

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Third Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, May 5 1992/Vaisakha 15, 1914
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (COIMBATORE): Sir, the Cauvery Water issue is a very very important issue today. There is no water for the Tamil Nadu people. I want that the Prime Minister should make a statement on this. (Interruptions) It is a problem of my State.

(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs

At this stage, Shri C.K. Kuppaswamy came and sat on the floor near the table

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM, VILAS PASWAN (Rosra): The Prime Minister has assured in the House that he will call for the Chief Ministers.

(Interruptions)

Why is he fighting with the Chair? Why does he not fight with the Prime Minister? It is the responsibility of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has assured the House that he will call for the Chief Ministers. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Sir, It is a very serious matter. Arjun Singh ji is present here. Prime Minister has said in this House that this matter would be discussed here with both the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Therefore, the Government should take it very seriously. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The Government should make a statement as to what steps the Government have taken. (Interruptions)

11.04 hrs

At this stage, Shri C.K. Kuppaswamy went back to his seat. (Interruptions)

SHRI C.K. KUPPASWAMY: It is a very bad situation. There is no water. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now Question Number 861.

11.01. hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Berths for Handicapped Persons

+
*861 SHRI C.P. MUDALA
GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reserve one second class compartment or

some berths for handicapped persons in important trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) While Railways would like to help the handicapped persons, but considering the demand outstripping the availability of reserved accommodation and similar requests from other categories of passengers, it has not been found feasible to earmark separate accommodation for them.

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is really a very blunt answer as also a blunt attitude towards the handicapped persons. Sir, as you know, we are very considerate to the sufferings of humans particularly, to the sufferings of the handicapped persons. They are handicapped not because it is part of their own but because the society is not helping them properly. This is not in conformity with the declared policy of the Government. The Government of India, under various schemes had extended facilities to the handicapped persons. Whereas, the Railways have not provided any facilities to the handicapped persons. Therefore, will the hon. Minister reconsider their opinion towards the handicapped persons and provide all facilities, as declared by the Government in its policy.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, I appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Member and with a human approach to the handicapped, the Railways also have the same intention. And so far as the facilities which the government of India has announced that it should provide to the handicapped are concerned, we do have certain facilities. For example, for the handicapped orthopaedically paraplegia persons, 75 per cent concession is given to

them in the 1st class and 2nd Class and concessions are also being given to the blind, completely deaf and dumb persons. Unfortunately, it is not possible to earmark a compartment for the handicapped.

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether the Minister is aware of such facilities provided in other countries also. For example, even in public parking areas also, the parking is reserved for the handicapped persons. There are many social organizations who have come forward to help the handicapped persons. So, I request and I hope that the hon. Minister will get the report from other countries as to what are the facilities that are available there and provide the same in the Indian Railways also.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, certainly, I may not be knowing that much of what the hon. Member knows about the facilities given to the handicapped in other countries. But I do know that they do have certain facilities like for example, a wheel-chair will straight away be taken into the compartment. And there are many other things in other countries where the social, economic and other conditions are entirely different from that of social and economic conditions prevailing in India. But, however, we have all sympathy for the handicapped and so far as this reservation is concerned, in computerations, a separate counter, to the extent possible, is maintained which is reserved for the senior citizens, freedom fighters and the handicapped.

MR. SPEAKER: Will it not be possible to reserve some berths if not compartments?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The point is that it is not a question of providing in one train. There are thousands of trains which we take into account and particularly, the long distance trains mail and express. In fact, we have asked our railway administration to see that more unreserved coaches are attached to these trains, so that this reservation phenomena will be reduced to a great extent.

[Translation]

*SHRI K.H. MUNIYPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am fully aware of the sympathies of the Hon'ble Minister Shri Jaffer Sharief and the Hon'ble Minister of state Shri Mallikarjun towards the poor, downtrodden and the handicapped persons.

But strangely the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister does not reflect this view.

Sir, I want to know whether it is a fact that the concession will be given by the railways to the disabled persons only when they are 80% handicapped? If so, how is this percentage determined?

Is it a fact that a handicapped persons who has lost both legs and moves only with the help of wheel-chair is considered as 50% handicapped?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

[Translation]

Handicapped person is not a normal person and therefore there cannot be any discrimination among handicapped persons.

Also there is some doubt about the validity, reliability and consistency in determining the percentage if disability.

Therefore will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to do away with this percentage system and provide concession to all the handicapped persons. And finally Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister reflect the Congress culture by providing concession to the handicapped persons without escorts?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Did you follow it?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: To some extent. Therefore, I am replying. (Interruptions) The hon. Member wanted to know about the

percentage, how are we going to determine a handicapped persons and the validity of that.

So far as the determination of a handicapped person is concerned, we have certain norms. The Government doctor will issue a certificate for orthopaedically handicapped persons. So also for the mentally retarded persons, the Government doctor will issue a certificate.

Similarly, a government doctor or a medical practitioner can issue a certificate for the blinders of the persons.

So far as the blind people traveling in the trains are concerned, once the Station Master notices them and once he identified with the identity card, he issues the concession. So far as the orthopaedically handicapped or completely deaf and dumb and mentally retarded persons are concerned, they are allowed, only when their escort is traveling with them and their escort will also get equal concession as the handicapped persons get.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYN YADAV; Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has said just now that considering the large number of trains, it is not possible to provide reservation for such people in these trains May I know from the hon. Minister whether one coach would be reserved for handicapped persons in the trains coming to the capital such as Rajdhani Express or the long distance trains

MR. SPEAKER: No, he has already said.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has already replied to that.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Just now, the Minister has said that the companions are

allowed with the handicapped persons. But, actually, the whole machinery is not allowing it. I will request the Minister to kindly check it up. Here, he is saying that companies are allowed with the handicapped passengers, but in reality it is not so. Therefore, I will request him to check it up.

My question is that how many other categories have asked for the similar facilities in Railways and the volume of which, was - as you have said - one of the reasons for not accepting this. How many other categories have asked for or requested the similar concessions?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: So far as the persons accompanying the handicapped are concerned, I have very categorically informed the august House. Orthopaedi handicapped that is, paraplegic and mentally retarded persons will not be allowed to travel unless and until they have an escort and that escort will also enjoy the equal concession.

The other category of people asking for the similar concession are in the list of senior citizens, freedom fighters and others. It is not possible to provide it; and it becomes a big problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 862 Postponed.

Distribution and Price of Wheat

+

*865. SHRI ANBARASU ERA:
SHRI C. SREENIVANSAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to distribute superior quality of wheat to the consumers in small bags through Public Distribution System;

(b) the details of the prevailing wheat price supplied through Public Distribution System as well its price in the open market;

(c) whether the tenders for import of wheat have been processed and finalised;

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(e) the present price of wheat in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOLI): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Government of India procures wheat only of Fair Average Quality. This is issued for distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDC) throughout the country. There is no proposal to distribute any superior quality of wheat in small bags.

(b) The current Central Issue Price of wheat ex-FCI godown is Rs. 280/- per quintal except in areas covered by I.T.D.P. scheme where it is Rs. 230/- per quintal. The retail end price to the consumer, however, differs from State to State depending upon the administrative cost, transportation charges and the margin allowed to the Fair price Shops. In I.T.D.P. scheme areas, States/ U.Ts. have, however, been asked to keep retail price at Rs. 255/- per quintal. The open market retail prices of wheat at some of the major consuming centres in the country as on 22.4. 1992 were reported to be between Rs. 3/- per Kg. and Rs. 7.20 per Kg.

(c) and (d). After considering the various offers received in response to the global open tender enquiry issued in March, 1992, the Government has decided not to place any orders for the purchase of wheat on the basis of this tender enquiry.

(e) The prices of wheat quoted at Kansas Exchange in US for Hard Red Winter (HRW) quality with about 14% protein content for the last few days have been as under

	(Per Metric Tonne)
15.4.1992	US \$ 134.13
16.4.1992	US \$ 134.75
20.4.1992	US \$ 136.56
21.4.1992	US \$ 136.34
24.4.1992	US \$ 137.81

(source : "Reuter commodity Service")

MR. SPEAKER: I hope there would not be any difficulty.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: I do not want to sit even near to him. He may even come out with an explosive answer.

Sir, the price for the wheat paid to the farmers in Punjab and Haryana, I believe, is very very low. I understand that Rs. 250 per quintal is paid for the agriculturists. Therefore, there is a report that they are not coming forward to sell it to the Government agencies. Under such circumstances, is there any proposal to increase the procurement price of wheat so that the agriculturists will be benefited?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: Sir, in fact, this is an minimum support price. It was raised from Rs. 225 to Rs. 250. In addition to that, we have also given bonus of Rs. 25 per quintal till the end of May.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: I have seen another news item in the papers that in order to curtail the quota for wheat export and improve the supply position and in order to contain the prices in the country, the Government of India decided in January this year to make arrangements for import of ten lakh tonnes of wheat.

At the same time, according to another news item, during the year 1991-92, the Government of India has exported a total quantity of 6.72 lakh tonnes of wheat. It is paradoxical. On the one side, we are importing while on the other side, we are exporting. I

want to know from the hon. Minister the reason for it. Is it correct to say that we are also importing as well as we are exporting? Which one is correct?

SHRI TARUN GOGI: Till today we have not taken any final decision in regard to the import of wheat. A decision to export wheat was taken in August, 1990. The decision was to export about ten lakh tonnes for wheat. Out of that two lakh tonnes were exported. Then, again in 1990-91, a decision was taken to export ten lakh tonnes.

When we came into power, we reduced it to eight lakh tonnes. That decision was taken by the earlier Government. We allowed to continue because of the difficult foreign exchange position during those days. Till today, seven lakh tonnes have been exported.

A decision to import was taken. (Interruptions) Till today, we have not imported. The decision was taken to import one million tonnes. But till today we have not finalised the import of wheat.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: As per the answer given by the hon. Minister for part (b) of my question, he has stated that the price of wheat differs from State to State because of administrative and transportation charges. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government will take any action to have a uniform price for the wheat all over the country in order to help the rural poor in southern States.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In fact, the issue price is the same, but the open retail price varies from State to State.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: You can give subsidy.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: The support price is the same. Then the Central issue price is same throughout the country. But the retail price does vary from State to State.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHRY: Sir, I want to know the facts. Because of the support price, the cultivators are not selling

wheat. So, the open market price of wheat is up to Rs. 7 and some odds. Is the Government apprehending that this wheat may go and would be channelised in another way so that the public distribution system will not be able to function and control the prices?

Secondly, if the Government is exporting rice, what promoted the Government to import wheat? When you have enough stock, you are exporting it. What are the reasons for which you contemplated and called tenders to import wheat?

So, is it due to some pressure or due to the fact as it stands?

MR. SPEAKER: This question is already replied to by the Minister. If you want, you can repeat it again.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: As regards procurement, till today, we have procured about 3.5 million tonnes as against the same quantity we had procured last year also. This time, there was some agitation which was going on and I hope procurement will pick up further. As regards import, the price was very high in the tender at that time. That is why, we did not take any decision. In the meantime, procurement season has started and we will review the whole case after the procurement season is over.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has stated that we are not importing wheat but we are exporting it for earning foreign exchange. While wheat is being exported for earning foreign exchange, the Government is not able to release their full quota, to all the states for distribution under Public Distribution System. May I know from the hon. Minister the steps being taken by the Government to release their full quota to all the States? What are the steps that are being taken by the Government to release the full quota to the States and honour its assurance?

[English]

SHRI TARUNGOGOI: Now, that export was in respect of a past contract we have not taken any decision now for export of wheat.

MR. SPEAKER: It is already replied.

[English]

SHRI JAGMIT SINGH BARAR: I want to know about one point from the hon. Minister, through you, as he has replied to a question about Punjab. There was lot of resentment amongst the farmers since seven days and there is a boycott of all the grain markets in Punjab. I think the procurement targets which the State Government has fixed will not be fulfilled by it and they are also thinking to go on strike again for seven days in Punjab. So if the farmers of the State which is giving 70 per cent of the grains to the central pool, do not bring the grants to the market again for the next seven days, then it is going to be a very serious matter. Through you Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to come forward to do something to avoid the stick specially the boycott and may call a deputation of the farmers or venous farmers organisations who are ready to come forward and discuss the matter. I think if the time is given for them, then this boycott may end and this will be in the interest of the whole nation.

MR. SPEAKER: You can treat this suggestion as his question.

SHRI TARUN GOGI: We are seized of the matter and we are in touch with the Government of Punjab in this regard.

[Translation]

Blood Banks

*866. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUDEWAR:
SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:

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

(a) whether some commercial blood banks in the Capital are selling blood by issuing their own AIDS free certificates with the bottles;

(b) whether in certain recently detected cases such blood had been found to be HIV positive;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry had been ordered into the issue of such AIDS free certificates by these commercial blood banks;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the preventive measures being taken to check this racket in the Capital and other Parts of the country?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (e). Under the guidelines issued by the Directorate General of Health Services in February, 1989, all blood banks including commercial blood banks, are required to be linked to zonal Blood Testing Centres for purposes of assuring that the blood supplied is free from HIV anti-bodies.

As the blood samples are required to be tested for HIV infection at the Zonal Blood Tasting centres, commercial banks are not authorised to issue HIV free certificates. However, recently there was an instance where a blood sample declared HIV negative by the zonal Blood Testing Centre viz; the Institute of Pathology (ICMR), was found to be HIV positive by a private nursing home. A further test on the same sample conducted by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, confirmed the finding of the nursing home. The Delhi Administration constituted a Committee of experts to conduct a detailed enquiry into the circumstances leading to the issue of the conflicting test reports.

The Expert Committee has attributed the conflicting test reports on the blood samples getting mixed up or alternatively a remote possibility of getting false negative results. Based on this finding, the Expert Committee has recommended intensive training of personal working intestine laboratories and close monitoring.

A joint meeting of zonal Blood Testing Centres and Blood banks is being called to work out uniform standardised procedures for handling, labeling and transporting the blood samples.

[Translation]

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Mr. Speaker, sir blood is the most important thing for human life and illegal trade of blood is being carried in the whole country. There are professional donors of blood in the country and some agencies purchase blood from these donors and resort to its black-marketing. Certificates are issued to them without testing their blood and so there is a strong possibility of presence of the deadliest AIDS germs (HIV positive) in such blood samples. May I know from the hon. Minister as to the steps contemplated by the government in this regard? In the reply, the Minister of Health and Family Welfare has stated that a committee is being formed. By what time this committee would be formed on such an important issue and when its report, would be submitted / The reply also mention that there was an instance where an institution had issued the HIV negative certificate and another institution issued HIV positive certificate for the same sample. Under such circumstances there are chances that double certificates i.e., HIV positive and HIV negative certificates, may be issued and Government has also expressed a remote possibility of getting false certificates. Since it is a very important issue, may I know the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the institution which issued these false certificates?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has very rightly expressed his

concern about ensuring availability of blood free anti-bodies because it is the most important thing for saving the human life. Therefore, to ensure its purity and to prevent any taming efferent zonal centres have been established in Delhi and only the blood bank affiliated with these centers can provide blood after testing. The incident referred to by the hon. Member has been reported in a newspaper dated 14th April, 92. Later on an enquiry was conducted. It has been alleged that the sample was issued first and later on it was declared negative. But actually it was positive and the clinic to which it was sent for transfusion also tested the sample and found it to be positive. The sample was destroyed and so, the question of giving it to somebody does not arise. But the question is that some of the blood from that sample was sent again to ICMR and NICD confirmed that the sample was positive whereas according to ICMR, it was negative. The enquiry report received till now indicates that possibly somewhere, samples got mixed up. In this connection, I would like to tell the hon. Member and the august House that I am not fully satisfied with the enquiry. The matter would be investigated further and then we will arrive at any conclusion. But it is the first case, there has been no such case earlier and therefore we will ensure that such a case is not repeated in future.

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how many such blood samples containing the dreaded germs (virus) of AIDS have been detected? Does the Government propose to formulate and implement a new at Taluka level to ensure that if there is anything wrong with such an important issue like blood, the accused would be awarded stringent punishment? Does the Central Government propose to establish Blood banks at Taluka level and if so, and the details of the steps being taken in this regard?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: This question is concerned with Delhi.

SHRI VILASRAO NAG NATHRAO GANDEWAR: You can see the last part of the main question. It is also there.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I will provide detailed information in this regard to the hon. Member.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PADDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any inquiry was conducted against those nursing homes or those Commercial blood banks which issued such a certificate. According to your own statement, the result of one is negative while that of the other is positive. Is this institution Compiling with the norms of the Blood bank?

[English]

It is stated in the reply that a joint meeting of Zonal Blood Testing Centres and Blood Banks in being called to work out uniform standardised producers for handling, labeling and transporting the blood examples.

[Translation]

Because in the process of transportation, there could be a possibility of absence of proper caution and being contaminated. The Government should make it clear as to when and what measures they are going to take to check the creation of such situations and to ensure that the people do not feel insecure and they do not have to lose their lives?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the part 'A' of the question is concerned, we can take action only when we arrive at certain conclusion. However we are doing all that what is required to arrive at a conclusion. So far as the second part of the question is concerned reports and suggestions have been invited from the State Governments. The report of Zonal Committee is also due to come; as soon as this part of the action is completed, we will take further steps to make all comprehensive arrangements in this regard.

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a follow up of the state made by the hon. Minister, does the Government propose to open Zonal centers in all the States of the country on the pattern of Delhi so that the people in those part may

avail the facility of blood testing so as to take operative steps against this deadly disease.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, sir, I have told you deadlier that after Collecting information in this regard I would give it to the members of this House.

[English]

**Conference of Environment Ministers
of Saarc Countries**

*867. **SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:**
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI:

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

(a) whether a two-day Conference of the Environment Ministers of SAARC countries was held in new Delhi to prepare a joint strategy for the UN Conference on Environment and Development to be held in June this years in Brazil;

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed and decisions taken thereon;

(c) whether the green house gas impact in the South Asia region was studied by the committee of SAARC countries; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) to (d). a Conference of the Environment Ministers of SAARC Countries was held at New Delhi during April 8-9, 1992 to deliberate upon the issues related to the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) to be held in Brazil in June 1992. A Joint communiqué was adopted during the Conference reflecting the censuses of views of SAARC countries on environment and development. A copy of the Joint Communiqué agreed upon has been placed in Parliament Library for reference by Hon'ble Members.

The 5th SAARC Summit Declaration at Male in November 1990 had called for a study on the greenhouse effect and its impact on the region. This issue was considered by the SAARC Standing Committee which decided that Member countries should prepare their national studies and send these studies to the SAARC Secretariat to be compiled later in the form of a regional study.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Sir, as has been observed by the Minister at the SAARC meet, the pity is that though the problems of greenhouse effect, depletion of Ozone layer and emission of toxic gases like CFCs are being created by the industrially advanced countries, they are showing lack of matching concern in assisting the developing countries to prevent depletion in environment. On the other hand they are making aggressive moves to impose new conditions on the developing countries.

May I know in this context, Sir what were the conditionalities and the aggressive moves referred to by the Minister at the Conference.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, the question of Ozone layer is contained in the Montreal protocol which India has yet to sign. India has desired certain amendments in the Montreal protocol. These amendments can only be accepted if they are ratified by 20 countries. The ratification process is still on. As per my information 19 countries have already signed it and as soon as the 20th country rectifies it, then India shall accede to the Montreal Protocol.

With regard to emission of gases like No² SO₂ and CO₂ the hon. Member is quite right that the developed countries are largely responsible for this environmental degradation which has taken place in the process of their development. This is being dealt with in a proposed convention which is still negotiated; it is called the Climate Change convention. The developing countries gave asked for incremental funds, cleaning new and additional funds, if any steps have to be taken by the developing countries, this funding mechanism is still being negotiated. We

have asked of a transparent fund; we have asked for a fund which is democratically administered and which does not have a donor bias of developed countries. This is still in the paces of gnetation but the of position adopted by the developed countries up till now is not very cooperative.

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Sir, my second supplementary is related to the answer which the hon. Minister has given. I would like to know what strategy was evolved at the SAARC. meet to make the developed nations part which funds needed for environmental ptirotecon which according to UN Secretariat was placed at around 625 million dollars per years and whether the third would countries have been insisting on an aid package through a separate environment related global assistance fund, independent of IMF and the World Bank combined. What steps are being taken to make the big counies agree to it and whether the UN council for environment development is contemplated on the same line as the UN Human Rights Commission

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, this question is in two parts. I will answer the first part first. The global environmental facility is one of the funding mechanism which has been proposed in the Climate change convention. In fact the developed countries have proposed that the Global Environmental Facility, (GEF) should be the sole funding mechanism, whether it is for the bio-diversity convention, Climate Change conventions or it is to meet other plans of action as contained in Agenda 21, a draft agenda which has been prepared for the developing countries. The developing countries have taken a stand, which includes India largely most of the G-77 countries have taken a stand that each convention should have a separate funding mechanism and as Isaid, this mechanism should be transparent, should be democratically administered and should not have donoer bias. This figure of 625 bullion dollars produced by the UNCED Secretariat is their estimation of the total amount required. Now a part of this is only being expended by developing counties. The ODA level (the Official Development Assistance level) which is available presently

is \$55 billion annually and it is estimated that this ODA level will have to be raised to \$125 billion annually to meet the requirements of developing counties.

There is, as yet, no substantive move by the developed countries to head towards this figure of \$ 125 billion a year.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far, the question and answer of the hon. Minister relates to the relationship between the developed countries and the developing countries.

Apart from this proposal agreed upon by the SAARC. countries which would be placed in the Earth Summit, what other measures have been contemplated by these SAARC-countries for effective implementation among themselves for the environmental development in the area?

The Fifth SAARC Summit Declaration was made in November, 1990. the SAARC Standing Committee had asked the member countries to prepare their studies of the greenhouse effect in the area. I want to know whether these SAARC countries have prepared their study reports and submitted them; and particularly, whether India has prepared any study report and if so what is the outcome of it?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, the efforts of the SAARC, uptill now, have been towards harmonious, coordinated and cohesive approach of SAARC countries. The UNCED conference to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June. It is being limited to that. But, nevertheless, there was an agreement, that a study would be conducted individually by the countries, which would then form a basis for the consolidated report. Every individual country is in the process of study. This has been partially done in India. It is in process in other countries and some of the results of this are available. But, we are not definitive because the studies are still going in regarding the greenhouse effects in individual countries.

SHRI VJAYNAVAL PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a Conference held in 1990. The other one will be held in Brazil in 1992. The Minister has said that a meeting was

held in April, 1992 of those SAARC countries. I want to know whether the issue relating to pollution and change in environment due to the recent Gulf War was on the Agenda of that meeting. Because, this is going to affect mainly the SAARC countries. We are experiencing recently, the impact of burning of oil wells during Gulf War.

