making profit, so we must pounce and take away that profit! Is that the basis for nationalisation?

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Let me finish first. If they are making profit, where from are they making this profit? More than 50 per cent of the capital is of the people, of the nation, and with that money they are managing or mismanaging something and making the profit. They are cheating the people with the people's money. When somebody is cheating the people with the people's money, how long will this type of situation be allowed to go on? That is why I am pleading for the taking over of the management.

The company has not paid the legitimate share of the Government in terms of Customs and Excise duties. Therefore, this aspect should also be looked into by the Government.

The company has been able to build up a system of middlemen. They are appointing some selling agents and those selling agents are always trying to cheat the people by raising the prices of the products of the company. Both the company and the agents are cheating the people, and the people are

suffering because the prices of the products of this company are regularly going up and up. So, I would urge upon the Government, that while taking over this company, they should also abolish this system of middlemen or selling agents.

Another point that I would like to mention is that if the Government takes over this company, more employment opportunities can be created. Therefore, we must take this opportunity to create more employment opportunities for the young unemployed.

All the grounds mentioned above clearly show that there is no alternative but to take over the management of this company.

Sir, I have gone through the Bill and would like to point out only one thing. Regarding clause (3) of the Bill I would like to say that after taking over the company, its management should be a democratic body and workers' participation should also be there. Some nominated persons should not be allowed to run this company.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : If not nominated, should they be elected ?

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : No, the workers' participation should be there, they can be made the shareholders of the company or something like that. The brokers alone should not be allowed to run this company.

I know what is going to be the fate of this Bill because after discussing so many things and after talking so many words, at last the hon. Minister will request the mover of this Bill to withdraw it and the mover of the Bill will have the pleasure to withdraw this Bill.

My point is that we should not take everything in a very casual manner. We should take certain things seriously also. The hon. Member from the ruling party itself piloted the Bill and some hon. Members also have supported the Bill, and we even from the Opposition have been wholeheartedly supporting it, then why should this Bill not be passed ?

It seems Government is in two minds in regard to this. I do not know whether the ruling party has any commitment now for

socialism. They have probably forgotten this word also.

Another thing is that there is a big lobby pressurising the ruling party and the Government not to take it over, because without their money the ruling party will stand to lose.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Do you mean the West Bengal ruling party ?

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Still I feel they will show the guts to come out of the pressure of the big lobby. Therefore, I request the goodwill of the hon. Minister and the hon. Members to pass the Bill unanimously. I hope this Bill will be passed.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Sir, it is a very sad state of affairs as has been revealed from the initial statement made by the hon. Member while piloting this Bill. In the Aims and Objects of the Bill he has stated that the Government would stand to benefit to the extent of Rs. 300 crores if this take-over is announced.

I am at a loss to understand as to why strict action has not been taken against this company, in case all the points and the instances quoted by the hon. Member are correct. So, there should not be any further delay.

I would also request the hon. Minister to reply to the specific charges that have been revealed by the hon. Member in the course of his speech. He is a responsible Member of this House and he has quoted certain answers given by the Government on the Floor of the Rajya Sabha. In case all these instances and replies given by the Government are correct, then the Government owes a reply on these charges to the House and to the people of this country. Therefore, the Government should state what action has been taken so far. Since only six cases have been registered—and according to the hon. Member more than 20 cases have been brought to the notice of the Government—I would emphasise that specific action should be taken on all the instances. The records of the Rajya Sabha are available with the hon. Minister for scrutiny. He should see and verify all the points that have been raised. If there is substance, then immediate action should be taken.

I would also like to know whether the Companies Act or the MRTP Act, or laws on the Statute Book and Regulations also empower the Government to take some action in this direction. In case it is possible, then this question of taking over of that company is a secondary matter. The revelation of so many of these false practices and desire to misappropriate money and utilise it for ulterior purposes is pointing towards a very sad situation.

Another aspect of it is that hundreds, perhaps thousands of labourers who are kept by the company are retrenched every three months so that they are not made regular and on this issue they are recruited again. This is also another malpractice and therefore, the Ministry of labour should also pay some attention to it.

While I agree with the sentiments of the mover of the Bill, I would also plead for immediate, strong and stringent action under whatever laws that are available to the Government to undo these practices and to punish for those malpractices there and also take some measures for the future so that no other companies are able to resort to such malpractices and deny the Indian sector crores of rupees.

One more point which I would like to develop in this connection is that keeping in view the large concessions announced to the private sector and various other bodies in our Budget, it is high time that we saw to it that they are not misused and therefore, when fresh incentives are given to the private sector it is all the more necessary that laws are made more stringent so that public money is not misutilised by those people, and the purposes for which the concessions are given by our new Government under the initiative of our Prime Minister are also fulfilled.

With these words I would support the spirit of the Bill. I would also support the takeover, but more than this I would call for stringent action and I would request the Minister to reply to the specific charges which have been levelled by the hon. Member during the course of his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE
 (Churu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the

Bill. The Bill introduced by Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan shows how the multinational companies misappropriate public money and indulge in malpractices and illegal activities and defame honest persons and show them the wrong path. It goes against our country's interests. It has a bad effect on our economy also. We shall have to ensure that public money is not misused to harm the country's interests. They earn money by wrong methods and remit it to foreign countries. It has also come to notice that they do not indicate the price of cigarettes manufactured by them. This is their general practice. Similarly, they evade taxes and violate laws also. This Company has exported inferior quality of goods to Hongkong. The result is that our country's image is tarnished in the international sphere. It is a very bad thing. A petty criminal murders one persons, but such companies play with the very prestige of the country. They earn money from here but defame us at the same time. The result is that we earn a bad name in the international market. Why are such companies always financed by us ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can continue your speech next time.

17.59 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

— Contd.

[English]

Notification under Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. 122/85-Customs (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1985, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to computers from basic customs duty in excess of 160 per cent *ad valorem* under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-707/85]

18.00

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
 Eleven of the Clock on Monday,
 April 15, 1985/Chaitra 25, 1907 (Saka)*