Specially, in Delhi, the temperature has touched very low as comrade to last so many years during summer months.

I want to know whether this was discussed in detail; the issue of impact of Gulf War on the environment of these SAARC countries.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, the issue of gulf War on SAARC countries was not discussed. As I said earlier, we confined our discussions to the position to be taken by SAARC countries in the various issues involved in the Rio Conference. But as I have stated earlier in the House that there have been no visible impact of Iraq War and the emissions noticed in India. There are no substantive findings.

So, the Meeting of the SAARC Environment Ministers of April 8 and 9, confined itself to the joint positions to be taken in the Rio Conference.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARA: Sir, Since the meeting that was held of the Ministers of the SAARC countries in April, 1992 there have been other rounds of preparatory talks for the Rio Conference. What I want to know from the hon. Minister is whether at the last round of preparatory talks, some of the SAARC countries have somewhat modified their views regarding the global environmental facilities and also India's position in this regard.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: After the SAARC meeting, the next meeting was held last week, the meeting of G 75 Environment Ministers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. I was present at that meeting. The SAARC countries have not as yet changed their position. I did hold bilateral discussion with

the Environment Ministers of Pakistan and Nepal; and I found that we were all holding to on the same position, the common position we had taken on the 8th and 9th April.

The hon. Members want to know the salient features of what is India's position. Currently, yesterday and today also, there are on-going meetings of IGNC, inter-Government Negotiating Committee on Climate Change in New York; and our position on climate change is that, the developed countries, must agree to stabilisation of their emission level; they must have some commitment because they are largely responsible for the environment degradation; the onus, the responsibility and duty is theirs to take the first step; and then only can the developing countries may consider any future plan of action towards containment of emission; of all incremental costs involved for containment of emission without a compromising on our national priorities and plans with regard to development are met by new and additional funds; and I am using the words specifically 'new and additional funds' to be provided by the developed countries; and the developed countries have not as yet formally agreed to the concept of new and additional funds; they are suggesting that the term used should be 'agreed funds'. So, this is one of the gaps on India's position and the position of developed countries.

With regard to other position, on the bio-diversity convention, Indian has asked for a linkage between bio-material and bio-technology. Uphill now, India and tropical countries have been one of the largest reservoirs of bio-material; and there has been no linkage between the access these developed countries have had to bio-material and the bio-technology developed out of it. India have to pay like any other developing countries large amounts for bio-technology. So, we have asked for a linkage between bio-technology and bio-material, which is picked up from India and other sub-tropical countries. These are the two on-going conventions—the Bio-Diversity Convention and the Climate Change Convention. As I said, these are still under discussion; and these are the salient features of India's position on this.

SHRI ANANDGAJAPATI RAJU POOSAPATI: On the basis of this Conference on ecology and development, we find that the western countries are not giving in to tighten their belt because they do not follow sustainable development; in other words, ecology is being murdered because of their further development. So, as the basis of the Conference, what are the steps the developing countries are going to take to see that the western countries, according to their arguments that their living stipules are beyond means, they should tighten their belt and that sustainable development should be given more emphasis than just wild life style.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The Whole issue is based on sustainable development because future development pattern has to be based on sustainable development; and that is the whole plank; that is the whole platform of the UNCED in June.

We have very emphatically, India individually and collectively with other developing countries, taken up at various forums, taken up a negotiating situations that it is the developed countries which have to contain their emission by modification in their life style because environment degradation has not only been caused by the pattern of growth but also is being caused to sustain their life style, to sustain their present per capita energy consumption, to sustain per capita emission level. So, there has to be a modification to this and the whole plank of the Conference is based on this.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: More than 25 crore people living in the SAARC countries depend on the coastal resources and the greenhouse effect can cause severe disruption in their lifestyle. The Minister has just stated that India has not signed the Montreal Protocol on EFQ. Last month there was an amendment to the Montreal protocol where the phase out deadline has been advanced by five years from the years 2000 to 1995. My specific question is, what is India's stand on signing this Protocol and how will it affect us?

MR. SPEAKER: It was answered by him

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The Montreal Protocol envisages phasing out of the CFC's. Some of the developed countries, especially the EEC countries have voluntarily decided to advance their levels of phasing out the period of phasing out of CFC. Some countries which are required to phase it out by 2000 have voluntarily decided to do so earlier in the light of the new studies and new findings that the ozone layer is being affected and this largely is a phenomenon which will be affecting the Western countries first.

India's position has been, as I said, that we wanted certain amendments regarding administration of this Protocol and the phasing out of CFC, etc. These amendments have been retailed by 19 countries. The twentieth country, I have been informed, is also on the verge of ratifying and as soon as this happens, we would accede to the Montreal protocol.

Emission of Lead Bearing Fumes by Industries

*869 **SHRI BIJOY KRISHANA HANDIQUE:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many industries using and manufacturing lead are emitting poisonous lead-bearing fumes;

(b) if so, the number of such industrial units identified, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the damage caused to vegetation, cattle and human health particularly to the respiratory system by such emission;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being contemplated by the Government to countenance this alarming situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Lead-bearing fumes are hazardous in nature. state-wise information in respect of units using and manufacturing lead and emitting lead -bearing fumes is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The Ministry of Environment and Forests sponsored an integrated environment programme on Heavy Metals from April 1983 to March 1989, for monitoring the quantity of heavy metals in representative samples of air, water, food and in human body. The findings of the study have been published in 1991 in the form of a book. Two chapters in this book relate to Lead in the Indian Environment & its human health implications.

(e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Steps contemplated by the Government to check spread of lead pollution include:-

1. Prescribing emission standards for lead smelters under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986.
2. Laying down ambient air quality standards for lead.
3. Asking Industries emitting lead to comply with consent requirements of the State pollution Control Boards to keep emission within the stipulated limits.
4. Creating public awareness about lead pollution.
5. Initiating studies on epidemiological effects of lead.
6. Asking the refineries to bring down the lead content in petrol to 0.15 gm/l

7. Prescribing permissible lead-level concentration in work environment.

SHRI BJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUÉ: There are instances, particularly in the ureighbohood of the Calcutta Airport where industrial plants emit poisonous lead bearing fumes and what is more, their chimneys are shorter than the stipulated length on the plea that the airport authorities do not allow construction of tall chimneys in its neighbourhood.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will take steps to Shift these industries since the analytical, study of the sample's done by the School of Environment, Jadavpur University , in collaboration with the university of Antwerp in Belgium and the University of Zaragoza in Spain confirm high contamination of lead, arsenic and to some extent, cadmium?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: With regard to the specific instance which he is talking of in particular areas, we shall certainly take steps to ensure that this posion is corrected. But the major sources of lead emission are not only factories but are also gasoline and waste oil consumption. Gasoline emissions been identified as a major lead eminent. Steps have also been taken with regard to that because we are also considering un-leadéd fuel which is now being used by a large number of countries abroad and whatever steps are required to be taken about the specific case, will be taken.

SHRI BJOY KRISHAN HANDIQUÉ: Sir, in view of the high percentage of TETRARETHYL LEAD (TEL) in motor spirit polluting environment in general, and in particular, at Guwahati where according to study report of the Central Pollution central, Board, the lead percentage is highest in atmosphere, may I know from the hon. Minister what steps Governemnt contemplate to control the lead pollution with special reference to the lead of the proposed CATALYTIC Refiner Unit of Digboi Oil Refinery which is meant for controlling lead percentage right at the source itself?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I would inform the hon. Members separately. Again a specific case is mentioned about a refinery. There is a continuous interaction between the Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Pollution Control Boards to control this, to carry out inspections, to ensure that the various provisions of our Environment Protection Act are being implemented. This continued interaction is leading to greater attention and greater effort by the State Pollution Control Boards which, I am sure would lead to an improvement in the present state of affairs.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, the particular unit which has been referred by Shir Handique is spreading poison in the form of lead over ten to fifteen years. Some anti pollution measures have been taken which has reduced the emission of lead poison. The situation is one of conflict between the neighbours and the factory owners including the employees. The neighborhood population want the factories to be removed from that place. They say that if the long chimneys, as has been referred to, can be provided for without any objection from the Airport Authorities - now there are tall multistoried buildings coming up. So, I would like to know whether the Minister can see (a) if a requirement of fund is there in order to save the neighborhood population which can be provided from the Government and (b) whether or not the Airport Authorities can be made to see whether without affecting the flight of planes, some such chimneys and such other anti-pollution measures can be introduced there?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I shall take this up with the West Bengal pollution Control Boards and I shall also send a team from Delhi to have a look at the specific problems in co-ordination with the West Bengal State Pollution Control Board so that a satisfactory solution can be found.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): Sir, the lead content in the atmospheric pollution comes mostly from

the combustion of gasoline and other petroleum products. I would like to know whether there has been any device already discovered to do away with the anti-knocking substance introduced in the gasoline and petroleum for this purpose and if so what are we going to do about that?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: It is correct. One of the major sources of lead in the atmosphere is discharge of gasoline and other oils. Negotiations have been held with the oil companies for reduction of the motor spirit lead. This is on the anvil and according to the programme, I think, by next year, we will be able to have unleaded fuel or reduced lead in gasoline. That is one of the major hazardous pollution specially for the urban centers where almost fifty or ..

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Are these new trials in Madras?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I am coming to that. There are almost 50 to 60 percent of the pollutant load coming from the vehicular pollution. There are several devices which have gone into the market, which reduce emissions by ensuring either better combustion something of the kind. Some of them are being tested personally in our various laboratories in the country. Some of the information have also been sent to me and we are in the process of examining its viability and its effectiveness. So, as soon as this is available, we shall take steps to see that this is also taken up by the automobile manufacturers, if not by the users.

Paddy Purchase Centres

*870. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of paddy purchase centres of the Food corporation of India, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more such centres in various States, particularly in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

of the House

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN
GOGOI): (a) A statement is laid on the Table

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Number of Purchase Centres/Mandis operated During 1991-92 Kharif Season for procurement of Paddy by FCI/State Government Agencies.

Name of the State	Operated in 1991-92		
	1991-92		
	FCI	State Govt	Total
Punjab	337	376	713
Haryana	105	49	154
Uttar Pradesh	61	1189	1250
Delhi	3	-	3
Rajasthan	23	-	23
Andhra Pradesh	150	-	150
Madhya Pradesh	55	2279	2334
West Bengal	185	-	185
Pondichery	2	-	7
Arunachal Pradesh	7	-	7
Bihar	13	-	13
Orissa	35	25	60
Himachal Pradesh	9	-	9
Maharashtra	-	168	168
	985	4086	5071

Note: Through Katcha arthias in Punjab and Haryana and Anchal Samities in Arunachal pradesh.

Last Years's fiugures adopted during 1991-92.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Mr. Speaker, sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is adopting any policy or principle to open the paddy purchase centres by the F.C. I. ? if so, what is that and why there is discrepancy between the States, which is clearly reflected in the statement itself?

SHRI TARUN GOGOL: Sir, as regards the purchase centres, we always open the purchase centres in consultation with the State Government. If you see the statement, you will find that the State Govt. agencies centres are more in comparison to the FCI. Out of a total of 5, 0571 paddy pouches centres, 985 are set up by the FCI and 4, 086 are by State Government to Agencies

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, my second supplementary is whether the Government of Orissa and other State Governments are pressing hard for opening of more paddy pouches central to help the agriculturist growers from distress sale at the time of harvest, especially in the tribal-based districts which definitely deserve attention of the Government. If so, what is the reaction of the Government?

SHRI TARUN GOGOL: Sir, we have not yet received any representation from the State Government to open up more purchase centres. if we receive any such representation, we are prepared to open up the centres.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, in Karnataka State, in major portion of the area rice is the staple food. The list shows that in the entire Karnataka State, no such purchase centers is set up either by the FCI or by the State Government agency. Whenever the question of supply of rice through the public distribution system comes up, an answer is being given that the State Government has failed to procure the paddy. My question is why at least the Food Corporation of India has not taken up any action for procurement of paddy in some portions of Karnataka at least wherein paddy is grown in large areas. In districts like Shimoga, Raichur and Madhya Paddy is grown in large areas. FCI should set

up purchase centres there so that paddy could be procured. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not repeat it. You have already asked the question.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: So, my question is whether steps will be taken to set up purchase centres by the FCI in these large paddy growing areas in Karnataka State.

SHRI TARUN GOGOL: Sir, in fact, if the price is higher, then they do not come to the FCI. In fact, in Karnataka, I have seen that there is no procurement of paddy for so many years.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir only thirteen centres of FCI have been started in Bihar whereas there are 337 or something like that in Punjab. So many larger purchase centres of paddy have been opened in different States but only thirteen have been opened in Bihar. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal on the part of the Central Government to open more purchase centres of paddy in Bihar, especially in tribal belt of Santhal Pargana and Chota Nagapur of south Bihar because in the absence of these paddy purchase centres, there is sale of wheat in those areas at distress price. That is why, I would like to know, in order to avoid that distress sale, whether there is any proposal on the part of the Central Government to open more branches or more purchase centres of paddy.

SHRI TARUN GOGOL: Sir, procurement in Bihar is also very negligible. That is why the number of purchase centres in Bihar is only thirteen. If the people are prepared to give us more paddy, we will open up more centres.

SHRI SRIKATA JENA: Sir, the Minister says if the people are interested to sell more paddy to them then they will open more centres. Whereas in the state of Orissa, paddy is the main crop and the Orissa Government is always insisting and writing to FCI to open more centres in Orissa, the

FCI is not opening more centres in Orissa

May I know from the hon. Minister the demands of the Orissa Government and the demands assessed by the FCI to open more centres in those areas, specially in the western part of the State? why the Government of India is not taking any interest to open more centres of FCI there for paddy purchase?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: In fact, paddy procurement in Orissa is only 2, 363 tonnes and then the State Government can open the centres and we provide all the finances. Mostly, you see all the States. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: FCI in Orissa is the monopoly procurement agent. Is it correct or not?

MR. SPEAKER: You don't reply to his question. Not like this.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: The FCI generally provides the finances and the procurement is always done through the State agencies, whether it is Punjab or whether it is Bihar or anywhere. That is why out of 5071 centres, 4, 086 are the centres that are set up by the State agencies. The State agencies can set up centres and we provide the finances. There is no problem.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Do you directly open them?

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: We also open them.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

[*English*]

Hazardous Industries in Delhi

863 SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the hazardous industrial units in Delhi at present; and

(b) the action taken so far against each of those units which have not complied with the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948 and Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 framed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (A) Delhi administration have identified 22 major accident hazard installations in Delhi on the basis of quantities of hazardous chemicals handled. The names of these units are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House.

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

STATEMENT

(a) *List of Major Accident Hazard Installations in Delhi*

1. M/s. Shriram Chemical Works Shivaji Marg, New Delhi -15.
2. M/s. Shriram Vanaspati Manufacturing Works, Shivaji Marg, New Delhi -15.
3. M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., Guru Gobind Singh Marg, New Delhi -15.
4. M/s. Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corp. Ltd., Subzi Mandi, New Delhi -7.
5. M/s. Sylvania and Laxman Ltd., 68/2, Najafgarh Road, New Delhi -15

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>6. M/s. Bharat Petroleum corp. Ltd., IGIA Airport Terminal -2 NITC, Palam, Near Shahabad Mohammadpur, New Delhi - 45.</p> <p>7. M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corp. LTD., Bijawasan Installation, New Delhi - 61.</p> <p>8. M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd., Shakurbasti, Delhi -56.</p> <p>9. M/s. Indian Oil Corp. Ltd., Marketing Division, Delhi Terminal, Bijawasan, New Delhi -61</p> <p>10. M/s. Indian Oil Corp. Ltd., Shakurbasti Terminal, Delhi - 56.</p> <p>11. M/s. Indian Oil Corp. Ltd., LPG, Ghevra Modh, Rohtak Road, Delhi.</p> <p>12. M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd; Shakurbasti, New Delhi -56.</p> <p>13. M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd; LPG Shakurbasti, New Delhi -56.</p> <p>14. M/s. Hyderpur Water Works, Hyderpur, Delhi -42.</p> <p>15. M/s. MGD Bhagirathi Water Treatment Plant, Gokulpuri, Shahdara, Delhi.</p> <p>16. M/s. Delhi Water Works Chanderwal No.1, Behind Old Sectt. Civil Lines, Delhi -54.</p> | <p>17. M/s. Delhi Water Works, Chanderwal No. 2, Civil Lines, Delhi -7.</p> <p>18. M/s. Wazirabad Water Works, P.O Timarpur Wazirabad, Delhi -7.</p> <p>19. M/s. Okhla Sewage Disposal Works, P O C R R I, Mathura Road, New Delhi -20</p> <p>20. M/s. Sewage Treatment Plant, Rithala, Delhi.</p> <p>21. M/s. Gas Turbine Power Station, D E S U, I P Estate, New Delhi -2.</p> <p>22. M/s. J J Foams Pvt. Ltd; 224, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi -20.</p> |
|---|---|
- (b) 17 units have complied with most of the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948. Prosecution proceedings have been initiated against 2 units and one unit has been registered only recently. Improvement notices have been served on the remaining units and they have been asked to comply with the rules under the factories Act, 1948.
- 2 units, viz. M/s. Sriram Chemical Works and M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd; have been identified as major hazardous waste generation units in Delhi so far out of the 22 major accident hazard installations which fall under the purview of Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989. M/s. Sriram Chemical works have applied for authorisation for handling hazardous waste. M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. have been asked to dispose of their hazardous wastes in secured land fills.

Rabies Control

* 864. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA
URS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose
to introduce a comprehensive programme
for the control of Rabies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to introduce
a legislation for compulsory vaccination of
pet dogs against rabies to reduce death rate
among children on account of dog bites; and

(d) if not steps taken by the Government
for the prevention of rabies?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI
ARJUN SINGH): (a) At present there is no
such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Agriculture Ministry is
supporting a programme for the control of
Rabies in selected metropolitan cities under
a Centrally Sponsored Scheme since the
Sixth Plan.

Cultural Exchange Programmes

* 868. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased
to state:

(a) the number of Cultural Agreements
and Cultural Exchange Programmes signed
during 1991-92;

(b) whether any review of the Cultural

Exchange Programmes was made during
the last three years; and

(c) if so, the extent of success achieved
through such programmes in the fields of
art and culture, science and technology,
health, mass media, education & sports?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI
ARJUN SINGH): (a) During the year 1991-
1992, six Cultural Agreements and 13 Cultural
Exchange programmes were signed.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. This implementation
of cultural Exchange Programmes had
resulted in meaningful cooperation and fruitful
bilateral exchanges and interaction in the
fields of performing arts, art and craft
exhibition, museology, archeology, literature,
radio, television & films, supports etc. CEPs
have also led to establishment of institutional
linkages between universities and academic
institutions, exchange of teachers and
scholars, and sharing of experiences in the
area education.

[Translation]

Control of Malaria

* 871. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:
SHRIMRUTYUNJAYANAYAK:

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

(a) whether spray operations to control
malaria in the Capital were not carried out as
per norms during the last year;

(b) the reasons for not achieving the
targets projected for such operations;

(c) whether chloroquine tablets have
become ineffective for treatment of malaria
due to immunity developed by plasmodium
parasites;

(d) whether the Malaria Research Center is promoting alternative research to find out new medicine as substitute for control of malaria;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the effective steps taken to control mosquito menace in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Three rounds of BHC spray were given last year in rural areas, J J Clusters, Riverine belt area covering about 50 % houses. Due to high refusal rate, the spray target could not be fully achieved.

(c) No. Sir, Chloroquine is still effective for the treatment of Malaria cases.

(d) and (e). The research activities being undertaken by Malaria Research Centre includes - (i) Vector biology, (ii) Vector genetics and Cytogenetics, (iii) Bio-environmental methods of vector control, (iv) Epidemiology and (v) Immunology.

Malaria Research Centre has taken up research to study the efficacy of newer drugs.

(f) The following specific steps are being taken for control of mosquito menace and malaria in the Capital:-

1. Weekly anti-larval operations on water collections with appropriate larvicides to prevent mosquitoes breeding.

2. Three rounds of BHC spray in the rural areas and Jhudi areas besides local sprays around malaria positive cases.

3. Health Education through hand-bills, posters and mass media.

[English]

Selection for International Competitions

*872. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down for the selection of sports persons for international competitions;

(b) whether selection for the ensuing Olympic games is being made on the basis of those guidelines, and

(c) of so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to government guidelines, for participation in the international competitions the 6th performance in the previous Olympic Games World Championships, which over of the two performances is higher, is considered for measurable events., clearance is granted on the basis of authentic best performance with a positive assessment by the Federation that the sportspersons selected will stand a very good chance of obtaining atleast the 6th place. For selection in the Asian Games, 3rd place performance in the previous Asian Games or the most recent Asian Championship, whichever is higher, is taken as the criteria in respect of measurable disciplines and a positive assessment by the national Federation that the sportspersons would stand a good chance of obtaining atleast the 3rd place in case of non-measurable disciplines.

(b) and (c). For the forthcoming Olympic at Barcelona in 1992, it has been decided to permit participation of those sportspersons who have qualified as per the format

prescribed for different disciplines by the concerned International Federations.

Accordingly, the following have qualified as on date:

(1)	<i>Boxing:</i>	(i)	Shri R. Prasad
		(ii)	Shri D. Yada
(2)	<i>Wrestling:</i>	(i)	Shri Ashok Kumar ,Free Style (57 Kg-)
		(ii)	Shri Dharamvir Singh -do- (62 Kg.)
		(iii)	SHRI Papu Yadav, Greeco - Roman (48 Kg.)
		(iv)	Shri M.R. Patil, -do- (62 Kg.)
(3)	Table Tennis	(i)	Shri Kamallesh Mehta (Singles)
		(ii)	Shri Chetan Baboor (Singles)
		(iii)	Shri sujay Ghoputa (Doubles)
		(iv)	Md. Niyoti shah (singles)
(4)	<i>Judo:</i>	(i)	Shri Narinder Singh ..(60 Kg.)
		(ii)	Shri Sandeep Bayala ..(65 Kg.)
		(iii)	Shri Rajinder Kumar .. (86 Kg)
		(iv)	Shri Cawas Billimoria ..(95 Kg.)
		(v)	Ms. Sangeetha Mehta ..(70 Kg.)
(5)	<i>Archery:</i>	(i)	Shri Limba Ram
		(ii)	Shri Lalram Sanga
		(iii)	Shri Dhul Chand Damore
(6)	<i>Shooting</i>	(i)	Kum. Soma Dutta
(7)	<i>Lawn Tennis</i>	(I)	Shri Ramesh Krishna
(8)	<i>Hockey</i>	The final selection of the team with the exact names of the probables be will be made after the European Tour scheduled in May 1992.	

According to the qualifying procedures being followed during the current Olympic Games, athletes and sportspersons in respect of Athletics and Yachting are not required to achieve any specific qualifying standard provided that the No. of entries in a particular event is restricted to one individual or one team.

In respect of other disciplines, in which

India hopes to participate, the qualifying standards laid down by the concerned International Federations are to be achieved. Final results are still awaited regarding qualifying performance of our athletes and sportspersons in the disciplines of Badminton and Weightlifting. Some additional athletes and sportspersons may also qualify in the disciplines of Boxing and Tennis. This position will however be known only after on going

pre-qualifying tournaments are completed.

Assistance to Old Folk Dancers and Singers

* 873. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any Scheme to provide financial assistance to the old folk dancers and singers who have helped in promoting and preserving national cultural heritage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

The Scheme for Financial Assistance to persons distinguished in letters, arts and some walks of life and who may be in indigent circumstances provide for financial assistance to such of those artistes above the age of 58 years and their dependent, whose personal income including the income of the spouse does not exceed Rs. 1000/- p.m. The old folk dancers and singers are also covered under the said scheme.

The scheme provides for a maximum financial assistance of Rs. 1000/- p.m. The applications are invited through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations whose share is, 50 per cent of the Central assistance. In exceptional cases the Central Government sanctioned 100 per cent financial assistance.

Maternal and Child Health Programmes

* 874. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Maternal and Child Health Programmes proposed to be implemented during 1992-93;

(b) the total outlay provided for this programme during 1992-93;

(c) the amount of assistance likely to be received from the World Bank and UNICEF therefore;

(d) whether any time frame has been set out for the implementation of this programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). The salient features of the Maternal and Child Health Programme to be implemented during 1992-93 are:

(a) Sustaining the Universal Immunisation Programme for infants and pregnant women.

(b) Continuing the Oral rehydration thereby to prevent deaths in children below five years due to dehydration on account of diarrhoea.

(c) Universalising the existing prophylaxis scheme on control of anemia among pregnant women through administration of iron and folic acid tablets.

(d) Universalising the existing prophylaxis scheme on control of blindness

due to deficiency of Vitamin in children up to three years of age.

(e) Expansion of the Acute Respiratory Infections Control Programme in children below 5 years of age to reduce deaths due to pneumonia.

(f) Implementing a Safe Motherhood programme through Utilisation of Trained Birth Attendants, strengthening of sub-centre and first referral centres.

2. A total outlay of Rs. 95,00 crores has been provided for the programme for the year 1992 -93. The World Bank will provide Rs. 63.35 crore as International Development Assistance while the UNICEF will provide Rs. 16.00 crores as grant for the programme.

3. The Programme will be implemented in a phased manner over a period of 7 years w.e.f. 1991-92 and as part of the 100% Centrally sponsored family welfare programme.

[*Translation*]

Railway Advisory Committees

875. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Advisory Committees at Divisional and Zonal level have not been constituted so far;

(b) if so, reasons therefore alongwith the names of such zones and divisions where such committees are not functioning; and

(c) the efforts made by Government for constituting the above committees?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: (a) to (c). The Divisional and Zonal Railway Users'

Consultative Committees have been constituted.

[*English*]

Environmental Policy

*876. SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item Captioned "lack of environment policy blocks development aid flow" appearing in the *Economic Times*, New Delhi, dated the February 24, 1992;

(b) if so, the recommendations/ observations of the core group on the lack of comprehensive policy or legislation on environment, which is likely to block the flow of developmental assistance from major donor countries; and

(c) the reaction of the Government there to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Ministry of Agriculture has not forwarded any report or recommendations of any core-groups set up by it as mentioned in the news-item. Policy and legislative frame-work for environment protection is already in existence in India. There is no question of flow of development assistance being blocked for the lack of environment policy in the country.

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

877. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was mooted at the meeting of the State Environment and Forests Minister held in February, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereon;

(c) whether any agreement was reached on the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d). No. Sir. However, it has been decided to amend the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 1981 and to revise Guidelines issued for implementation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to further streamline and decentralise processing of proposals under the Act.

Committee on Coastal Regulation

*878. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had appointed a Committee on Coastal Regulations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recommendations made by the Committee;

(d) whether the Committee had also any recommendation regarding the location of hotels on beaches; and

(e) if so, the decisions taken by the Government on various recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). A

committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B.B. Vora has been constituted to examine the regulations and standards presently in force in the coastal areas, in the context of setting up of tourism and hotel facilities.

(c) The Committee has not yet completed its work and hence its term has been extended unto 31st May, 1992.

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

Subsidies on Food Items

*879. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to restore the subsidies on food items already withdrawn;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether subsidies on food items are likely to be withdrawn further; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d). Food subsidy on rice and wheat distributed from the stocks in the Central Pool is continuing. The question of its either being withdrawn or resorted does not arise.

Privatisation of Higher Education

*880. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have considered the pros and cons of the proposal; and

(d) if so, the rationale behind this move?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Conservation of Environment and Forests

* 881. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to involve the youth of the country for protection and conservation of environment and forests;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to involve college and university students for this purpose through National Service Scheme;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) if not, reason?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Government is involving youth of the country for conservation of Environment & Forests on a pilot basis. The ministry of Environment & Forests have framed schemes of (i) National Environment Awareness campaign (ii) Organisation of Eco club (iii) Grant of financial assistance for publishing of environment related books for school going children. These schemes would create

awareness among youth specially school & college students, about environmental issues. In 1991-92, about 550 organisations, including youth organisations, have been granted financial assistance by the Ministry for this purpose. Some other schemes which could also involve the youth are under consideration.

(b) to (d). The primary focus of National Service Scheme is eradication of illiteracy in collaboration with National Literacy Mission. However National Service scheme organisations have on a pilot basis taken up projects for tree plantations & wastelands development and Environmental improvement in the districts of Alwar and Indore and in the towns of Chandigarh and Hyderabad.

Levy Sugar Price

8948. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the peak recovery and duration adopted in determination of levy price of sugar during 1990-91 and 1991-92, zone-wise;

(b) the amount of purchase tax and the Cane Development Council Commission adopted, during the aforesaid period Zone-wise;

(c) the cane cost and conservation cost in levy price of sugarcane, zone-wise;

(d) the escalation cost provided in each month during the said sugar seasons, zone-wise; and

(e) the ex-factory levy sugar price during these years alongwith the retail price of sugar for public Distribution system during 1991-92, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Peak recovery and duration adopted in the determination of levy price of sugar during the sugar years 1990-91 and 1991-92, zone-wise is given in Statement -1 attached.

(b) The rate of purchase tax and Cane Development Council Commission as reported by the State Governments and adopted during the aforesaid two years, zone-wise is given in Statement -II and statement - III respectively attached.

(c) The statutory minimum price of Rs. 23 per quintal and Rs. 26 per quintal of cane, linked to 8.5% recovery with proportionate per premium for every 0.1% increase recovery above 8.5%, for the season 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively has been adopted for working out the cane cost for determination of levy price of sugar.

Conservation costs have been determined zone-wise as per schedule recommended by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, duly adjusted for the estimated duration and recovery for 1990-91 seasons respectively.

(d). Escalation cost is not provided month-wise, but is worked-out as per formula recommended by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices.

(e). The ex-factory levy sugar price, zone-wise, during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 is given in Statement IV to VII attached.

The retail issue price of sugar from the public Distribution system is uniform throughout the country and was notified at Rs. 6.90 per k.g. on 21.1.1992, as against the earlier price of Rs. 6.10 per k.g. announced on 24.7.1991.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	Zone	Peak recovery %				Duration (Days)	
		1990-91	1991-92	1990-91	1991-92	1990-91	1991-92
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1.	Punjab	9.514	9.140	137	136		
2.	Haryana	10.090	9.496	163	180		
3.	Rajasthan	9.556	8.820	90	90		
4.	West Uttar Pradesh	9.539	9.567	179	177		
5.	Central Uttar Pradesh	9.386	9.373	165	157		
6.	East Uttar Pradesh	9.477	9.470	142	145		
7	North Bihar	9.209	9.585	107	114		
8.	South Bihar	8.500	8.500	90	90		
9.	South Gujarat	11.794	12.085	180	180		
10.	Saurashtra	8.740	9.086	111	143		

Sl. No.	Zone	Peak recovery %			Duration (Days)		
		1990-91		1991-92	1990-91		1991-92
		3	4	5	6		
11.	Madhya Pradesh	9.812	10.177	96	99		
12.	South Maharashtra	11.246	11.239	177	180		
13.	North Maharashtra	10.401	10.784	144	161		
14.	Karantaka	10.604	10.560	140	142		
15.	Andhra Pradesh	10.091	10.181	114	121		
16.	Tamil Nadu and Pondy.	9.976	538	180	180		
17.	Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and Nagaland	8.500	8.813	90	90		
18.	Kerala and Goa	8.986	8.773	90	90		

STATEMENT II

Rates of purchase Tax/sales tax, Cane cess Co-operative Commissions etc. applicable in the various Sugar Zones Adopted for determination of levy sugar prices - 1990-91

A. PURCHASE TAX, CESS, ETC.

Incident per quintal of cane

3

1	2	3
1.	Punjab	R.0.50
2.	Haryana	Rs. 1.50
3.	Rajasthan	2.5% on cane price
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 1.75
5.	Bihar	Rs. 1.00 plus 1% market fee, 8% Purchase tax and 1% additional tax on direct purchase. No Purchase tax and additional tax on cane purchased through co-operative societies. 10% turnover tax for turnover above Rs. 10 lakhs on purchase tax.

A. PURCHASE TAX, CESS, ETC.

Incident per quintal of cane

3

1 2

6.	Gujarat	Rs. 2.40
7.	Maharashtra	Rs. 2.20
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Purchase tax 4.5%. Mandi Shulk 1%.
9.	Karnataka	Purchase tax 8% Sales tax 1.75%.
10.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 3.00 Cess Rs. 0.20
11.	Tamil Nadu	Basic Sales tax 14%, Additional Sales tax 2.5%. Surcharge 8% on tax (Effective rate 17.62) cess Rs. 0.50.
12.	Pondicherry	15% on cane price; Cess Rs. 0.50
13.	Kerala	6.25% on cane price.
14.	Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and Nagaland	Nil

A. PURCHASE TAX, CESS, ETC.*Incident per quintal of cane*

3

Nil

B. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES COMMISSION1. Punjab
50 Paise on cane purchased through
Co-operative Societies.2. Haryana
-do-3. Uttar Pradesh
Rs. 0.50 per quintal4. Bihar
15 Paise on cane purchased through
Co-operative Societies5. Madhya Pradesh
8 Paise.

STATEMENT III

Rates of purchase Tax/sales tax, Cane cess Co-operative Commissions etc. applicable in the various Sugar Zones Adopted for determination of levy sugar prices - 1991-92

A. PURCHASE TAX, CESS, ETC.

Incident per quintal of cane

3

2

1

1.	Punjab	R.0.50
2.	Haryana	Rs. 1.50
3.	Rajasthan	2.5% on cane price
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 1.75
5.	Bihar	Rs. 1.00 plus 1% market fee, 8% Purchase tax and 1% additional tax on direct purchase. No Purchase tax and additional tax on cane purchased through co-operative societies. 10% turnover tax for turnover above Rs. 10 lakhs on purchase tax.

A. PURCHASE TAX, CESS, ETC.*Incident per quintal of cane*

1	2	3
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 2.40
7.	Maharashtra	Rs. 2.20
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Purchase tax 4.5%. Mandi Shulk 1%.
9.	Karnataka	Purchase tax 8% Sales tax 1.75%.
10.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 3.00
11.	Tamil Nadu	Basic Sales tax 14%, Additional Sales tax 2.5%. Surcharge 15% on tax (Effective rate 18.6) cess Rs. 0.50.
12.	Pondicherry	15% on cane price; Cess Rs. 0.50
13.	Kerala	6.25% on cane price.
14.	Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and Nagaland	Nil

A. PURCHASE TAX, CESS, ETC.*Incident per quintal of cane*

3

2

1

15. Goa

Nil

B. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES COMMISSION

1. Punjab

50 Paise on cane purchased through
Co-operative Societies.

2. Haryana

-do-

3. Uttar Pradesh

5% on S.M.P.

4. Bihar

15 Paise on cane purchased through
Co-operative Societies

5. Madhya Pradesh

8 Paise.

STATEMENT - IV

SCHEDULE-I

(See Clause-2)

Prices for Delivery into Railway wagons (Rs. per quintal) Gradewise for ISS Grades (Excluding Excises Duty) in respect of factories specified in schedule- III, for the year 1990-91

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar					
Zone	L-30 M-30	L-29 M-29	3	4	S-29 S-29
1	2	3	4	5	5
Andhra Pradesh	542.45	541.45	541.30	540.45	
Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal	603.64	602.64	602.49	601.64	
Bihar (North) @	572.32	571.32	571.17	570.32	
Bihar (South) @	673.54	672.54	672.39	671.54	
Gujarat (South)	500.32	499.32	499.17	498.32	
Gujarat (Saurashtra)	522.21	521.21	521.06	520.21	

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		
1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	528.00	527.00	526.85	526.00
Karnataka	504.27	503.27	503.12	502.27
Kerala & Goa	620.87	619.87	619.72	618.87
Madhya Pradesh	597.07	596.07	595.92	595.07
Maharashtra (South)	482.41	481.41	481.26	480.41
Maharashtra (North)	528.59	527.59	527.44	526.59
Punjab	526.43	525.43	525.28	524.43
Rajasthan	654.71	653.71	653.56	652.71
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	551.22	550.22	550.07	549.22
Uttar Pradesh (Central)	540.60	539.60	539.45	538.60

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

	L-30 M-30	L-29 M-29	S-30	S-29
1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh (East)	563.76	562.76	562.61	561.76
Uttar Pradesh (West)	550.12	549.12	548.97	548.12

@ The prices for North and South Bihar zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of Purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the aforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

STATEMENT - V

SCHEDULE-II

(See Clause-2)

Prices for Delivery into Buyers's carts, Lorries or other means of Transport at the Factory gate/ Factory godown (Rupees per quintal) Gradewise for ISS Grades (Excluding Excise Duty) in respect o factories specified in schedule- III, for the year 1990-91

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar				
	L-30 M-30	L-29 M-29	S-30	S-29	
1	2	3	4	5	
Andhra Pradesh	540.45	539.45	539.30	536.45	
Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal	601.64	600.64	600.49	599.64	
Bihar (North) @	570.32	569.32	569.17	568.32	
Bihar (South) @	671.54	670.54	670.39	669.54	
Gujarat (South)	498.32	497.32	497.17	496.32	
Gujarat (Saurashtra)	520.21	519.21	519.06	516.21	

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	526.00	525.00	524.85	524.00
Karnataka	502.27	501.27	501.12	500.27
Kerala & Goa	618	87	617.72	616.87
Madhya Pradesh	595.07	594.07	593.92	593.07
Maharashtra (South)	480.41	479.41	479.26	478.41
Maharashtra (North)	526.59	525.59	525.44	524.59
Punjab	524.43	523.43	523.28	522.43
Rajasthan	652.71	651.56	650.56	650.71
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	549.22	548.22	548.07	547.22
Uttar Pradesh (Central)	538.60	537.60	537.45	536.60

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		
1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh (East)	561.76	560.76	560.61	559.76
Uttar Pradesh (West)	548.12	547.12	546.97	546.12

@ The prices for North and South Bihar zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of Purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the aforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

STATEMENT - VI

SCHEDULE-I

See Clause-2)

Prices for delivery into railway wagons (Rupees per quintal) Gradewise for ISS Grades (Excluding Excise Duty) in respect of factories specified in schedule- III, for the year 1991-92

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30		L-29		S-30		S-29	
	M-30		M-29					
1	2		3		4		5	
Andhra Pradesh	588.29		587.29		587.14		586.29	
Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal	672.09		671.09		670.94		670.09	
Bihar (North) @	636.92		635.92		635.77		634.92	
Bihar (South) @	734.27		733.27		733.12		732.27	
Gujarat (South)	563.49		562.49		562.34		561.49	
Gujarat (Saurashtra)	582.13		581.13		580.98		580.13	
Haryana	572.23		571.23		571.08		570.23	

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	559.31	558.31	558.16	557.31
Kerala & Goa	668.33	667.33	667.18	666.33
Madhya Pradesh	649.54	648.54	648.39	647.54
Maharashtra (South)	535.28	534.28	534.13	533.28
Maharashtra (North)	582.07	581.07	580.92	580.07
Punjab	587.92	586.92	586.77	585.92
Rajasthan	703.44	702.44	702.29	701.44
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	605.86	604.86	604.71	603.86
Uttar Pradesh (Central)	607.03	606.03	605.88	605.03

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		

1	2	3	4	5
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Uttar Pradesh (East)	630.83	629.83	629.68	628.83
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Uttar Pradesh (West)	613.07	612.07	611.92	611.07
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@ The prices for North and South Bihar zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of Purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the afforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

STATEMENT - VII
 SCHEDULE-I
 (See Clause-2)

Prices for delivery into buyer's carts, Lorries or other means of transport at the factory gate/factory godown (Rupees per quintal) Gradewise for ISS Grades (Excluding Excise Duty) in respect of factories specified in schedule- III, for the year 1991-92

Zone	Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar				
	L-30 M-30	L-29 M-29	S-30	S-29	
1	2	3	4	5	
Andhra Pradesh	586.29	585.29	585.14	584.29	
Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal	670.09	669.09	668.94	668.09	
Bihar (North) @	634.92	633.92	633.77	632.92	
Bihar (South) @	732.27	731.27	731.12	730.27	
Gujarat (South)	561.49	560.49	560.34	559.49	
Gujarat (Saurashtra)	580.13	579.13	578.98	578.13	
Haryana	570.23	569.23	569.08	568.23	

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		
1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	557.31	556.31	556.16	555.31
Kerala & Goa	666.33	664.33	665.18	664.33
Madhya Pradesh	647.54	646.54	646.39	645.54
Maharashtra (South)	533.28	532.28	532.13	531.28
Maharashtra (North)	580.07	579.07	578.92	578.07
Punjab	585.92	584.92	584.77	583.92
Rajasthan	701.44	700.44	700.29	699.44
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	603.86	602.86	602.71	601.86
Uttar Pradesh (Central)	605.03	604.03	603.88	603.03

Indian Sugar Standards (ISS) Grades of Sugar

Zone	L-30	L-29	S-30	S-29
	M-30	M-29		
1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh (East)	628.83	627.83	627.68	626.83
Uttar Pradesh (West)	611.07	610.07	609.92	609.07

@ The prices for North and South Bihar zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of Purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the aforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

*[Translation]**[English]***Promotion of Hollistic Medical Science**

8949. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

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

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to promote Hollistic medical science;

(b) the measure being taken to give incentives to research-works in All India Institute of Medical Sciences for joint research on Ayurved and modern medicines;

(c) whether All-India Institute of Medical Science has formulated any scheme to initiate research on herbal-chemistry based on Ayurved -Bhardwaj Sanhita;

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) of not, whether the Government propose to arrange for a seminar on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Various schemes for research post-graduate education and quality control of drugs of Indian Systems of Medicine in Homeopathy have been formulated and are being implemented.

(b) to (e). The All India Institute of Medical Sciences is basically concerned with research in modern medicine. However, some of the research projects in the field of Herbal Pharmacology, Herbal Chemistry and Clinical Evaluation of Herbal remedies have been initiated at the Institute through sponsored projects.

Looting of Trains Carrying Foodgrains

8950. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains carrying foodgrains looted during the last two years; and

(b) the steps being taken to avert such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

(a) Only two cases in 1990 and three cases in 1991 of looting of trains carrying foodgrains were reported.

(b) RPF escorts, as far as possible, are provided to prevent looting of trains carrying foodgrains.

Prosecution of Indian Forest Service Officers

8951. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned " Prosecution of IFS officers allowed' appearing in the Times of India, Bombay dated March, 13, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) since when the permission to prosecute the officers for their allowed involvement in the sintex tank scandal had

been pending with the Union Government and the date on which the permission has been granted; and

(d) the reasons for delay in granting the permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government of Himachal Pradesh had sought the sanction of the Central Government for prosecuting 17 IFS officers of the Himachal Pradesh Cadre who were allegedly involved in irregular purchase of high density polythene water storage tanks (Sintex Tanks). Further details cannot be divulged at this stage in public interest. The proposals for prosecution sanction were received in piece-meal in May/June, 1990 and these were not accompanied by relevant supporting documents etc. The matter had to be examined in details warranting frequent back references to the State Government for eliciting clarification/additional information. The case had also to be shown to the Central Vigilance Commission for their advice. Out of the 17 officers, the State Government were advised to issue sanction under provisions of Section 197 of the Criminal Procedure Code in respect of 3 retired officer. Out of the remaining, sanctions have been issued in respect of 11 officers on 29.10.1991 and the case of three officers is under examination in the Ministry.

Development of Indian Language

8952. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target for the development of Indian languages has been fixed in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): The Eighth Five Year Plan has not so far been approved. It is not, therefore, possible to indicate any physical/financial target in this regard.

D.M./M. Ch. Courses

8953. SHRI KESHRI LAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the institutes in the country where Doctorate in Medicine (DM)/ Master of Churjuri (M.Ch.) Courses are available;

(b) the number of seats reserved for admission, of SCs/ STs in those institutions;

(c) whether those reserved vacancies have been filled up during each of the last three years;

(d) if not, the reasons there; and

(e) the corrective measures taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) A list of medical institutions having D.M./M.Ch. Courses in different super-specialties as per records of the Medical Council of India as Statement.

(b) The Central Government institutions conducting D.M. and M.Ch. Courses were required to reserve 15% seats for Scheduled Caste and 7.5% seats for Scheduled Tribe candidates.

(c) and (d). As per available information, the position regarding filling up of seats is as follows:

	Year	Total seats	Actual No. of seats filled	
			SC	ST
AIIMS, DELHI	1989	23	3 (13%)	1 (4.3%)
	1990	25	4 (16%)	-
PGI, Chandigarh	1989	29	4 (13.7%)	3 (10.3%)
	1990	17	5 (29%)	-
NIMHANS Bangalore	1989	9	1 (11.1%)	1 (11.1%)

(e) The Government of India have been issuing instructions from time to time to follow the reservation policy of the Government in medical education.

STATEMENT

1. Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad.
2. Patna Medical College, Patna.
3. All India Insttt. of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
4. G.B. Pant Hospital associated with Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi.
5. Medical College, Baroda.
6. Shri Kashmir Instt. of Medical Sciences, Srinagar.
7. Postgraduate Instt. of Medical Sciences, Chandigarh.
8. National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore.
9. Medical College, Trivandrum.
10. Grant Medical College, Bombay.
11. Seth G.S. Medical College, Bombay.
12. T.N. Medical College, Bombay.
13. L.T.M. Medical College, Sion, Bombay.
14. B.J. Medical College, Pune.
15. Armed Forces Medical College, Pune.
16. S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack.
17. Govt. Medical College, Patiala.
18. Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research, Pondicherry.
19. Christain Medical College, Ludhiana.
20. S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur.
21. Madras Medical College, Madras.
22. Christian Medical College, Vellore.
23. Stanley Medical College, Madras.
24. Madurai Medical College, Madurai.

25. Kilpauk Medical College, Madras.
26. Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi.
27. G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur.
28. K.G. Medical College, Lucknow.
29. Medical College, Calcutta.
30. Instt. of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research Calcutta.
31. Nizam Instt. of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad.
32. Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.
33. Sree Chitra Tirunel Instt. for Medical Sciences Technology, Trivandrum.
34. Kiwal Memorial Instt. of Oncology, Bangalore.
35. Cancer Institute, Adyar, Madras.
36. L.L.R.M. Medical College, Meerut.

Family Planning Centres

8954. SHRI JITERNDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Family Welfare Centres at present in West Bengal; and

(b) the number of persons undergone family planning operation during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Government.

Production of synthetic Insulin

8955. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of diabetic patients in India;

(b) whether synthetic insulin or pig pancreas insulin or any other new alternative are produced by genetically engineered bacteria or any other means;

(c) the annual value of imports of insulin and how many patients can actually be treated through these;

(d) whether reaserch have also been made by the Ayurvedic or Allopathic medical experts in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) It is estimated that in India, there are approximately 10 million patients with diabetes.

(b) Human insulin is already being manufactured with the help of genetically engineered bacteria in countries like U.S. A. and Denmark. In India, effort is in progress to develop the recombinant DNA technology based insulin bio-synthesis.

(c) reliable data is available in this regard.

(d) and (e). Clinical trial of some ayurveda and dissha preparations on diabetes have been carried out by the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha.

There are major research efforts to develop newer inslulin, newer delivery system

for insulin and basic research to understand mechanism of action of insulin and its interaction with insulin receptors at the cellular level.

[*Translation*]

Train Accident on Surat-Badrauli Section

8956. SHRI N.J. RATHVAA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether a train accident occurred on Surat-Badrauli section on March 13, 1992;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been held into the causes of the accident;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the number of persons killed and injured as a result thereof;

(d) the amount of compensation paid to the victims; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check recurrence of such accidents?

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

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Export of Rice

8957. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of foodgrains during 1990-91;

(b) the total quantity of rice exported during last year,

(c) whether there is shortage of rice in the country due to its export; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to meet the requirement of rice in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The production of total foodgrains in 1990-91 is estimated at 176.23 million tonnes.

(b) The export of rice during 1991-92 was as follows:

	<i>Qty. in lakh MTs (Provisional)</i>
Basmati rice	2.35
Non-basmati rice	5.25

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Result of Class XII Students in Government Schools in Delhi

8958. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government Higher Secondary Schools in Delhi where no students passed Class XII Examination held during March-April 1991;

(b) the action taken by the Government to improve the teaching methods in those schools;

(c) whether inspection of such schools

is done by the Delhi Administration periodically; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the failures in such schools despite inspection?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d). Delhi Administration has intimated that out of 536 Senior Secondary Schools only one school has shown Zero percent results. The Delhi Admn. has taken various steps to improve the poor results and the quality of education, which include in-service training of the teachers, remedial teaching of students, timely filling up of vacant posts, study corner scheme, improvement of teaching of Maths and Science, giving incentives for good performance and disincentives for poor performance etc. Delhi Admn. has also intimated that the inspection of the schools is undertaken periodically.

[*Translation*]

Proposals for Railway Projects in Bihar

8959. SHRI RAM. TAHAL CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals for new railway projects submitted by the Government of Bihar during the last three years;

(b) whether some of the proposals have been found unremunerative; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on each proposal submitted by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):

(a) to (c).

<i>Details of the proposal</i>			<i>Action taken</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	
1. Muzaffarpur - Narkatiaganj conversion from MG to BG	Rs. 87.20 crore (including conversion of Sagauli-Raxal branch line)	Conversion of Mazaffarpur-Narkatiaganj and Sagauli-Raxaul has been sanctioned in 1992-93 at an estimated cost of Rs. 87.20 crore. Rs. 20 crore have been allotted or this project for 1992-93.	
2. Dehri-on-Sone - Pipradih Conversion from NG to BG and extension upto Bhavnathpur	Rs. 199.92 crore	Project has not been found to be remunerative, and not taken up.	
3. Electrification of Mainwa-Muzaffarpur-Katihar-Barsol section as part of Lucknow-Guwahati electrification.	Not worked out	Traffic density is very low. Hence project is unremunerative and not taken up.	
4. Mokamah-Kiul-Bhagalpur-Bikramshila electrification	Not worked out	Makamah-Kiul electrification has been sanctioned as part of Mughalsarai - Jhajha-Sitampur electrification in 1992-93.	

Details of the proposal	Cost	Action taken
1	2	3
5. Muzaffapur-Narkatiaganj Electrification	Not Worked out	Project has not been found remunerative because of very low traffic density and hence not taken up.
6. Narkatiaganj-Sitamarhi-Darbhanga-Samastipur Electrification	Not worked out	Project has not been found remunerative because of very low traffic density and hence not taken up.
7. Mughalsarai-Patna-Makamah Chittaranjan electrification as a part of Mughal-sarai-Howrah-Puri electrification.	Rs. 240.40	Project has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.75 crore have already been spent and Rs. 15.05 crore have been sanctioned for 1992-93.

[English]

Legislation to Protect Marine Archaeology

8960. SHRI ARJUNCHARANSETHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to enact a comprehensive legislation to protect the country's interest in Marine Archaeology;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) whether some other important or historical places like Dwarka have been found under water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No. Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Remains of ship-wrecks and antiquities especially ancient pottery have been located in the sea near one of the islands of Lakhadweep, Union Territory and close to Kaveripattinam, Tamil Nadu.

Pollution Due to Dust and Microflora During Harvesting

8961. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted regarding pollution due to dust and microflora during harvesting;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any major scientific plan has been devised to check pollution caused by the burning agricultural residues like wheat straw, rice husk and baggage;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to check such pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). These agricultural residues are used as boiler fuel. Emission standards have been prescribed where they are used and industries are required to comply with the prescribed standards.

Promotion of Urdu

8962. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government for promotion of Urdu?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): A statement giving desired information is enclosed.

STATEMENT

With a view to promoting Urdu language in the country, the Government of India has taken the following important measures:

1. Taraqqi-e-Urdu Board has been set up as an Apex Advisory Body to the Government under the Chairmanship of Minister of Human Resource Development.

The Board advises the Government in all matters pertaining to promotion and development of Urdu language;

2. The Bureau for promotion of Urdu has been set up as a subordinate office of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development to work as a Secretariat of the Taraqqi-e-Urdu Board as also to tender necessary advice to the Government on matters pertaining to promotion and development of Urdu language;

3. The Bureau for Promotion of Urdu has undertaken the following important Schemes/Programmes:

- (i) More than 600 titles in Urdu have been published so far by the Bureau;
- (ii) 39 Urdu Calligraphy Training Centres have been set up in different parts of the country.
- (iii) Grant-in-Aid is being given to Voluntary Organisations for publication and other promotional activities for Urdu language. This includes provision for teaching of Urdu language through Voluntary Organisations.
- (iv) Facilities for study of Urdu at tertiary level also exist in various Universities and Institutions of higher learning.

4. In addition, some of the important features of the work done by Ministries / Departments of the Government of India are given below.

5. MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Department of Education

- (a) Facilities have been provided for promoting research and training of Urdu teachers under the auspices of Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, to cope with the demand.
- (b) The Institute has introduced schemes of cash incentives to trained teachers who teach Urdu to non-Urdu speaking school children.
- (c) It also monitors a scheme of award of prizes to authors writing in Urdu whose tongue is other than Urdu.
- (d) The Institute has published Urdu Intensive Course, a Course Material in Urdu and Urdu phonetic Reader.
- (e) National Council of Educational Research & Training has prepared syllabus, guidelines and syllabi for teaching of Urdu for classes I to XII. Some text books have already been brought out. NCERT also brings out translations of all the text-books that are prepared by it.
- (f) It has also brought out Supplementary books in Urdu, some of which were originally in Urdu, while others are translations.
- (g) National Book Trust is publishing Books in regional Languages including Urdu.
- (h) Book Promotion Division has been displaying Urdu books in International Book Fairs/Exhibitions abroad and especially in Arab countries.

Department of Culture

The Sahitya Academy has undertaken the following activities for promotion of Urdu language and literature:

- (i) Urdu is one of the 22 Indian languages recognised by the Sahitya Academy in which the programmes are implemented;
- (ii) awards for creative writing and prizes for translation are given every year;
- (iii) seminars are organised on Urdu writers;
- (iv) besides publication of original books in Urdu, Sahitya Academy brings out Urdu translations of books published in other languages. Translations of Award-winning books are also published in Urdu;
- (v) translation workshop are organised in which practicing translators participate;
- (vi) the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation gives financial assistance and professional advice to Voluntary Agencies and Urdu libraries. Emeritus Fellowship is granted to creative and eminent authors including Urdu authors.

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

U.G.C. is already operating a scheme of adult and continuing education on the area based approach whereby literacy programme is conducted in the local language including Urdu.

U.G.C. is providing financial assistance

to selected Departments of Urdu in Universities for promotion and development of research in literature and language. It has identified the Urdu Departments of Kashmir University, Aligarh Muslim University and Osmania University for this purpose. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for appointment of faculty members, promotion of faculty members, seminars/symposia, research fellowships, purchase of books etc.

6. MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

The names of Railways stations in Urdu speaking areas are indicated in Urdu.

7. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

- (i) Broadcast of regional news bulletins in Urdu has since been introduced from Lucknow and Patna stations.
- (ii) The Urdu service of AIR is broadcast on the transmitter of Jalandhar and as such this area is completely covered with programmes in Urdu.
- (iii) AIR has introduced the National Channel and in this provision has been made for broadcast of 25 minutes programme in Urdu.
- (iv) Urdu knowing staff posts are created at stations wherever SIU norms permit.
- (v) Urdu plays are included in the national programmes of play.
- (vi) Important Mushairas in which well known Urdu poets participate are covered by AIR stations.

- (vii) The PIB has established an Urdu Unit at the headquarters and regional/branch officers of the PIB which supply in Urdu the information about the policies, programmes and activities of the Government of India to the Urdu newspapers. All important speeches, statements and messages of the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister and other union Ministers are also issued in Urdu. Press summaries of the Union General Budget and Railway Budget and Economic Survey are also issued in Urdu.
- (viii) The Publication Division is bringing out two journals in Urdu, viz, 'Alkali' and 'Yojna'.
- (ix) Among the films made there are subjects which are directly or indirectly concerned with Urdu language.
- (x) Several Urdu newspapers are utilised for UPSC and other appointment advertisements and for announcements and notifications.

8. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Census forms and other papers to be used in Urdu speaking areas like Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi have been printed in Urdu.

9. MINISTRY OF LAW

The Urdu version of Constitution of India has been brought out in collaboration with Government of Jammu & Kashmir, 222 Central Acts have been translated into Urdu out of which 204 have been approved by the Working Group in the Official Languages Wing, Legislative Department.

10. ELECTION COMMISSION

Urdu at present is used for preparation of the electoral rolls in respect of certain constituencies in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

Pre-School Child Education Programme

8963. SHRI V.N. SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 380 on March 24, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide the videotapes of the pre-school child education programme to the schools free of cost after their telecast on Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the information furnished by UGC, at present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Hike in Wheat Price in International Market

8964. SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep hike in the prices of foodgrains especially of wheat in the International market during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantity of wheat and rice exported during 1991, separately; and

(d) the additional amount earned by the country from this export in comparison to previous years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) (a) and (b). The international prices

of wheat have witnessed an increase during the last one year, as reflected by the prices quoted at Kansas Exchange in USA. Hard Red Winter quality of wheat with protein content of about 14% has varied from about USD 97 per tonne in January, 1991 to about USD 137 per tonne during end April, 1992 after having peaked at about USD 170 per tonne in January, 1992.

(c) and (d). Exports of wheat and rice during 1990-91 and 1991-92 are given below:-

*Qty. in lakh Tonnes
(Rs. in crores)*

Commodity	1990-91		1991-92	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Rice	5.6	475.89	7.6	743.40
Wheat	2.0	38.51	7.0	185.00

Compensation for Acquisition of Land by Konkan Railway

8965. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether compensation for the land acquired by Konkan Railway has not yet been given to the farmers;

(b) the number of farmers in Thane, Ratnagiri, Raigarh and Sindhu-Drug districts who are yet to be compensated; and

(c) the time by which compensation is likely to be given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Whether land acquisition procedures have been completed

by revenue authorities, compensation has been paid.

(b) Districtwise details are furnished below:

i.	Raigad District	-	3583
ii.	Ratnagiri District	-	5691
iii.	Sindhu Durg District	-	5640

Thane District does not lie on Konkan Rly. alignment.

(c) Payment of compensation will be made as soon as the land acquisition proceedings are completed and awards made by the Revenue authorities. Land acquisition proceedings are being done by special land acquisition officer who works under the state government.

[English]

Manufacture of Toxic Drugs

8966. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Nashilee Goliyan Bana Karoo Kama Rahe Hain' published in the Sunday Observer dated April 5, 1992;

(b) of so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether investigation has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action being taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The news item pertains to the manufacture of Dover's Powder Tablets I. P. in Gujarat and Maharashtra. The drug is alleged to have been sold in Delhi and Punjab and misused for intoxication as it contains Opium as one of the ingredients.

(c) and (d). The investigations were carried out by the State Drugs Control authorities of Gujarat and Maharashtra who have asked the manufacturers to stop production of Dover's Powder Tablets I.P. in their respective States.

Passes to Ex-MPs

8967. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government issue free railway passes to Ex-MPs;

(b) if so, the number of such passes issued during 1991 and 1992 separately till date;

(c) whether these passes allow Ex-MPs to travel anywhere in first class with their families and do not require any renewal;

(d) whether some criteria does issue of these passes have been fixed; and

(e) of so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Complimentary Passes are being issued to eligible Ex-MPs.

(b) Number of Passes issued in 1991 -NIL

Number of Passes issued in 1992 - 325 (as on 30.4.1992)

(c) The Complimentary Passes permit the eligible Ex-Members of Parliament to travel in First Class /AC Sleeper from any station to any station over the Indian Railways, with an attendant in Second Class. The passes are valid for one year at a time.

(d) and (e). The Complimentary Passes are being issued only to those Ex-MPs who are eligible to draw pension from the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Secretariat under the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

[Translation]

Operation Black Board Scheme In Gujarat

8968. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Operation Black Board Scheme is not being implemented in all the districts of Gujarat;

ARJUN SINGH): (a) It is intended to cover all the primary schools existing as on 30.9.1986 in all the districts of Gujarat.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) question does not arise.

(c) the district-wise target fixed for Gujarat during last year in this regard and the amount allocated therefor; and

(c) and (d). No year-wise or district-wise targets are fixed, the phasing of the scheme depends upon the pace and capacity of implementation of the State Govts. So far two phases in 1987-88 and 1989-90 comprising 5214 schools falling in all the districts of the State have been sanctioned to Gujarat. The implementation and utilisation of funds as reported are given as under:-

(d) the extent to which these targets have been achieved during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI

(i) *Equipment*

<i>Amount sanctioned</i>	<i>Amount utilised</i>
Rs. 391.53 lakh	Rs. 385.98 lakh (98.58%)

(ii) *Teachers*

<i>No. of posts sanctioned</i>	<i>No. of teachers appointed</i>
2374	2374 (100%)

(iii) *Construction*

<i>No. of class rooms required to be constructed</i>	<i>No. of class rooms constructed</i>
4809	1168 (24.28%)

[English]

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

Monuments in Kashmir Valley

(c) whether the excavation work has been undertaken in the State; and

8969. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(d) if so, the details alongwith the out come thereof?

(a) whether it is a fact that the monuments in Kashmir Valley are not being maintained properly;

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Archaeological excavation have been carried out in the Jammu and Kashmir State at Burzohm, Harwan Ambaran, Manda, Semthan, Gufkral, and Tisseru.

These excavation have revealed neolithic, protohistoric and historical remains, antiquities and pottery.

[Translation]

Students and Teachers in Kendriya Vidyayas

8970. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of schools,

sanctioned posts of teachers and enrolment capacity of the Central School system during the academic year 1991-92;

(b) the total number of teachers actually in service and the total during of students actually on the rolls during the academic year;

(c) the number of teachers transferred from one school to the other during the academic year; and

(d) whether the transfers were in accordance with the prescribed policy or ad-hoc in character?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The position as on 30.4. 1991 is given below:-

(i)	Number of schools	-	744
(ii)	Number of sanctioned teaching posts	-	29,486
(iii)	Total enrolment of students	-	6,00,19
(b)	Teachers in position as on 30.4.1991	-	24,227

(c) and (d). The number of transfers issued by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Headquarters) as on 30.4.1992 are as given below:-

(i)	Post Graduate Teachers	-	199
(ii)	Trained Graduate Teachers	-	393
(iii)	Primary Teachers	-	320
(iv)	Misc. category of teachers	-	152

The transfers are within the guidelines.

[English]

Promotion of Girl Education

8971. KUMARIPUSHPADEVISINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided in the SAARC Summit to identify priority zones in different countries for launching plans to promote girls education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States included in the priority zones for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Pending Medical Reimbursement Bills

8972. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical reimbursement bill from C.G.H.S. beneficiaries are pending for payment with Directorate General Health Services for more than three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken proposed to be taken by the Government to expediate clearance of such pending bills and to ensure that medical expenditure be reimbursed in stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 1179 pending cases 788 cases are under process and 391 cases are yet to be processed.

(c) Six additional dealing Assistance and two Medical Officers have been posted to clear the back-log. To ensure speedy settlement of medical claims, the powers to settle the medical claims have been delegated to all the Ministries/ Department with effect from 1.4.1992.

National Forest Commission

8973. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Forest Commission for the development of forests in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal. However, the Government of India has decided to prepare a National Forestry Action Programme for development of Forests in accordance with the National Forest Policy of 1988. Under this programme, twenty five year perspective plan and short term action plans will be prepared with full involvement of the state Governments.

Regional Offices of NBT

8974. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Book Trust has opened regional offices in Bombay,

Calcutta & Bangalore to promote regional languages in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to open such regional offices in Chandigarh, Jammu and Shimla for the promotion of Punjabi, Kashmiri and Degri/Urdu etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Book Trust has opened regional offices at Bombay, Calcutta and Bangalore to promote its publications and to undertake book promotion activities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The entire northern region, including Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, is looked after by the head office of the National Book Trust which is situated at New Delhi.

Ecological Task Force

8975. **PROF. PREM DHUMAL:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for creating an Ecological Task Force based on Ex-servicemen in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been approved; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). A proposal to set up an Ecological Task Force was received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh. The proposal is being considered in the light of availability of funds during the Eighth Plan period.

Extension of Jammu - Tawi and Navjivan Expresses

8976. **SHRIMATI BHAVNACHIKHLIA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jammu -Tawi and Navajivan Expresses are proposed to be extended upto Hapa and Rajkot;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). 2981/2982 Jammu Tawi-Ahmadabad Bi- weekly Sarvodaya Express will be extended once a week to from Rajkot from July'92. Extension of 2641/2642 Madras Ahmadabad Navjivan Express to/from Hapa/Rajkot & 2981/2982 Jammu Tawi-Ahmadabad Sarvodaya Express to from Hapa is not feasible at present due to operational difficulties and resource constraints.

[Translation]

Conversion of Samastipur - Darbhanga Railway Line

8977. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to

state the steps taken so far to convert the railway line of Samastipur -Darbhanga into broad-gauge and the works planned to be undertaken by the end of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): It has been decided to restart the work of conversion of Samastipur -Darbhanga Metre Gauge into Broad Gauge and preliminary arrangement will be taken up in 92-93. However, keeping in view the need to cause minimum dislocation to train services and to reduce inconvenience to the traveling public it will be possible to actually take up conversion of this Metre Gauge section only after Muzaffarpur -Raxaul has been converted into Broad Gauge which has been included in the Budget for 92-93.

[English]

Meeting on Environment

8978. **SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Government and Non-government Organisations on environment was held in Delhi on April 21, 1992;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made at the meeting;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government have received any representations from Eco-health Non-government Organisations for effective participation and association in this work; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) This Ministry is not aware of any such meeting held in Delhi on April 21, 1992.

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

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Per Capita Amount For Education

8979. **SHRI ANNA JOSHI:**
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:

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

(a) the per capita amount proposed to be spent on education during the Eighth Five Year Plan,

(b) whether there is any proposal to grant special central assistance during the plan period to the States where the percentage of literacy is below the national average;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The anticipated per capita expenditure during Eighth Five Year Plan is not available as Eighth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

(b) to (d). Assistance is being provided to state Government for organising total literacy campaigns based on specific proposals furnished to the National Literacy Mission.

Racket for Enhancing Marks

8980. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: .

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

(a) whether a racket for enhancing the marks in Secondary School Certificate Examination in Maharashtra has been unearthed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). A news item in the Times of India (Bombay Edition) dated 15.4.1992 has come to the attention of the Government of India regarding the alleged role of one moderator and one examiner in enhancement/alteration of marks in Biology and English subjects of the SSC Examination, 1992 conducted by the Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, for monetary considerations.

According to the Government of Maharashtra, a prompt enquiry was launched by the said Board. All the answerbooks moderated evaluated by the Moderator and Examiner have been remoderated. On the basis of the preliminary investigations, the Management of the school where the concerned Moderator and Examiner are employed has been advised to suspend both of them.

Education for Disabled Children

8981. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of the Integrated Education Scheme for disabled children has been satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the manner in which it is proposed to be streamlined;

(d) the States from where reports about the implementation of the scheme and utilisation of funds released to them during 1989-90 and 1990-91 have not been received so far; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Union Government for proper implementation of the scheme?

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for disabled Children (IEDC) is presently being implemented in 19 States and 3 Union Territories. The number of children covered under the Scheme has been steadily increasing, from 7000 in 1984-85 to about 28,000 on 1990-91.

The Project Integrated Education for the Disabled (PIED) is being implemented since 1987 on an experimental basis in one block each in 8 States and 2 Municipal Corporations. The PIED has been designed to strengthen implementation of IEDC.

Special efforts are being made to train teachers in multi-category disabilities and educational planners and administrators at the district level for better implementation of the scheme.

Grants are released to the State Governments/UTs on the basis of their performance reports as well as utilisation of funds. Reports have been received from all States/UTs to who grants were released in

1989-90 and 1990-91. The progress of implementation varies from States to State and is regularly reviewed in meetings and through field visits.

Report on 'Women in Custody'

8982. DR. R. SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former Supreme Court judge has submitted any report to the Government on 'Women in custody' during 1986;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein; and

(c) the action taken on the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE (DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Reservation in Appointment of Doctors in All India Institute of Medical Science

8983. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

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

(a) whether the Governing Body of the All India Institute of Medical Science had

decided in January 1983 and again resolved in May, 1987 that reservations will be applied at all levels of Faculty posts upto professors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some cases of alleged irregularities in the appointments of various categories of posts in contravention of the above mentioned resolutions have come to the notice of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). In January, 1983 the Institute Body of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, decides that there would be reservations for SC/STs in the faculty posts as prescribed by the Government. In 1987, the Governing Body of AIIMS did not take a decision that reservation would be applied to all level of faculty posts upto the posts of Professor. AIIMS is following the reservation policy as decided by its Institute/Governing Body.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

[English]

Cancer Prone Area of Assam

8984. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cachar District of Assam is Cancer prone area;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) There is no such report.

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

[Translation]

Rakes for Bricks Kiln Industry

8985. SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring Brick-Kiln industry under the core sector for giving it priority in supply of coal;

(b) the monthly quota of rakes fixed for

the supply of coal to brick kilns; and

(c) the number of rakes made available per month in the bricking season from November, 1991 to March, 1992 and the number of rakes made use therefore?

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

(b) and (c). Overall ceiling for loading coal for brick kiln industry from the coalfields under Coal India Ltd. for the year 1991 was fixed as 14442 fourwheeler wagons per month and 14435 fourwheeler wagons per month for 1992. Actual loosing of coal to brick kiln industry from all sources over the Indian Railway during the period November 91 to March 92, monthwise has been as under:

Month	Actual loading (in fourwheeler wagons)
November 91	8700
December 91	5145
January 92	9579
February 92	7424
March 92	11067

33 rakes were canceled by the parties after allotment from Bengal, Bihar coalfields.

Illegal Construction on Land of Tughlakabad Fort

8986. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newstern captioned

"Jamein Mafion Ke Dabab Mein Karvai Adhuri Chhodi" appearing in the Jansatta dated March 23, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government so far in this regard to check illage land grabbing;

(d) the total area of the land on which illegal construction has been raised; and

(e) the details of action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Out of a total area of 2396 Bighas and 19 Biswas of the Fort which also includes the old village of Tughlagabad, 78 Bighas is under the Archaeological Survey of India. Encroachments and illegal construction have been made from time to time in the past on the northern side of the Tughlagabad Village and also adjacent to western side of the ancient wall on Government land, the ownership of which vests in Delhi Administration. The Archaeological Survey of India has been lodging complaints with local Police and also writing to Delhi Administration in the matter. As a result some of the encroachments have been removed four times in the past. To check further encroachments and illegal construction additional watch and ward staff has been posted. Steps have also been taken for fencing the area.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Supply of Homeopathic Medicines to C.G.H.S. Dispensaries

8987. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any alleged cases of supply of half empty Philips of Mother Tincture of certain homeopathic medicines to C.G.H.S. dispensaries since August 1, 1989 have been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken to stop such malpractices; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure supply of standard Homeopathic Mother Tinctures to C.G.H.S. dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). In view of reply given at (a) above, the question does not arise.

Child Welfare Programme

8988. SHRI SANDIPAN BHAWAN THROAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the various programmes implemented under the Child Health Programme during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) whether the Government propose to revise these programme keeping in view the shortcomings noticed in implementing such programmes during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) if so, the thrust areas identified and the strategy evolved for better and efficient implementation of this programme particularly for the poorer sections of the society during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). The following Child Health Programmes were started during the Seventh Plan period:-

1. Universal Immunisation Programme**2. Oral Dehydration Therof (ORT) Programme (Started during 1986-87)**

3. Prophylaxis against amebiasis and blindness among children due to Iron and Vitamin 'A' deficiency.

The achievements in respect of the above programmes are given in the Statements I and II.

During the 8th Plan the above programmes are being integrated under a project known as Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme. The salient features of this programme are:-

- a) Sustaining Universal Immunization Programmes for Infants and pregnant women.
- b) Continuing Oral Rehydration

therapies to prevent deaths in children below five years due to dehydration.

- c) Universalising the existing Prophylaxis Scheme on Control of anaemia among pregnant women through administration of Iron and folic acid tablets.
- d) Universalising existing Prophylaxis Scheme on Control of blindness due to deficiency of Vitamin A for Children upto three years of age.
- e) Expansion of Acute Respiratory Infections control programme in children below 5 years of age to reduce deaths due to pneumonia.
- f) Implementing Safe Motherhood Programme by Training/individual trained Birth attendants, to conduct clear deliveries, strengthening of sub-centres and first referral centres.

STATEMENT I

Reported achievement as percentage of annual targets

	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1985-86	41.12	35.66	28.84	-	39.85
1986-87	56.55	48.41	52.19	16.17	45.27
1987-88	72.23	60.46	70.70	44.06	56.48
1988-89	79.61	74.83	79.29	55.17	65.15
1989-90	82.00	82.00	89.00	69.00	69.00

STATEMENT II

	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
	Target	Achieve ment	Target	Achieve ment	Target	Achieve ment	Target	Achieve ment	Target	Achieve ment
1. Prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia among Children	14.00	17.16	19.43	12.82	22.00	18.50	30.00	21.67	29.89	22.44
2. Prophylaxis against blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency	24.96	29.40	28.97	30.24	30.00	46.62 (doses)	30.00	41.60 (doses)	29.89	39.02

III ORAL REHYDRATION THERAPY PROGRAMME

Since the inception of the Programme in 1986- 87, 3.26 lakhs medical and para- medical personnel were trained and 15 Diarrhoea Treatment-cum-Training Units established. Besides, a sum of Rs. 593.15 lakhs was reportedly spent by the State/UT Governments for supply of ORS Packets to the health facilities.

Terminal Benefits of Canteen Staff

8989. SHRI BAS DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of employees of the Railway Staff Canteens (statutory and non-statutory) settled in connection with their pension, gratuity, leave salary, after their retrenchment on or after April 1, 1990, Zone-wise; and

(b) the number of such employees since expired without getting any benefits during this period?

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

Purchase of Drugs by Central Medical Store Depots, Hyderabad

8990. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of alleged irregularity in the purchase of drugs by the Central Medical Store Depots, Hyderabad during 1991-92 has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). No Sir. However, a news item appeared in a local Telugu newspaper "Andhra Jyothy" Dated 10.9.1991 masking certain allegations against some

officers of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding procurement of medicines from the Govt. Medical Store Depot, Hyderabad. As regards allegations of supply of sub-standard medicines by the Medical Store Depot, Hyderabad, the matter has been examined and it has been reported that no irregularity has been detected.

Ration for ITDP Areas

8991. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to continue to supply ration to the areas identified under the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP);

(b) if so, the quota proposed to be released during 1992-93;

(c) the areas and States to be covered this year; and

(d) the special subsidised rates decided under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity and scale of wheat and rice under ITDP Scheme is determined by the concerned State Governments/Union Territories out of and within the allocations for the Public Distribution System from the Central Pool to the respective States/Union Territories.

(c) The information is furnished in the Statement attached.

(d) The special subsidised issue prices under ITDP Scheme and the suggested end retail prices to the consumer under the scheme are as follows:-

(Rs. per quintal)

	<i>Central Issue price</i>	<i>Recommended end retail prices</i>
Wheat	230	255
Rice (Common)	327	352
Rice (Find)	387	412
Rice (Superfine)	408	433

STATEMENT

Details of Areas Covered under the Scheme for Supply of Wheat and Rice at Specially Subsidised Prices in Predominantly Tribal Areas

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the States/U. Ts./Districts</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	2
4.	Gujarat	2
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Details of I.T.D. ps at page.
6.	Karnataka	3
7.	Kerala	3
8.	Madhya Pradesh	3 - 4
9.	Maharashtra	5
10.	Manipur	5
11.	Orissa	6
12.	Rajasthan	6
13.	Sikkim	7
14.	Tamil Nadu	7

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the States/U. Ts./Districts</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
15.	Tripura	7
16.	Uttar Pradesh	7
17.	West Bengal	8
18.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8
19.	Daman & Diu	8

TRIBAL MAJORITY STATES:

- | | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 20. | Arunachal Pradesh |
| 21. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli |
| 22. | Lakshadweep |
| 23. | Meghalaya |
| 24. | Mizoram |
| 25. | Nagaland |

HILLS AREAS:

North Cachar District
of Assam
Karbi Anglong District

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

STATE: ANDHRA PRADESH

- | | | |
|----|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | Adilabad | Adilabad |
| 2. | East Godavari | East Godavari |
| 3. | Khammam | Khamman |
| 4. | Srikakulam | Srikakakulam |

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
5.	Visakhapatnam	Visakhapatnam
6.	Vizianagaram	Vizanagaram
7.	Warangal	Warangal
8.	West Godavri	Pelavaram Buttayagudam
STATE: ASSAM		
1.	Cachar	Silchar
2.	Darrang	Mangaldoi Tezpur
3.	Dibrugarh	Dibrugarh Tinsukiya & Sadiya
4.	Goalpara	Kokrajhar Dhubri Goalpara
5.	Kamrup	Barpeta Nalbari Gauhati -I Gauhati-II
6.	Lakhimpur	North Lakhimpur Dhemaji & Jonaj

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

7.	Nowgong	Nowgong
8.	Sibsagar	Jorhat
		Majuli
		Golaghat
		Sibsagar

Hill Areas

North Cachar District

of Assam

Karbi Anglong District

STATE: BIHAR

1.	Palamu	Latchar
2.	Ranchi	Ranchi
		Khunti
3.	Lohardaga	Lohardaga
4.	Gumla	Gumla
5.	Simdega	Simdega
6.	Dumka	Dumka
7.	Jamtara	Jamtara
		Pakur
		Rajmahala
8.		Godda Pakur
		Rajmahala
9.	Singhbhum	Chaibasa

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

10.	Saraikala	Saraikala
11.	Dhalbhum	Dhalbhum

STATE: GUJARAT

1.	Banaskantha	Bansakantha
2.	Bharuch	Bharuch
3.	Dangs	Dangs
4.	Panchmahals	Dohad
5.	Sabarkantha	Khedbrahma
6.	Surat	Surat-I (Songarh)
		Surat -II (Mandevi)
7.	Vadodara	Vadodara
8.	Valsad	Valsad

STATE: HIMACHAL PRADESH

1.	Chamba	Pangi
		Bharmaur
2.	Kinnaur	Kinnaur
3.	Lahu & Spiti	Lahaul Spiti

STATE: KARNATAKA

1.	Chickmangalur	Mudigere
2.	Coorg	Ponnampet

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

3.	Mysore	H.D. Kote
4.	South Kanara	Udipi Puttur

STATE: KERALA

1.	Thiruvananthapuram	Nedumangad
2.	Kottayam	Karanjiapali
3.	Idukki	Idukki
4.	Palghat	Attappady (Palakkadu)
5.	Malapuram	Nilampur
6.	Wayanad	Wayanad
7.	Cannanore	Cannanore

STATE: MADHYA PRADESH

1.	Jhabua	Jhabua Alirajpur
2.	Dhar	Dhar Kukshi
3.	Khargone	Barwani Khargone Sendhwa Maheswar
4.	Khandwa	Khalwa

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

5.	Bastar	Jagdalpur Bhanupratappur Narainpur Kondagaon Dantewada Konta Bijapur
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STATE: MADHYA PRADESH

6.	Raipur	Gariaband
7.	Drug	Dondi
8.	Rajnandgaon	Chowki (Rajnandgaon)
9.	Surguja	Ambikapur Surajpur Baikunthpur Pal (Ramanujagni)
10.	Bilaspur	Katghora
11.	Raigarh	Jashpurnagar Dharamjaigarh
12.	Mandla	Mandla Dindori

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
13.	Balaghat	Baihar
14.	Seoni	Lakhannadon
15.	Chhindwara	Tamia Sausar
16.	Jabalpur	Kundam
17.	Sidhi	Kusmi Deosar
18.	Shahdol	Shahdol Pushprajgarh Jaisingh Nagar Bandhogarh
19.	Betul	Betul Bhaindehi
20.	Ratlam	Sailana
21.	Seoni	Kurai
22.	Dewas	Dewas
23.	Morena	Karahal
24.	Hoshangabad	Kesla Harda.

STATE: MAHARASHTRA

1.	Ahmednagar	Rajura
2.	Amravati	Dharsi

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
3.	Chandrapur	Chandrapur-I Etapali Chandrapur-II Dhanora Chandrapur-III
4.	Dhule	Dhule-I Toloda Dhule-II Nandurbar
5.	Jalgaon	Jalgaon
6.	Nanded	Kinwat
7.	Nansik	Nasik-I (Kalwan) Nasik - II (Dindori)
8.	Pune	Sal
9.	Thane	Thane-I (Jawhar) Thane -II (Shahapur)
10.	Yavatmal	Pandharkawada

STATE: MANIPUR

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Manipur East
(Whole District) | Manipur East |
| 2. | Manipur North
(Whole District) | Manipur North |

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

3.	Manipur South (Whole District)	Manipur South
4.	Manipur West (Whole District)	Manipur West
5.	Tongnoupal (Whole District)	Tongnoupal

STATE: ORISSA

1.	Balasoree	Nilgiri
2.	Boudh	Baliguda
	Khondmals	Phullbanai
3.	Ganjam	Paralakhemund
4.	Kalahandi	Thrampur
5.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar
		Champua
6.	Koraput	Koraput
		Rayagada
		Malkangiri
		Jeypore
		Nowrangpur
		Gunupur
7.	Mayurbhanj	Baripada
		Rairangpur
		Karanjia
		Kaptipada
8.	Sambalpur	Kuchinda
9.	Sundergarh	Sundergarh

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
		Panposh
		Bonei
<i>STATE: RAJASTHAN</i>		
1.	Banswara (whole District)	Banswara
2.	Chittoragarh	Chittorgarh
3.	Dungarpur (whole District)	Dungarpur
4.	Sirohi	Sirohi
5.	Udaipur	Udaipur
<i>STATE: SIKKIM</i>		
1.	North District	North District
2.	South District	South District
3.	East District	East District
4.	West District	West District
<i>STATE: TAMIL NADU</i>		
1.	Uharampuri	Sitteri Hills
2.	North Arcot	Jawathi Hills
3.	Salem	Yercaud
4.	Salem	Killi Hills
5.	Salem	Kalyan Hills
6.	Salem	Pachamalai
7.	Salem	Aranoothumalai
8.	South Arcot	Kalrayan Hills
9.	Tiruchirappalli	Pachamalai Hills
<i>STATE: TRIPURA</i>		
1.	North Tripura	North Tripura

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>I.T.D.P.</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)

2. South Tripura South Tripura

3. West Tripura West Tripura

STATE: UTTAR PRADESH

1. Lakhimpur Kheri Lakhimpur Kheri

STATE: WEST BENGAL

1. Bankura

2. Birbhun

3. Burdwan

4. Darjeeling

5. Hoogly

6. Jalpaiguri

7. Malda

8. Midnapore

9. Murshidabad

10. Purulia

11. 24-Paragnas

12. West Dinajpur

UNION TERRITORY/STATE: ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

1. Nicobar Andaman &
Nicobar
Islands

UNION TERRITORY/STATE: ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

1. Daman Daman

Note:- All the districts under Tribal Majority States are also covered under the scheme.

Indrasagar Project

8992. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some terms and conditions were laid down in sanctioning Indra Sagar Project (Gosikurd);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the terms and conditions fulfilled so far; and

(d) whether the Government are reviewing the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Indra Sagar Project (Gosikhurd) of Maharashtra was granted environmental clearance in February, 1988 with the proviso that Environmental Actions Plans for Catchment Area Treatment, Command Area Development, Rehabilitation etc. will be implemented pari-passu with the construction work.

(c) and (d). On the basis of feed back from the project authorities it is noted that they are carrying out surveying and studies for formulation of environmental action plans which will be duly examined and reviewed when submitted.

[*Translation*]

C.G.H.S. Dispensary in Garhwal Region

8993. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 819 on November 26, 1991 and state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted in regard to the number of Central;

Government employees and offices functioning in the Garhwal region for opening of a C.G.H.S. dispensary there;

(b) if so, the number of Central Government employees in Dehradun, Pauri, Srinagar and Gopeshwar cities separately;

(c) whether the number of employees residing there fulfills the existing norms for opening of a C.G.H.S. dispensary;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to consider for opening such a dispensary in that area; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply given at (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) to (e). The extension of CGHS to new cities is done on the basis of concentration of largest Central Government Employees subject to availability of funds. For this purpose, there should be a population of more than 7,500 employees available in that city. Many cities like Trivandrum, Shillong, Chandigarh etc. having larger number of Central Government Employees have not been covered but the CGHS so far. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to extend CGHS to the Garhwal region at present due to financial constraints.

[*English*]

C.G.H.S. Dispensaries in Residential Flats

8994. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CGHS dispensaries run in the Capital from residential flats of Government colonies.

(b) the measures taken for construction of separate buildings for CGHS dispensaries in such areas; and

(c) the allocation made therefore in the current budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) 40.

(b) CGHS has been allotted plots of land in various parts of the capital for construction of separate buildings for CHHS dispensaries.

The sketch design for construction of CGHS dispensary/polyclinic in Sector XII, R.K. Puram New Delhi is under consideration for approval by the competent authority after which preliminary estimates will be prepared by C.P.W.D. for setting Administrative approval & Expenditure sanction.

The land for construction of CGHS dispensary in Sector XII, R.K. Puram, New Delhi has to be taken from land and Development Officer after which preliminary sketch design for CGHS dispensary building would be prepared by the Central Design Bureau for construction purpose.

(c) A provision of Rs. 1,00,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore) has been allocated in the current budget for this purpose.

Purchase of Lithotripter

8995. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lithotripter for

treatment of kidney stones purchased and the hospitals in the Capital in which they have been installed;

(b) whether these machines are being fully utilised; and

(c) the number of patients treated with these machines during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) One Lithotripter each has been installed in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, and Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Narain Hospital, New Delhi.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 711 patients have been treated from July, 1990 to March, 1992 in Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Narain Hospital, New Delhi and 589 patients have been treated in the years 1990 and 1991 in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

[*Translation*]

Operational Black Board Scheme in U.P.

8996. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Operation Black Board scheme is not being implemented in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targets fixed for Uttar Pradesh during the last year district-wise and the amount allotted for this purpose; and

(d) the extent to which these targets have been achieved during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUNSINGH): (a) It is intended to cover all the primary schools existing as on 30.9.1986 in all the districts of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d). No Year-wise district-wise

targets are fixed, the phasing of the scheme depends upon the pace and capacity of implementation for the State Govts. So far three phases in 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 comprising 65388 schools falling in all the districts of the State have been sanctioned to Uttar Pradesh. The implementation and utilisation of funds as reported are given as under:-

i) Equipment:

Amount sanctioned	Amount utilised
Rs. 49,56,22,000	Rs. 41,57,78,000 (83.89%)

ii) Teachers:

No. of posts sanctioned	No. of teachers appointed
7224	7224 (100%)

iii) Construction

No. of class rooms required to be constructed	No. of class rooms constructed
22300	19950 (89.46%)

[English]

Trivandrum Central Railway Station

8997. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the original project approved by the Government for making the Trivandrum Central Railway Station as a model station and the total cost thereof;

(b) whether the original project is being implemented now;

(c) if not, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the progress of the project alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(e) whether there is any escalation in the cost of the project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

MALLIKARJUN (a) Under the original scheme of 'Medical Station' following works were include at a total estimated cost of Rs. 227.77 lakhed:

1. Proposed new station building on southern side.
2. Provision of second foot over bridge.
3. Extension of platform shelter on platform No.2/3 (ph.I).
4. Extension of platform shelter on platform 2/3 (ph.II).
5. Acquisition of land belonging to Kerala Water Authority for improvement to circulating area.
6. Provision of CC apron on road 1 & 2.

Apart from the above works under 'Model Station' scheme, other modernisation works have also been taken up at Trivāndrum Central Station from time to time.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does to arise.

(d) Works of extension of platform of platform shelter on platform No. 2/3 (ph.I), provision of CC apron on road No. 1 and 2 and acquisition of land belonging to Kerala Water Authority have been completed. Works of new station building and extension of platform shelter on platform No. 2/3 (ph.II) is in progress. Works of second foot over bridge has also been sanctioned. Total expenditure incurred till date on these works is Ts. 186.55 lakh.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f)	Name of work	Escalation
1.	Proposed new station building	Rs. 24.5 lakh
2.	Acquisition of land Kerala Water Authority	Rs. 8.52 lakh.

Rail Link from Bhilai to Bailadila via Dalli Rajhara

8998. **SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR**: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a railway line from Bailadila to Bhilai via Dalli Rajhara for transportation of iron-ore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (**SHRI MALLIKARJUN**): (a) to (c). The proposed line is a single user line required by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), for movement of iron ore to Bhilai. Cost has been advised to Ministry of Steel. Work can be taken up as and when Ministry of Steel/SAIL arrange funding for this line.

[Translation]

Frequency of Bilaspur-Gewra Train

8999. **SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA**: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been a demand for running of Bilaspur-Gewra train twice a day to facilitate the passengers off Korba city, Madhya Pradesh; and

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

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

(b) Examined but not found feasible due to operational difficulties and resources constrain.

[*English*]

National Youth Welfare Board

9000. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to reconstitute the National Youth Welfare Board;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in reconstitution of the Board; and

(c) when it is likely to be reconstituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND DEPARTMENT WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c). Government has not constituted any National Youth Welfare Board. However, Government has recently reconstituted the National Youth Council into a smaller viable body and has renamed it as 'Committee for National Youth Programmes;

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Medical College

9001. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy regarding establishment of a medical college in the country;

(b) the States from which the requests for opening of medical colleges have been received for approval, assistance and recognition; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) The existing policy of the Govt. is not to permit the establishment of new medical college in the country.

(b) A few States including Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Nagaland & the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Pondicherry have requested for permission to establish medical colleges.

(c) Though there is no change in the existing policy not to establish any new medical college in the Govt. sector, a decision is yet to be taken whether medical college may be permitted to be established in the private sector with required facilities including hospital as prescribed by the Medical Council of India.

[*English*]

Allocation for Adult Education

9002. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATE SWARLU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation for the Adult Education Programme in Andhra Pradesh, during the Seventh Plan period, year-wise;

(b) the agencies which have been organising this programme in the State;

(c) the target fixed and achievements made in implementing the programme during Seventh Five Year Plan period in Andhra Pradesh, year-wise;

(d) whether the programme is to be intensified during the Eighth Plan with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SIGH): (a) A total amount of Rs. 1783.71 lakhs was released to the State Government and various other agencies engaged in the promotion of adult education in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan. The year-wise details of the grant released during this period were as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
	<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1985-86	289.46
1986-87	225.99
1987-88	291.39
1988-89	406.59
1989-90	570.28

In addition, a total amount of Rs. 1572.00 lakhs was also allocated to the State sector for the Adult Education Programme in Andhra Pradesh. The year-wise details of the allocation were as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs)</i> <i>Amount</i>
1985-86	215.00
1986-87	400.00
1987-88	290.00
1988-89	300.00
1989-90	367.00
	1572.00

(b) The adult literacy programme had been implemented in the State during the Seventh Plan both by governmental and non-governmental organisations. In the Central Sector, 26 Rural Functional Literacy Projects (RFLPs) and 26 State Adult Education Projects (SAEPs) in the State Sector were functioning. In addition, 123 Voluntary Agencies were also provided financial assistance for undertaking the literacy programme.

(c) The targets which were set and the enrolment during each year of the Seventh Plan in the State were as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Achievement</i>
		<i>(in lakhs)</i>
1985-86	4.40	3.66
1986-87	4.32	3.67
1987-88	4.32	4.68
1988-89	5.00	4.68
1989-90	9.00	7.77

(d) and (e). During the last two years the

principal strategy under the National Literacy Mission has been organisation of Total Literacy Campaigns. In the State of Andhra Pradesh, Total Literacy Campaigns have been taken up in the following districts/areas:

1. Chittoor
2. Cuddapah
3. Hyderabad District
4. Nellore
5. Vishakhapatnam
6. Kurnool
7. Mehbubnagar
(6 Mandals & 2
Municipalities)
8. Khamam
9. Nizamabad
10. West Godavari
11. Karimnagar
12. Nalgonda
13. One Mandal each in 9
districts of Vizianagaram, East
Godavari, Krishna, Guntur,
Prakasham, Anantapur,
Ranga Reddy, Adilabad
and Warangal.
14. Medak (9 Mandals)
15. Srikakulam

It is hoped that by the end of the 8th Plan all the districts in the State would have been covered by the total literacy campaigns.

Folk Arts of Kerala

9003. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to protect the folk arts of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). A scheme for the promotion and dissemination of Tribal/ Folk Art and Culture is being implemented by the Department of Culture under which financial assistance is provided to voluntary cultural organisation, individuals and institutions for undertaking various projects in the field. An Expert Advisory Committee considers all the applications received under the scheme from different parts of the country including from the State of Kerala. Grants are released later based on the recommendations made by the Committee.

Zonal Cultural Centres set up in different parts of the country have also been entrusted with the task to encourage folk arts through their separate programmes. They also have programmes of documentation for the preservation and protection of folk arts.

Technical Education In Kerala

9004. SHRITHAYIL JOHNNANJALOSE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government to provide financial assistance for strengthening the technical education in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). Apart from the proposals made to the Planning Commission for development of technical education by the Government of Kerala under the State Plan, no specific request has been made by the State Government to the Central Government for financial assistance. With regard to their request for establishment of centres of excellence on the pattern of IITs & IIMs in Kerala, the State has been conveyed its inability to consider these projects entirely under Central Sector. It is for the State Govt. to come up with their plans to raise sufficient funds for this purpose.

[*Translation*]

Bharat Mahotsava

9005. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Mahotsava is being organised in Germany;

(b) if so, the names of the other countries where Bharat Mahotsava is proposed to be organised by the Government during 1992; and

(c) the achievements of the said Mahotsava from tourism point of view?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. It commenced in September, 1991.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) The Festival of India in Germany has helped to create awareness and a positive perception about India in Germany. Since cultural tourism is the main motivating factor for German tourists to visit India, the Festival of India has led to the growth of tourists traffic from Germany to India. Since the Festival was launched, there has been a marked increase in tourists enquiries and in the number of visas issued.

[*English*]

AIDS Cure by Fossils

9006. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item captioned 'Living fossils helps AIDS cure' published in the Indian Express dated 22 April, 1992;

(b) if so, whether the living fossil known as 'Horseshoe-crab' are found in abundance in the coastal waters of Chandipur, in the Balasore district of Orissa;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to use the medicinal properties of its blood for the treatment of AIDS and other diseases as used in western countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to export this crab; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI

ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Conversion of Hubli-Miraj-Londa Railway Lines

9007. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project for conversion of Hubli-Londa-Vasco-da-gama (Goa) and Miraj-Londa Lines have been approved;

(b) if so, the details regarding the total estimated cost and the funds earmarked there for during 1992-93; and

(c) the time schedule fixed for starting and completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The estimated cost of works and outlay providing during 1992-93 is as under:-

<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>	<i>Outlay 1992-93</i>
Miraj-Londa	Rs. 122 Crs.	Rs. 1 Cr.
Hospet-Hubli Londa-Goa	Rs. 312 Crs.	Rs. 1 Cr.

The work is likely to start in 1992-93 and is expected to be completed during the 8th Five Year Plan.

Relaxation of Rules, on Wild Life Handling

9008. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from Circus Trade Associations for relaxation of rules for training, acquisition and performance for wild animals in circus as part of cultural trade;

(b) whether the trade has been affected by the ban on wild life handling;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to relax the rules for development of the circus trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government of India vide Notification dated 2nd March, 1991 banned training of exhibition of Bears, Tigers, Monkeys, Panthers and Dogs. Indian Circus Federation has challenged this in Delhi High Court. Delhi High Court has stayed the operation of the said Notification.

Panel for Appointments in KVS

9009. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGAWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya

Sangathan prepared select panels longer by 50% than the number of declared vacancies of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in 1988;

(b) if so, whether the decision of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is still in force or has since been revoked;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER RESOURCE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Board of Governors of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan have approved the drawing up of select panels 50% larger than the declared number of vacancies in the case of teaching posts in order to enable the Sangathan to provide a full complement of teachers to Kendriya Vidyalayas. This was a one time decision.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Museum at Vikramshila

9010. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation of funds were made for construction of site museum at Vikramshila, district Bhagalpur, Bihar;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in constructing the said museum; and

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). The construction of sculpture shed at Vikramshila is likely to be completed during the current financial year.

[*English*]

Free Sale Sugar Quota

9011. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO SAHEB TOPE:
SHRI SHARKARAO KALE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the past, the Government was fixing the factory-wise free sale sugar quota out of the monthly declared free sale sugar quota on an uniform basis for each sugar factory throughout the country;

(b) whether the Government have discontinued this system and now following the system of apportioning State-wise quota out of the monthly declared free sale sugar quota; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the change adopted in the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The system was changed to ensure appropriate releases from various sugar producing States, keeping in view the different production patterns in each region, to avoid unnecessary movement of sugar over long distances.

Alleged theft of Petrol in Railways

9012. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases alleged theft of petrol from petrol tankers of Railways at the Igatpuri Railway Station Yard of Central Railway

have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details regarding the quantity of petrol stolen and the value thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Oil Corporation had preferred a claim on the Railway for the theft of petrol from Railway Station Yard;

(d) if so, the amount claimed by the I.O.C. from the Railway;

(e) whether this claim has since been settled; and

(f) if so, the amount paid against this claim.

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

(b) The case has been referred CBI. Initial reports indicate theft in the range of Rs. 1.5 to Rs. 2 Crores during May, 1991 to September, 1991.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

(e) and (f). No, Sir.

Electrification of Ranaghat-Bongaon Line

9013. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal for electrification of Ranaghat-Bongaon railway line in Sealdah division of Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and at what

stage the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi in Railways

9014. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any report during, 1990 regarding assessment of progress made in use of Hindi in the working of Railway Departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure increasing use of Hindi in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Annual Assessment Report regarding use of Hindi in the working of Railway Departments is being sent to Ministry of Home Affairs every year. As far as the assessment year 1990-91 is concerned 96% documents (in Railway Board) and 98.8% documents (on Railways) under Section (33) of Official Language Act have been issued in Hindi-English bilingual form. During the year 1990-91, 18,61,073 letters were sent in Hindi to the Government offices, Central as well as States located in A, B and C regions throughout the country. 2,65,979 employees were trained in Probodh, Praveen and Pragya etc. and 3,494 and 1,798 employees were trained in Hindi-Typing and Hindi-Stenography, respectively upto 1990-91.

(c) Necessary steps have been taken to

ensure increasing use of Hindi in Railways, such as regular inspections of various stations/offices are being conducted by the higher officers of the Railways/Railway Board, strict monitoring is kept on different check-points and incentives are being given.

[English]

Wood for Packaging and Transportation of Horticulture Products

9015. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the wood used annually for packaging and transportation of horticulture products in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the States, particularly the States in which it is used on large scale; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government not to fell the trees for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). According to the report of the task force on the use of wood for packaging fruits and vegetables, constituted in 1983 by the Ministry of Agriculture, requirement of wood for packaging horticultural products in the country was estimated to be 5.9 million cubic metres in 1990. The wood is used for packaging horticultural products on large scale mainly in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh (Himalayan region).

(c) Following steps have been taken by Govt;

(i) Wood substitutes such as wire

bound packing cases, Kraft paper cover veneer boxes, corrugated fibre board boxes, high density polythene crates, corrugated plastic cartons etc. are being encouraged for packaging horticultural produce.

(ii) Forest Conservation Act, 1980 has been made more stringent.

(iii) Guidelines have been issued to the States/UTs To consider banning felling of green trees on mountains above on thousand metres, at least for some years.

(iv) To avoid clear felling of natural forest for re-afforestation, and where such felling is inevitable on Silvicultural considerations, it should be limited to small areas not exceeding ten hectares in the hills silvicultural & 25 hectares in the Plains.

(v) No diversion of any forest land for non-forestry purpose is allowed without prior approval of the Central Government.

[Translation]

Availability of Wagons on South Central Railway

9016. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons made available as compared to the targets of Seventh Five Year Plan period and the number of wagons available with the South Central Railway by the end of 1991;

(b) whether the number of wagons of South Central Railway has decreased and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of wagons of South Central Railway sent for repairs in workshop, the total number repaired and the number that have been declared unserviceable as on December, 1991; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in Eighth Plan to achieve the targets of wagon and traffic on South Central Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) In the Seventh Five Year Plan, 89,756 wagons in terms of four wheeler were acquired collectively for all the zones, but the net addition was only 27,547 wagons because of concurrent

condemnation of 62,209 wagons.

The ownership of South Central Railway in the wagon fleet on 31.12.91 was 39,603 BG wagons and 10,597 MG wagons.

(b) Ownership of South Central Railway in BG wagon fleet on 31.12.91 was more by about 400 wagons compared to on 31.12.90 and of MG wagons less by about the same number.

Ownership in wagon fleet of individual Railways has no significance so far as traffic needs of individual railways are concerned, because for that purpose the entire wagon fleet, except some special stock, caters to the needs of all the railways.

(c) i)	Number of BG wagons sent to workshops in the year 1991	10,110
ii)	Number of MG wagons sent to workshops in the year 1991	3,644
iii)	Number of BG wagons condemned in the year 1991.	1,011
iv)	Number of MG wagons condemned in the year 1991.	480

(d) In the Eighth Plan, 1,50,000 wagons in terms of four wheeler units, are proposed to be acquired, which would cater to the needs of all the Railways including the South Central Railway.

[English]

Crushing of Sugarcane in Tamil Nadu

9017. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of sugarcane being

crushed by all the sugar mills out of the total sugarcane production at present in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the percentage is less than the national average;

(c) if so, the extent thereof; and

(d) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) During 1990-91 sugar season

(October-September), sugar factories in Tamil Nadu crushed 52.9% of sugarcane produced in Tamil Nadu, as against the national average of 50.9%

(b) No, Sir.

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

Show Cause Notice to Amu Authorities

9018. SHRIE. AHMED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a show cause notice on the authorities of the Aligarh Muslim University has been issued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the University authorities thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). The Court of Aligarh Muslim University, in its meeting held on 20-8-1989, resolved inter alia to accept the recommendations of the Tyabji Committee for reservation of 50% seats in Class XI, Degree Courses, Master's Courses and Professional Courses for Muslim candidates on the basis of merit. As this resolution was not in the conformity with the provisions of Section 8 of the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920 which provides that the University shall be open to all persons of either sex and of whatever race, religion, creed or class, a show-cause notice was issued to the University under Section 13 (6) of the Aligarh Muslim University Act for annulment of the resolution. A reply to the show-cause notice has not been received from the University.

[Translation]

Health Workers in Villages

9019. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI RAM AWADH:

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

(a) whether the health workers for village sub-centres have been posted in all parts of the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the detailed plan for training of the health workers to cover all the villages of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). According to available information, out of 1,31,385 Sub-centres functioning in the country 1,25,502 Sub-centres are functioning where Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) are in position. 1,17,134 Sub-centres are functioning with Male Health Workers. The recruitment of these workers is made by the State/U.T. Governments. Salary of Female Health Worker is funded by the Government of India and the salary of Male Health Workers is funded by the State Governments/Union Territories.

(c) 437 A.N.M./Female Health Workers Schools with admission capacity of 19908 and 46 Promotional Training (Female Health Assistant) Schools with an admission capacity of 2873 are functioning in the country. These training schools are adequate to meet the requirement of Female Health Workers and Female Health Assistance for rural areas in the country. There are 47 Health and Family Welfare Training Centers conducting Male

Health Worker Training Programme with an admission capacity of 2820. The training capacity is not adequate to meet the requirement and therefore, the Government have sanctioned additional 50 schools.

[English]

Railway Concession

9020. DR. R. MALU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced concessions in railway tickets to

sportspersons, artists, cancer and mentally retarded patients with a companion on reduced charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether similar concessions are likely to be extended to the blind?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). The details of concession admissible to sportspersons, artistes, cancer patients, blinds and mentally reartced persons are indicated below:

Category of persons	Element of concession	
	First Class	Second Class
1. Sports-persons participating in tournaments open to -		
(a) individuals	Nil	50%
(b) teams	50%	50%
2. Recipients of Arjuna Award	Nil	50%
3. Recipients of Dronacharaya Award	Nil	50%
4. Artistes - theatrical, concert, music and dancing troupes	Nil	50%
5. Cancer patients traveling alone or with escort for treatment	75% for both	75% both
6. Mentally Retarded persons travelling with an escort.	75% for both	75% both
7. Blind persons travelling alone or with an escort.	75% for both	75% both.

**Payment to Workers in Bridge
Department of Northern Railway**

9021. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrears of salary amounting to about rupees two crores, are due since 1973 to 2500 class IV employees working in bridge division of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons for such delay in payment of salaries; and

(c) the time by which the payments are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Northern Railway has received some claims for arrear payment on account of grant of temporary status to certain casual labourers of bridge department of that Railway. These claims are under verification. Payment as due will be made after completion of verification process.

[*Translation*]

Yoga University

9022. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Yoga University in order to conduct research on the scientific and spiritual aspects of Yoga;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). Keeping in view

the Government policy on the setting up of new Central Universities and the severe constraint on the availability of resources, Central Government has no proposal under consideration to set up a Yoga University.

Scarcity of Ayurvedic Medicine

9023. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of some Ayurvedic medicine in market;

(b) if so, the names of those medicines and reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for the adequate supply of such medicines in the market?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) This Ministry has no information about any shortage of Ayurvedic Medicine in the market.

(b) and c). Does not arise.

Conversion of Bareilly-Pilibhit-Lucknow

9024. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the railway line from Lucknow to Bareilly-via Pilibhit into broad-gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b). Does not arise.

(c) Constraint of resources.

[English]

Nickel in Chocolates

9025. SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Chocolates contain traces of nickel, carcinogenic substance as residue; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the health of children from the hazards of consuming such chocolates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). Environmental Research Laboratory, Lucknow, which is a small private laboratory, has screened a few samples of chocolates and reported that they show higher nickel content in chocolates. However, the result of samples of chocolates analysed at the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, a permanent research centre under the Indian Council of Medical Research, have been found to be in agreement with values reported from Denmark i.e. with a mean figure of 1.26 mg/Kg. Latest report of WHO has mentioned that there is lack of evidence of a carcinogenic risk from oral exposure of nickel. In fact, nickel has been shown as an essential trace metal in some plants and bacterial enzymes. Based on this information, the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, has opined that there is no need to lay down any maximum limit of nickel in chocolate.

Adulteration in Food Items

9026. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the small retail traders in respect of adulteration in food items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). The Small Scale Retailer's Association have represented to the Govt. for curbing adulteration of food at the source to protect the retailers.

The Food Health Authorities of States/UTs have been advised to lay more stress in sampling of food at the level of wholesalers and manufactures. Adequate provisions also exist under the PFA Act, 1954 to safeguard the interest of the retailers in cases where adulteration has been done at the source.

Reservation in Admission

9027. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation in admission in private schools has been made compulsory in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI

ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Delhi Administration have issued instructions from time to time to all recognised private schools to ensure reservation of SC and ST students in admission to the extent of 15% and 5% respectively. These instructions have again been reiterated by the Delhi Admn. on .74.1992 for strict compliance.

Revised Qualification for Appointment of University Teachers

9028. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any notification regarding the revised qualifications for appointment of University Teachers by the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak has followed these revised guidelines in appointments of Professors of Psychology and Public Administration;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the University Grants Commission in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission has notified in September, 1991 Regulations prescribing minimum qualifications for appointment through open advertisement, to the posts of Professors, Readers and Lecturers in Universities and Colleges and for promotion to posts of Readers and placement of lecturers in senior scale and selection grade.

(b) The Regulations have been notified in the Gazette of India dated 5th October, 1991, a copy which is available in the Parliament Library.

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

(e) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission does not monitor each appointment and promotion in the Universities and Colleges. However, whenever cases of deviation from the prescribed norms come to notice, these are referred to the concerned State Government or University for appropriate action.

Claims of Handling Charges by Rice Mills

9029. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received that some Rice Mills in Bihar and West Bengal are allegedly making out false claims of handling charges with the Food Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the Zonal/Regional Offices of the Food Corporation of India.

Procurement of Foodgrains in Tamil Nadu

9030. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains

procured by the Food Corporation of India in Tamil Nadu during 1991-92;

(b) whether the present storage is sufficient to the needs of the people in the State; and

(c) if not, the efforts made by the Food Corporation of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The Food Corporation of India does not undertake procurement of foodgrains in Tamil Nadu. However, the State Government agencies procure Rice and paddy in the State. They have procured 9.58 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) upto 29.4.1992 during 1991-92 kharif marketing season.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

C.G.H.S. Cards

9031. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH
HOODA:

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

(a) whether CGHS Token Cards were issued to the beneficiaries during the year 1980;

(b) whether these cards have become defaced and unserviceable and lot of changes have also taken place in family members of the beneficiaries;

(c) if so, the reasons for not issuing fresh CGHS Token Cards; and

(d) the present life of CGHS Token Cards and when are they proposed to be renewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The defaced and unserviceable cards are replaced by issuing duplicate cards on demand. The order to print new series of token cards has already been placed with the Government of India Press. The part supply of the Index cards has been received and the balance has yet to be received for which Government of India press is being requested to expedite the balance supply. The existing cards will be replaced by the new cards on receipt of the fresh supply.

Posts of Principals

9032. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of principals lying vacant under the Directorate of Education, Delhi and since when;

(b) how many candidates have been recommended by the UPSC for appointment against the aforesaid vacant posts of Principals and when the department received the UPSC recommendations;

(c) whether all the UPSC selected candidates have been posted as principals against the respective vacant posts, by now; and

(d) if not, the time when they are likely to be posted?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Delhi Administration has intimated that at present 15 posts of Principals are vacant, they have been vacant since various dates from Oct. 1991.

(b) The UPSC has not recommended candidates against these vacancies. (They had recommended 23 candidates on 25.10.91, but against earlier vacancies).

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

Incentive for Birth Control

9033. SHRI R. SURRENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new scheme to compensate the States for the actual birth in decline rates rather than the achievement of targets has been mooted by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the main features of the new scheme;

(c) the amount earmarked for the scheme;

(d) whether the amount of incentive is likely to be increased; and

(e) if so, the extent thereof??

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (e). The existing scheme of cash compensation under which funds are released to the States/Union

Territories on the basis of their performance figures of sterilisations/ IUD insertions is proposed to be amended and is proposed to be linked to the both reductions efforts made by them. The modified scheme is being designed to aim at providing greater flexibility to the States/UTs. to utilise the funds available under the scheme in the most optimal manner and to ensure wider coverage of younger couples with greater fertility potential under spacing methods. Full details of the scheme are being worked out.

Immunisation Programme

9034. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of infants and pregnant women immunised during the last three years, State-wise and Union Territory-wise and

(b) the targets fixed for 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The number of infants and pregnant women immunised during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise, and the immunisation targets fixed for infant and pregnant women during 1992-93 are given in the statements I to IV attached.

STATEMENT I

Reported Achievement under Universal Immunisation Programme: 1989-90

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
LARGER STATES	(3rd Dose)	(3rd Dose)			(2 ND+B)
Andhra Pradesh	1187729	1183519	1443674	1027501	134320
Assam	130885	308398	208142	120142	224884
Bihar	1994681	1976194	2299290	1816570	1487654
Gujarat	983572	1025113	1042134	893546	1081589
Haryana	451833	450962	516654	382633	385691
Karnataka	912903	908705	1067960	733224	104211
Kerala	669178	694805	729340	55736	6385
Madhya Pradesh	1674122	1654093	1867376	1480284	141153
Maharashtra	1630561	1653565	1867319	1418492	1592791

State	DPT	OPY	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa	701220	695183	738474	457394	700953
Punjab	476518	47516	556848	441886	465767
Rajasthan	1199503	1097723	1087806	1066608	1105299
Tamil Nadu	1103034	1117621	1193028	1093130	1182799
Uttar Pradesh	4049000	3955000	3632000	3217000	3548000
West Bengal	1206350	1209719	1301734	746615	1059117
SMALLER STATES					
Himachal Pradesh	110262	111143	126258	100202	94115
Jammu & Kashmir	141321	146639	174639	104500	65769
Manipur	37676	36744	389623	27864	34242
Meghalaya	34129	33988	34427	117683	32074

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Nagaland	7453	6680	5752	3759	4898
Sikkim	7932	7530	8762	5594	5048
Tripura	17958	17650	28522	11819	12613
A & N Island	6052	6070	67172	5476	4621
Arunachal Pradesh	14317	14444	18679	9381	934
Chandigarh	11423	11509	15761	7242	1347
D & N Haveli	3422	3422	3647	3038	2848
Delhi	181112	1807560	259613	160912	178125
Goa	16720	17303	19554	12805	10637
Daman & Diu	1528	1528	1728	1216	933
Lakshadweep	1571	1491	1324	1472	1364

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mizoram	147211	15457	17261	11649	11317
Pondicherry	17488	17515	25698	14153	16032
All India	19176174	19035991	20338538	15945615	17733576

STATEMENT II

Reported Achievement under universal Immunisation Programme: 1990-91

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
LARGER STATES	(3rd Dose)	(3rd Dose)			(2 ND+B)
Andhra Pradesh	1638762	1638102	1698545	1448593	174781
Assam	635072	637440	7152645	574645	405363
Bihar	2559537	2521744	2215471	2261125	1692120
Gujarat	1051018	1062752	1072771	1029560	1077554
Haryana	48932	498830	505562	384704	382252
Karnataka	1050591	1156211	1225048	992704	1174829
Kerala	591714	607516	656370	543196	644001
Madhya Pradesh	1827763	185431	2008106	1785020	1700151

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	1873842	1960192	1948212	169212	1625322
Orissa	74392	742858	825513	697532	645916
Punjab	516823	518280	510383	471403	464543
Rajasthan	1362283	1364932	1351947	1169960	1260179
Tamil Nadu	1261753	1274634	1281890	1217109	1286288
Uttar Pradesh	4469000	4332000	4269000	4009000	38850
West Bengal	1484308	1525331	175083	119484	12594
SMALLER STATES					
Himachal Pradesh	112874	113159	106121	130324	101842
Jammu & Kashmir	128714	125803	154962	94144	69056
Manipur	32304	32622	36658	26619	33547
Meghalaya	33894	34527	37148	15981	39344

<i>State</i>	<i>DPT</i>	<i>OPV</i>	<i>BCG</i>	<i>MSL</i>	<i>TT (PW)</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
Nagaland	7470	6788	10566	6834	5557
Sikkim	10371	8869	10779	7591	5654
Tripura	43028	43432	78020	36334	25990
A & N Island	6878	7183	7065	5855	4855
Arunachal Pradesh	15007	15115	14769	9286	9786
Chandigarh	12666	12551	17591	10265	12700
D & N Havelli	4490	4490	5100	3795	3009
Delhi	202216	202851	272057	173900	194593
Goa	19600	20079	20567	17438	18351
Daman & Diu	1969	1968	2268	2285	1423

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Lakshadweep	1629	1720	1653	1655	1331
Mizoram	17516	17305	20336	15390	15390
Pondicherry	20151	20557	28520	18401	17911
All India	22226367	22363972	22856663	20153354	19848871

** Figures upto January

STATEMENT III
Reported Achievements under Universal Immunisation Programme: 1990-91

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
LARGER STATES	(3rd Dose)	(3rd Dose)			(2 ND+B)
Andhra Pradesh	1596198	1596320	1403400	1417319	1886283
Assam	467263	469032	496506	432420	388597
Bihar*	1208551	1214090	1120644	1127251	846778
Gujarat	1021900	1029200	1044100	969800	1063300
Haryana	454405	460191	501139	432150	45886
Karnataka	1065616	1067586	11133730	970836	11839
Kerala	572381	585517	636283	509642	6060
Madhya Pradesh	165510	1680809	1627822	1659185	1600864
Maharashtra	2089097	2115338	1948188	1962195	1987481

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa	736128	737502	816112	639384	697431
Punjab	543722	540484	548358	536104	551020
Rajasthan	1298445	1306907	1257276	1274044	1270395
Tamil Nadu	1048433	1056424	1194937	102514	1088341
Uttar Pradesh	4335000	4241000	4255000	4055000	3842000
West Bengal	1305122	1348972	1544591	1118269	1261735
SMALLER STATES					
Himachal Pradesh	125774	139188	132309	116223	111563
Jammu & Kashmir	55937	55853	74082	44759	23638
Manipur	33659	33922	39293	30684	32504
Meghalaya **	22371	22514	25054	14088	16711
Nagaland	4723	4318	6758	4437	2675

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sikkim	9642	9662	10360	7942	5595
Tripura	34822	34039	61240	33477	25460
A & N Island	6603	6679	6689	6091	5613
Arunachal Pradesh	11275	11014	14113	8071	7940
Chandigarh	14471	14627	20150	14032	15855
D & N Haveli*	3540	3540	4254	3168	3265
Delhi	209325	219380	270918	211710	208712
Goa	21314	21392	23326	19252	18777
Daman & Diu	2693	2913	2147	1972	1308
Lakshadweep	11342	1335	1227	1357	1436

State	DPT	OPV	BCG	MSL	TT (PW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Mizoram	18117	20822	21011	16572	16393
Pondicherry	19200	19475	30500	18200	16650
All India	19992579	20069945	20271517	18680848	19245187

Figures are provisional

• Figures upto February

•• Figures upto January

•••• Figures upto October

••••• Figures up to September

STATEMENT -IV

<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Pregnant Women</i>	<i>Infant</i>
Andhra Pradesh	1820.415	1648.776
Arunachal Pradesh	27.588	24.652
Assam	657.403	592.351
Bihar	3045.508	2748.208
Goa	19.301	17.868
Gujarat	1299.586	1175.321
Haryana	557.543	505.347
Himachal Pradesh	147.464	133.757
Jammu & Kashmir	261.051	236.438
Karnataka	1332.814	1206.260
Kerala	586.356	551.789
Madhya Pradesh	2623.164	2304.137
Maharashtra	2324.019	2123.489
Manipur	41.290	38.707
Meghalaya	60.410	55.306
Mizoram	16.745	15.409
Nagaland	21.607	19.893
Orissa	1006.931	876.414
Punjab	595.954	545.724
Rajasthan	1562.741	1401.853
Sikkim	11.460	10.401
Tamil Nadu	1326.803	1204.358

State/UT	Pregnant Women	Infant
Tripura	73 252	65.969
Uttar Pradesh	5317.946	4717.272
West Bengal	1991.597	1813.112
A & N Island	6.367	5.850
Chandigarh	12.325	11.433
D & N Haveli	5.374	4.872
Daman & Diu	2.980	2.759
Delhi	233.527	215.015
Lakshadweep	1.424	1.278
Pondicherry	16.935	15.552
All India	27007.880	24289.660

**Tinsukia-Saikhowa Railway Line
(Assam)**

9035. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the year of commissioning of Tinsukia to Saikhowa (Dolla) Railway line in Assam;

(b) whether any improvement have been made after its commissioning;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is economically viable; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken to make it viable.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Tinsukia-Saikhoha Ghat Railway line was commissioned in parts:

	Length	
1. Tinsukia-Makum	9 km	16.7.1883
2. Makum-Doomduma	15 km	2.5.1884
3. Doomduma-Talap	10 km	6.2.1885
4. Talap-Dangri-Saikhoha Ghat (Upto Dangri)	6 km	1.5.1910

Existing line is upto Dangri; the section beyond was abandoned due to change in course of Brahmaputra.

(b) and (c). The track and signals have been maintained and improved over the years as a continuing process.

(d) Doomduma-Dangri branch line, (31km) is left with extremely low traffic, due to road movement of tea traffic from its catchment; it is economically not viable.

(e) The Railways have included this line in the Action Plan for Gauge conversions to B.G. in the VIII Plan. After conversion this line will get linked to the national B.G. network and as a result traffic is expected to increase.

Contraceptive for both Sexes

9036. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items captioned 'contraceptive for both sexes' appearing in the 'Statesman' dated February 13, 1992;

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

(c) whether any clinical trials have been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the adverse impact of family planning measures is a direct result of shift in policy from targetting both men and women to mainly women; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVEI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Studies are already on at the Institute for Research in Reproduction (IRR), ICMR, to isolate a substance called 'inhibin' from the prostate gland, a small organ that surrounds the neck the urinary bladder in men.

As indicated in the newsitem, animal studies at IRR have shown that inhibin prevented pregnancy in females by modulating the level of circulating follicle stimulating hormones. When administered to males, it turned the spermatozoa into a 'lump' thereby preventing the fertilization of the egg. These studies have been confirmed in laboratory animals only.

(c) and (d). The clinical trials would be initiated after clearance from the Toxicology Review Panel after pre clinical animal toxicology studies are over.

(e) Since its inception, the Family Welfare Programme is targetted both towards men and women and there has been no shift in the policy..

(f) Question does not arise.

Workshop on ' Science Writing in Hindi'

9037. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IIT Kanpur had organized a Workshop on 'Science Writing in Hindi' and

(b) if so, details of the recommendations made and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI
ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. A Seminar on

'SCIENCE WRITING IN HINDI' was held on 25th and 26th October, 1991 at IIT Kanpur under the auspices of the Institute and the National Book Trust, New Delhi.

(b) Recommendations are enclosed in the statement. The recommendation having been made in a seminar in one of the institutions, the question of taking any action at the national level does not arise at this juncture.

STATEMENT

Recommendations made in the seminar:-

It was felt that for the all round development of the National Popular Science writing would be helpful in developing a Scientific outlook. As far as out country is concerned, qualitywise and quantitywise-both ways we do not have sufficient literature in popular Science writing in all the Indian languages including Hindi. Besides, number of problems are linked with Science writing. After a detailed discussion of all these problems the following recommendations were made:

1. Maximum number of chapters on Science should be incorporated in the textbooks language teaching at elementary and secondary level.
2. Maximum material on Science should be given a place in newspapers and journals. For this purpose, regular columns on Science related subjects could be started.
3. For encouraging talent in Science writing, the following measures are suggested:
 - (a) On the pattern of IIT, Kanpur

creative writing centres should be set up in other technical institutions also. Journals upon Science and Literature should be brought out in Hindi and other Indian Languages.

- (b) Teaching of the subject of improvement of skill of communication should be incorporated at degree and post-graduate levels in Engineering, medicine and Basic Sciences.
- (c) In the syllabus of Fine Art Colleges, Paintings on Science related subjects should be also included;
- (d) Workshop may be organised for Science writers and Science Artists.

4. With a view to encouraging Science writers and Translators, the following suggestions are made:

- (a) Greater financial assistance should be provided to the writers for preparing manuscripts on Science related subjects, undertaking jounie, interviews, collection of reference literature and stationery, typing etc.
- (b) The rate of honorarium for Science Writers and Translators should be uniform in so far as Science Writing in English and other Indian languages is concerned.
- (c) There should be a provision for honouring the expert who gives guidance to writers for Science writing on technical subjects.

5. Research and Training Centres should be set up for authentic Science writing. Such Centres should be provided with the following facilities:-

(a) Science writers work stations should be made available for all Indian languages. Such stations should be equipped with facilities like word processing, data bank, management. Software for improvement in the style dictionaries for idioms, Software of evaluation for the writings.

(b) Facilities for the evaluation of training and manuscripts should be available.

(c) Books and journals on popular Science literature and History of Indian Science should be made available.

(d) Journals may be published for the review of World Science Literature.

(e) Books should be brought out on the knowhow of Science and Technical writing.

(f) The centre should survey and study the response of the writers.

6. With a view to encouraging translators of popular Science literature, there should be a provision for training, adequate honorarium and proper recognition.

7. Popular Science writing should be simple, clear, understandable and interesting. As far as possible contribution made by the Indian Scientists should find a mention.

8. Norms and procedures for the evaluation of Science Literature should be laid down.

9. The selection of subjects and production of Science literature should be keeping in view the demands of general readers, voluntary organisations, State and Central Governments.

C.G.H.S. Beneficiaries

9038. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether divorcee daughters of C.G.H.S. beneficiaires are entitled for C.G.H.S. benefits; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to extend this facility as they become dependent on parents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, sir. According to the definition of family, divorcee daughters are not entitled for Central Govt. Health Scheme facilities.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Pass percentage in Kendriya Vidyalayas

9039. SHRI RAMAKRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the pass percentage of Class XII students in the Kendriya Vidyalayas in Andhra Pradesh during 1990 and 1991;

(b) how does it compare with the All India pass percentage during those years;

(c) whether periodical inspection is carried out by the Government to ascertain the reasons for the low percentage of success in Class XII in the Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). The pass

percentage of students of Class XII in Kendriya Vidyalayas located in Andhra Pradesh in the year 1990 and 1991 is as follows:

Year	Pass% of KVs.	Overall CBSE pass percentage
1990	92.66	78.00
1991	88.69	68.46

(c) and (d). the Principal of the individual Kendriya Vidhyalayas takes necessary remedial steps to maintain and improve the academic results. However, the academic inspections of Kendriya Vidyalayas are also conducted by the Assistance commissioners and Education Officers of regional offices from time to time.

Employment to Physically Handicapped Persons

9040 SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any preference/quote is fixed for physically handicapped persons for employment in Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the selection procedure for such persons in Southern Railway was prescribed recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). 3% of the vacancies filled by direct recruitment in Group 'C' and Group 'D' categories are reserved for physically handicapped persons.

(c) and (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Foreign Assistance for Family Welfare Programmes

9041. SHRI V.N. SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocations made to States out of the assistance received from the foreign agencies for Family Welfare Programmes in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the amount spent by each State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Passes to Railway Employees

9042. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether free passes and P.T.Os are issued to railway employees during their service tenure;

(b) if so, the details thereof separately for Gazetted and Non-Gazetted employees;

(c) whether these free passes and P.T.Os are also issued to railway employees after retirement;

(d) if so, the details thereof separately for Gazetted and Non-Gazetted employees with reasons for variation if any between the two categories of employees;

(e) whether number of P.T.Os being issued to employees has been reduced from six to four; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Railway employees are granted privilege Passes and Privilege Ticket Orders, during their service, as under:-

Privilege Passes Privilege Tricket Orders

Gazetted -
(Groups A & B)

6 sets per year

Non-Gazetted -
(Groups C&D)

(i) 1 set per year- 4 sets per year.
during the first
five years of
service.

(ii) 3 sets per years-
after five years
of service.

(c) and (d). Eligible Railway employees after retirement from Railway service are granted post-retirement complimentary passes, based on the Group and length of Railway service, as prescribed in the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986, as under:-

Gazetted
(Group 'A' and 'B')

-(i) After completion of 20 years
of Railway service - 2 sets
of passes per years.

(ii) After completion of 25 years
of Railway Service - 3 sets
of passes per year.

Non-Gazetted
Group 'C'

-(i) After completion of 20 years
of Railway Service - 1 set
of pass per year.

(ii) After completion of 25 years
of Railway Service - 2 sets
of passes per year.

Group 'D'

-(i) After completion of 25 years
of Railway Service -1 set
every alternate year.

Railway employees are not eligible for P.T.Os after retirement.

(e) and (f). With the introduction of the scheme for grant of complimentary passes to eligible widows, the number of Privilege Ticket Orders being issued to the serving railway employees has been reduced from six to four, to off-set the additional burden.

Urdu Certificate Course Conducted by Maharshi Dayanand University

9043. SHRIKESRILAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak was conducting Urdu Certificate Courses for the last three-four years;

(b) if so, whether the course has since been discontinued; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Stock of Foodgrains

9044. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of various foodgrains in stock with the Food Corporation of India as on April 1, 1991 and 1992;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains procured during 1991-92;

(c) the quantity released to State/Union Territories during 1991-92;

(d) the percentage of the quantity released out of the total demand from the States/Union Territories; and

(e) the total demand from the States for various foodgrains for 1992-93 State and Union Territory-wise and grain-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The estimated stocks of foodgrains with Food Corporation of India in the Central Pool on 1.4.1991 and 1.4.1992 are given below:

(Lakh tonnes)

As on	Rice	Wheat	Coarse grains	Total
1.4.1991	101.73	56.45	0.01	158.19
1.4.1992	88.79	21.87	Negligible	110.66

(b) The quantity of foodgrains procured during 1991-92 (financial years) is given below:-

(Lakh tonnes)

Wheat	:	77.52
Rice (including paddy in terms of rice)	:	104.45
Coarsegrains	:	0.51

(c) and (d). the total demand and allotment of rice and wheat from the Central Pool for Public Distribution System in respect

of the States/Union Territories and percentage of allotment to demand during 1991-92 (financial year) is given below:-

(In lakh tonnes)

<i>Demand</i>		<i>Allotment</i>		<i>Percentage</i>	
Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat
151.88	156.24	111.39	101.59	73%	65%

(e) State Governments/Union Territories are requested every month to intimate their realistic requirements of wheat and rice from the Central Pool for distribution through the Public Distribution System. As the demands are received on monthly basis and allotment is also made on a month to month basis, information regarding total demand for States/Union Territories for various foodgrains during 1992-93 is not available.

Neem Oil Contraceptive

9045. SHRI ANNA JOSHI:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR(DEEPA)

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

(a) whether the National Institute of Immunology has developed a neem oil contraceptive which has no side effects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government for popularisation of this herbal contraceptive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI

SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). as per the information received from the National Institute of Immunology, the research carried out at the Institute has established the ability of neem oil to block fertility in experimental animals including monkeys. They have also prepared a cream containing neem extracts for use as a spermicidal contraceptive. These are still being tested on animals and the report of toxicology review panel is still awaited.

(c) The Government would like to support the clinical trial of this product and thereafter disseminate the knowledge to the people, of found to be safe as per the report of the toxicology review panel.

[*Translation*]

Losses of FCI

9046. SHRI JAGMIT SINGH:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is incurring losses during the last three years;

(b) of so, the transit, storage and other administrative expenditure incurred by FCI during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken to contain these expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Food Corporation of India has incurred losses during the last three years is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
1988-89	7.53
1989-90	11.10
1990-91	7.95

(b) The transit, storage and other administrative expenditure incurred by the Food Corporation of India during the aforesaid three years is as under:-

Rs. /Crores

<i>Item of Expenditure</i>	<i>198-89</i>	<i>1989-90</i>	<i>1990-91</i>
Transportation	455.54	491.00	613.85
Grain Handling	127.96	138.29	189.54
Storage charges	312.75	248.14	274.02
Interest charges	195.82	241.57	556.18
Shortages in handling	106.01	77.19	148.42
Admn. charges	179.72	143.44	182.39
	1377.80	1339.63	1964.40

(c) The Food Corporation of India has taken a number of effective steps to reduce administrative expenditure as well as effect economic in storage, handling movement and distribution of foodgrains.

[English]

Formulations of Medicines

9047. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether over 60,000 brands of medicines and formulations have their roots in barely 700 basic drugs; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken to rationales the medicines and formulations to protect the consumer against exploitation by unscrupulous drugs manufacturers who produce admixtures of various drugs and formulations without research background in the name of new medicines and charge arbitrarily high price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) The Licence to manufacture drugs formulations are granted by the licensing authorities appointed by the State Government in their respective States. The exact number of formulations, including

different brands, different dosage forms, different packaging of the same drug is, therefore, not available with the Central Government.

(b) The Government have constituted a Committee of experts to examine formulations moving in the market from the angle of safety, efficacy and rationality in the context of present knowledge. This is, however, a continuous process. As a result of this exercise, Government have so far banned 43 categories of formulations.

Admission of Male Candidates for Nursing Programmes

9048. SHRIMANIRAO HODLYAGAVIT:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised nursing training centres in country; State-wise;

(b) the names of various courses available in those centres;

(c) how many of these centres admit male candidates for nursing training courses; and

(d) the criteria for getting admission in those centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). A statement is attached.

(d) The criteria for getting admission to various courses are as follows:

B.Sc. Nursing Course

All students who have passed the 12th standard or its equivalent with science subjects. The minimum age for admission shall be 17 years.

General Nursing and Midwifery course:

all students who have passed the 12th Standard or its equivalent, preferably with science subjects. The age limits for admission shall be 17 years to 35 years.

Auxiliary Nurse and Midwifery Course

All students who have passed the 10th Class or recognised equivalent public examination. Minimum age for admission is.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Names of the State Nursing Councils & Examining Boards	No. of Recognised Training Centres for different courses during the year 1990.					A.N.M./H.W.	Health Visitors/Health Supervisors
		General Nursing Midwifery.		Midwifery.				
1	2	Men	Women	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	74	-	74	74	144	-
2.	Assam	4	20	4	20	20	20	1
3.	Bihar	-	21	-	21	14	35	1
4.	Gujarat	7	21	7	21	20	4	-
5.	Haryana	1	6	1	6	4	9	1
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	4	-	4	4	8	1
7.	Kerala	-	61	-	61	61	31	3
8.	Mahakoshal	-	17	-	17	16	37	-

Sl. No.	Names of the State Nursing Councils & Examining Boards	No. of Recognised Training Centres for different courses during the year 1990.						
		General Nursing Midwifery.			Midwifery.	A.N.M./H.W.	Health Visitors/Health Supervisors	
Men	Women	4	5	6				7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
9.	Maharashtra	-	46	41	34	-		
10.	Madras	-	25	22	18	3		
11.	Karnataka	-	30	31	21	4		
12.	Orissa	-	5	5	19	1		
13.	Punjab	3	26	3	13	1		
14.	Rajasthan	16	3	8	17	2		
15.	Uttar Pradesh	-	24	14	48	4		
16.	West Bengal	-	28	-	21	6		
17.	Mid India Board	4	8	8	4	-		

Sl. No.	Names of the State Nursing Councils & Examining Boards	No. of Recognised Training Centres for different courses during the year 1996.							
		Men	Women	Midwifery.	A.N.M./H.W.	Health Visitors/Health Supervisors			
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
General Nursing Midwifery.									
18.	South India Board	4	20	20	8				
19.	A.F.M.S. Examination Board.	-	8	16					
20.	Tripura	-	1	-	3				
	Grant Total	39	448	381	494			29	

Indian Nursing Council
Kotda Road, Tample Lane
New Delhi-2.

Sl. No.	Name of the State Nursing Councils & Examining Boards	No. of Candidates qualified in different courses during the Year 1990.					Total Number of qualified personnel entered in the State Registers up to up to 31st December, 90.				
		General Nursing Midwifery.		General Nursing Midwifery		Health Visitors/ Health Supervisor.	General Nursing Midwifery		General Nursing Midwifery		Visitors/Health Supervisors
1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	495	491	257	150	495	14860	15860	27	
2.	Assam	5	235	207	137	12	158	2112	2054	40	
3.	Bihar	-	686	699	1547	74	54	8829	7501		
4.	Gujarat	49	443	502	67	-	873	23418	8573		
5.	Haryana	1	217	100	361	38	124	3259	3882		
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	9	9	503	-	212	1312	205		
7.	Kerala	18	2685	2660	554	120	333	22414	6738		

Sl. No.	Name of the State Nosing Curmcils & Examining Boards	No. of Candidates qualified in different courses during the Year 1990.											Total Number of qualified personnel entered in the State Registers up to up to 31st December, 90.				
		General Nursing Midwifery.						General Nursing Midwifery					Men	Women	A.M.M./HW	Visitors/Health Supervisors	
		Men	Wo- men	Midwifery	A.N.M./H.W	Health Visitors/ Health Supervisor.	7	8	9	10	11						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
8.	Mahakoshal	-	274	316	481	-	2386	55813	154								
9.	Maharashtra	25	1314	1446	1465	-	1639	3664045	10								
10.	Madras	-	856	957	777	13	2267	31368									
11.	Karnataka	6	596	477	940	120	-	23401	20707	2787							
12.	Orissa	-	223	223	608	50	4381	11449	982	110							
13.	Punjab	10	777	302	885	53	1293	22179	10447	1963							

Sl. No.	Name of the State Nosing Councils & Examining Boards	No. of Candidates qualified in different courses during the Year 1990.						Total Number of qualified personnel entered in the State Registers up to up to 31st December, 90.				
		General Nursing Midwifery.			General Nursing Midwifery			Men		Women		A.M.M./HW
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
		Men	Wo-men	Midwifery	A.N.M/H.W	Health Visitors/ Health Supervisor.	Men	Women	A.M.M./HW	Visitors/Health Supervisors		
14.	Rajasthan	11	78	115	660	79	-	9819	10424	322		
15.	Uttar Pradesh	13	342	327	2371	169	638	12190	10849	2734		
16.	West Bengal	-	1007	-	544	307	746	16426	16934	1204		
17.	Mid India Board	26	96	104	34	-	-	No-Registering Body				
18.	South India Board	-	281	210	92	-	-	Non-Registering Body				
19.	A.F.M.S. Examina- tion Board.	-	214	223	-	-	-	Non-Registering Body				

Sl. No.	Name of the State Nursing Councils & Examining Boards	No. of Candidates qualified in different courses during the Year 1990.	Total Number of qualified personnel entered in the State Registers up to up to 31st December, 90.								
			General Nursing Midwifery.		General Nursing Midwifery		Men	Women	A.M.M./HW	Visitors/Health Supervisors	
			Men	Wo-men	Midwifery	A.N.M/H.W.	Health Visitors/ Health Supervisor.	Men	Women	A.M.M./HW	Visitors/Health Supervisors
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
20.	Tripura	-	40	-	94	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Grant Total	164	10868	9368	12377	1185		3,11,235	150431	17892	

Indian Nursing Council
Kotda Road, Temple Lane
New Delhi-2.

Loss of Wheat in FCI Godowns

9049. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN
SETHI:
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:
SHRIBAPU HARI CHAURE:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of loss of wheat in quantity and value due to unseasonal rains, deterioration of stocks in godowns and depletion in transit during this year;

(b) the estimated quantity of wheat out of the total quantity purchased by the Food Corporation of India which has deteriorated and the total loss thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No loss of wheat due to unseasonable rains has been reported. As procurement of wheat for Rabi 1992-93 has started very recently, there are no reports of deterioration of stocks in godowns and depletion in transit during this year.

(b) FCI has procured 5.60 lakh tonnes of wheat during 1992-93 upto 28-4-92. The state agencies have procured 14.35 lakh tonnes. There is no report about any deterioration of wheat stocks procured during the current Rabi season and as such there is no question of any loss reported.

(c) The following preventive steps have been taken to stop deterioration of stocks in godowns and depletion in transit:-

(i) FCI stores foodgrains in the godowns built on scientific lines which are rodent and damp proof.

(ii) Qualified and technically trained staff is deployed for periodical inspection and proper upkeep of foodgrains.

(iii) Whenever there is need, foodgrains are stored in open under scientifically designed system for temporary storage.

(iv) Stocks are stored on wooden crates and covered with specially fabricated low density black polythene covers which are water proof.

(v) The stocks are subject to regular inspection and protection wherever required for control of infestation caused by insects and other pests like rodents, birds etc.

(vi) Procurement of foodgrains is done within the specifications.

(vii) Minimising the use of open wagons.

(viii) Adequate security arrangements are made to avoid pilferage and bungling. Surprise checks by senior officers are also conducted.

Import of Rice

9050. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import rice during 1992-93;

(b) whether there has been continued upward trend in the price of rice in the open market; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to check this upward trend of price?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to check increase in prices of rice include stepping up of de-hoarding operations and reduction in stock limits. The State Governments have been recently advised to step-up de-hoarding operations. The State Governments have also been advised to reduce the stock limits of rice to 250 qtls. for wholesalers, 50 qtls. for retailers and 500 qtls. for rice millers.

Centenary Celebrations of Mysore Zoo

9051. **SHRIMATICHANDRAPARABHA URS:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Zoo will be completing its hundred years of existence during October, 1992;

(b) if so, the whether the Government propose to sanction financial assistance for the centenary celebrations;

(c) whether there is any proposal to organise International Seminar on animals behaviour in connection with centenary celebrations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No proposal for grant of financial assistance for centenary celebrations of

Mysore Zoo have been received by the Central Government.

(c) and (d). According to the information received from the Mysore Zoo authorities, some meetings of zoo Directors and Captive Breeding specialists Group have been included among the activities planned for centenary celebrations of Mysore Zoo.

[*Translation*]

Eradication of Illiteracy

9052. **SHRIVILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the voluntary organisations engaged in eradication of illiteracy in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) whether the organisations have submitted their target reports for the illiteracy eradication campaign;

(c) the method for monitoring the achievement of the target and the labour force for each organisation; and

(d) the achievement of each of the said organisations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Under the National Literacy Mission, there are following two schemes under which Voluntary agencies are sanctioned projects of Total Literacy Campaigns (TLCs) and Jana Shikshan Nilayams (JSNs):

(i) Under the Central Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary agencies in Adult Education, registered societies which are normally in existence for more than 3 years are sanctioned projects.

(ii) Under the Central Scheme of special projects for eradication of illiteracy, Zilla Saksharata Samitis (ZSS), which are registered specially for implementing TLCs and which are generally headed by district Collectors/District Commissioner,

are Sanctioned TLCs and Post Literacy Campaigns (PLCs). No basic literacy project to voluntary agencies has been sanctioned during 1991-92. However following 4 voluntary Agencies have been sanctioned projects of JSNs;-

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the VA	No. of JSN
1.	Association for Sarva Seva Farm, Dattapur, Wardha	21
2.	Chetna Vikas, Gopuri, Geetainagar, Wardha.	17
3.	Gram Vikas Tantra Niketan, Pipri, Wardha.	05
4.	Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Hindinagar, Wardha.	144

TLC projects have been sanctioned to ZSS in the following districts:

1. Sindhudurg
2. Wardha
3. Bombay city
4. Pune (Rural)
5. Latur
6. Aurangabad
7. Ratnagiri
8. Jalna
9. Nanded
10. Parbhani

(c) Formats of progress reports under Computerised Management Information System have already been circulated to ZSS.

(d) As regards Total Literacy Projects sanctioned in favour of ZSS, the outcome is reported to be satisfactory. Out of the 10 TLC projects sanctioned to ZSS, Sindhudurg and Wardha districts have been declared as totally literate districts.

[English]

Lions in Gir forests

9053. SHRI BIJOY KRISHANA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(b) As regards TLC projects, project reports are being received in the Ministry.

(a) whether the according to 1990 wildlife

censures figures the death rate of lions in the Gir forest has gone up against a marginal rise in their populations;

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

(c) the present population of lions in the Gir Forests;

(d) whether there is a general decline in the population of other fauna; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the

reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). According to the 1990 census conducted by the Government of Gujarat, the population of the Asiatic lion in the Gir Sanctuary and National park was 284, as compared to 239 recorded in the last census conducted in 1985. During the period 1985 to 1990, 65 lions were reported to have died due to the following reasons:

Causes of death of lions

<i>Year</i>	<i>Accident</i>	<i>Natural death</i>	<i>Poaching</i>	<i>Total</i>
1985-86	5	1	1	7
1986-87	2	1	1	4
1987-88	4	6	2	12
1988-89	14	13	3	30
1989-90	6	5	1	12
Total	31	26	8	65

No census of the lion has been conducted in 1991 and 1992.

(d) No, Sir.

Orissa have also been withdrawn; and

(e) Does not arise.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Cancellation of Trains in Orissa

9054. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to cancel passenger trains on Rupsa-Bangiriposi narrow-gauge line;

(b) whether the train services on Gunupur-Naupada narrow-gauge line in

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

S.A.I. Adopied Schools

9055. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria of adoption of schools by the Sports Authority of India; and

(b) the number of schools adopted so far and the facilities being provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The criteria for adoption of schools is as follows; The schools should have;

- (i) Board and lodging facilities.
- (ii) Some sports infrastructure/sufficient vacant space for providing play-fields.
- (iii) Good academic record.
- (iv) A 10% reservation of seats for annual intake in Classes III to VIII (age group 8-13 years) for the selected children under NSTC Scheme.
- (v) Hostel accommodation for admission of children under NSTC Scheme.

(b) The number of schools adopted by SAI so far is 56. The following facilities are provided by SAI to the adopted schools:-

- (i) non-recurring financial assistance upto Rs. 5 lakhs (in case of hilly areas, Rs.7.5. lakhs) as one time grant for improvement/expansion/creation of sports infrastructure and essential sports equipment in different disciplines.
- (ii) Financial assistance not exceeding Rs. 50,000/-per annum towards maintenance of sports facilities required for NSTC students and

purchases of sports equipment.

- (iii) One paid Coach for each identified discipline with a provision to provide one more Coach in case the children selected under NSTC Scheme in a school are more in a particular discipline.
- (iv) Sports kit to the children selected under NSTC Scheme.
- (v) Re-imbusement of expenses on the under-mentioned items to the adopted schools in respect of the students admitted into these schools at the instance of SAI:
 - Admission fee
 - Board & lodging expenses.
 - Tuition Fee
 - Medical
 - Insurance
 - To and fro travel expenses of children who join a school outside their home State, as nominated by SAI.

Navodaya Vidyalayas

9056. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the average percentage of SC/ST / OBC students in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) the average cost involved for starting a Navodaya Vidyalaya; and

(c) whether the Government propose to open at least one such school to cover a population of five lakhs?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) the average percentage of SC & ST students in Navodaya Vidyalayas as on 1.12.91 is 20.35% and respectively. There is no reservation for OBC, in Navodaya Vidyalayas and no statistics about them are maintained.

(b) The average recurring and non-recurring cost for starting a Vidyalaya at Class VI is Rs. 14. 00 lakhs. This does not include the cost of the buildings which comes later.

(c) No, Sir. The Scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas envisages establishment of one Navodaya Vidyalaya on an average in each district.

[*Translation*]

Workshop on Literacy Campaign

9057. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a workshop on the role of private organisations/literacy campaign was held in March, 1992; and

(b) if so, the issues raised in the workshop and the decision arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Government did not organise any workshop on the role of private organisations in March 1992

(b) Does not arise.

Restoration of Train Services in Gujarat

9058. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of train-services on Western Railway covering Gujarat have been discontinued during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to restore those train-services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) .The following trains have been discontinued since 1989-90:

(i) 293/294 Bhavnagar-Ahmadabad Fast Passenger.

(ii) 303/304 Bhavnagar-Ahmadabad Fast Passenger.

(iii) 439/440 Pratapnagar-Chhota Udepur Fast Mixed on Bodeli-Chhot Udepur Section.

(iv) 441/442 Champaner Hoas-Pan i Mines Fast Mixed.

(v) 411/412 Dahinsara-Navalakhli Mixed.

(vi) 139 UP Raju-Patan Mixed.

(vii) 451/452 Morbi-Ghantila Mixed.

(c) No, Sir.

[*English*]

Conversion of Vidwath Peetham

9059. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any step has been taken for the conversion of Vidwath Peetham,

Kodunagllur, Trichur distict, Kerala into an Adarsh Pathasala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the grant allotted for Kodungallur Vidwath Peetham, during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). The Govt. has examined the proposal of Vidwath Peetham Kodungallur, Trichur Distt. for its recognition Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya. Accordingly the institution has been advised to submit their proposal through the State Govt. for consideration.

(d) No decision has yet been taken to finalise the grant to Kodungallur Vidwath Peetham in 1992-93.

Operation Black Board in Kerala

9060. SHRITHAYILJOHNANJALOSE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools, district-wise, in Kerala covered during the first three phases

of Operation Black Board;

(b) whether any proposals have been received from the Government of Kerala regarding the fourth phase;

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon;

(d) whether the fourth phase will cover schools in the municipal area; and

(e) the total outlay under the Operation Black Board so far, the amount sanctioned to Kerala and the amount released upto March 31, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Information is given in Statement Attached

(b) to (d). Yes, Sir. The fourth phase proposal of Operation Blackboard has been sanctioned to Kerala during 1991-92 covering all remaining 1149 primary schools in 30 Blocks and 10 Municipal Areas of the State.

(e) A sum of Rs. 699.04 Crores has been sanctioned so far under the Scheme of Operation Blackboard. against this a sum of Rs. 613.57 lakhs has been sanctioned and released to Kerala upto 31st March, 1992.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	District	No. of Schools covered in Kerala		
		Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
1.	THIRUVNANDTHAPURAM	107	156	-
2.	KOLLAM	81	203	-
3.	PATHANAMTHITTA	88	97	-
4.	ALLEPPEY	72	67	-

Sl. No.	District	No. of Schools covered in Kerala		
		Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
5.	KOTTAYAM	76	137	-
6.	IDUKKI	71	84	43
7.	ERNAKULAM	97	106	256
8.	THRISSUR	85	148	286
9.	PALAKKAD	62	252	226
10.	MALAPPURAM	181	253	412
11.	KOZHIKODE	182	261	269
12.	WAYANAD	45	78	-
13.	KANNUR	142	290	323
14.	KASARAGOD	151	111	-
TOTAL		1440	2243	1815

Assistance to Indian History Congress

9061. SHRI RAMNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance is provided to the Indian History Congress by the Government;

(b) if so, the assistance provided to the Congress during the last three years and the purpose for which the assistance was provided;

(c) whether the Congress have recently amended its membership flues;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government propose to review its decision regarding financial

assistance in view of the changes in the rules?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUNSINGH): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Indian History Congress, the Congress held its 52nd session in Delhi from 21-23rd February, 1992. Government sanctioned a grant of Rs. 3 lakhs to enable Indian History Congress to hold this Conference. In addition, Indian Council of Historical Research sanctioned a grant of Rs. 30,000 for holding 52nd session of the Conference. UGC has also agreed, in principle, to provide a grant of Rs. 10,000. Grants sanctioned by ICHR for 50th and 51st session of Indian History Congress were Rs. 80,000 and Rs. 78,500 respectively.

(c) to (e). The Indian History Congress is a voluntary organisation of historians which

manages its own affairs. Government do not exercise any control over it. However, according to information furnished by the Indian History Congress, the changes in the provisions relating to membership were necessitated by the unprecedented rise in membership, problems of management of the Congress and increase in costs.

[*Translation*]

Primary School in Vasant Vihar

9062. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a primary school is being run in the C.P. W.D Colony, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi;

(b) whether any scheme for construction of building for the school has been sanctioned;

(c) if so, the reasons for not constructing the building so far; and

(d) the time by which the building for this school is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The school is being run in the tented accommodation at present. The scheme is to construct a permanent school building with 10 class rooms and the construction agency has already been fixed. The building is unlikely to be completed for a year.

Sale of Alcoholic Ayurvedic Medicines

9063. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ayurvedic medicines

containing substantial quantity of alcohol are sold in market without the prescription of registered medical practitioner; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard so as to restrict sale of such Ayurvedic medicines which may be consumed as liquor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter was discussed in the meeting of Ayurvedic, Siddha Unani Drugs Technical Advisory Board held on 4th May, 1990. The Board agreed that a selling licence under the existing State Excise Acts may be made compulsory for the sale of Mrit Sanjivini Sura and Mahadraksha and these drugs may be dispensed under the prescription of a Registered practitioner. The misuse of these drugs may be checked under existing Excise and other laws of the State and under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

The decision was communicated to all State Excise Departments and State Drug Controllers of Indian Systems of Medicine.

[*English*]

Environment Degradation in Damodar Barakar Basin

9064. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Wastelands Development Board has provided any funds during the last three years to prevent environmental degradation in the coal mine areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year wise, state wise;

(c) the details of various programmes to improve environment in the coal mine areas in Damodar-Barakar Basin;

(d) whether these programmes are running efficiently; and

(e) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir, financial assistance has been provided by National Wasteland Development Board to demonstrate and assess available technology on pilot scale in coal mines of Bihar and West Bengal.

(b) The following projects have been launched

(1) Demonstration project on Reclamation of mined lands of

(i) Jharia Coal Field, District, Dhanbad, Bihar

(ii) Ranigunje Field, District Burdwan, West Bengal. An Amount of Rs. 66.48 lakhs has been sanctioned for five years to treat 500 ha primarily through afforestation and soil and Water conservation measures and Rs. 13.62 lakhs has been released during 1990-91.

(2) Reclamation of Mined Wastelands in Ranigunje Coal Field area at 6 sites in the districts of Dhanbad Bihar and Burdwan West Bengal through Plantation of appropriate tree species and increase of water regime. An amount of Rs. 22.72 lakh has been sanctioned to treat 195 ha while Rs. 11.15 lakh has been released during 1991-92

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects, an area of 3.17 lakh ha been treated since Third Five Year Plan and till 1991-92 and for which central assistance of Rs. 30.94 crores has been utilised. The primary thrust of the Scheme is to prevent premature siltation of the reservoirs while stabilising and improving productive potential of the degraded catchment area.

(d) and (e). The projects launched by National Wastelands Development Board are in the initial stage and their effectiveness will be known after sometime. But areas treated under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in River Valley Catchment of Damodar Barakar have already shown positive results in reducing the silt inflow from the tested watersheds and fall in sediment production into reservoirs under Damodar Valley Corporation.

Compensation for Acquisition of Land

9065. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have acquired land for construction of Diva-Vasai, Apta-Roha, Karjat- Lonawala (Third Line) and Igatpuri-Kasara (Third line) railway lines but have not paid compensation to all the farmers for acquisition of their lands;

(b) if so, the reason thereof;

(c) the time by which the Government propose to pay the compensation to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Acquisition of land for Railway Projects and payment thereof is done by the State Government. As required under the Rules, the amount of compensation to the paid for land acquired has already been placed at the disposal of revenue authorities of the State Government by the Railways. It is the responsibility of the State Government to make payment to the people whose land has been acquired.

Conversion of Santipur-Nabadwipghat Railway line

9066. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey of santipur-Nambadwipghat (NG) railway line for its conversion into broad-gauge; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Survey for conversion of Santipur-Nabadwipghat (NG) section into BG has been taken up. Taking up of the line for conversion will depend upon the results of the survey.

[*Translation*]

Use of Hindi

9067. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of meetings organised by the Hindi Advisory committee since May, 1989;

(b) whether 'Hindi Day' or 'Hindi Week' was observed every year;

(c) the number of awards given for the excellent work in Hindi Language and the names of the persons awarded;

(d) whether the standard of Hindi Language in Railways has deteriorated; and

(e) the steps taken to improve the position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The meetings of Railway Hindi Salahkar Samiti were held on 7th June, 1989 and 3rd Oct., 1989 since May, 1989.

(b) Hindi Day/Week is observed on all Zonal Railways every year but the same at all India level is held along with the meeting of Railway Hindi Salahkar Samiti. As the re-constitution of Railway Hindi Salahkar Samiti was in process, the Hindi Week at all India level could not be observed for the last two years.

(c) Several awards have been given for the excellent work in Hindi Language at Zonal as well as Railway Board level. The names of awardees are being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Some of the steps are as under:-

(i) Training is imparted to the officers and staff;

(ii) Workshops are organised from time to time;

(iii) Incentives are given in the form of awards.

[*English*]

Conversion of Railway Line from Alipurduar Jn. to New Alipurduar

9068. SHRI BAS DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the narrow gauge railway line from Alipurduar Jn. to New Alipurduar into broad-gauge in view of difficulties being faced by the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is no narrow gauge line existing from Alipurduar Jn. To New Alipurduar.

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

New Railway Lines in West Bengal

9069. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct new railway lines in West Bengal to connect main cities including Balurghat of West Dinajpur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Eklakhi-Balurghat new BG line was approved in 1983-84. The present day cost of the project would be around Rs. 60 crores. An amount of Rs.2.97 crores has so far been spent on the project on earth work between Eklakhi

and Gazole. Due to constraint of resources only token funds could be provided for this project since 87-88. Allotment of adequate funds for this project would depend upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

[*Translation*]

Conversion Shahajahanpur-Pilibhit Tanakpur Railway line

9070. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert Shahajahanpur Pilibhit-Tanakpur metre-gauge railway line into broad-gauge;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Railways have launched an Action Plan for conversion of selected M.G. lines to B.G. to move towards uniguage. Lines included in the 1st phase are based on operating/strategic priorities. This line will be considered alongwith remaining lines when lines to be converted in the 2nd phase are decided.

[*English*]

Mining Activities in Aravari Hills

9071. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representations from the Governments of Haryana and Rajasthan

against the notification for banning mining and other activities in Aravali range;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). The Government of India issued a preliminary notification for regulating, not banning mining and certain activities in those parts of Gurgaon district of Haryana and Alwar district of Rajasthan which constitute the Aravalli Range. Availing the opportunity to file comments, suggestions or objections, if any, within a period of 60 days, the Governments of Rajasthan and Haryana have communicated their views expressing apprehension that;

- Overall development of the district and the state would be affected;
- Unemployment will result;
- States will incur loss of revenue;
- Clearance of projects will get delayed;
- Processing will be duplicated at State and Central Government level;
- States rights are infringed, etc.

There representatives of the States of Haryana and Rajasthan supplemented their written submissions in hearings held on 30.3.92 and 7.4.92 respectively. The comments received are to be given due weightage while finalising the notification.

[*Translation*]

Distant Education Council

9072. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted the Distant Education Council;

(b) if so, the objective behind its constitution and the scope of its jurisdiction;

(c) the details of the members appointed and nominated to this council;

(d) whether the various universities have lodged protests against this decision;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the difficulties likely to arise after the constitutions of this Council?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUNSINGH): (a) and (b). In pursuance of the provisions of Section 5 (2) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) Act, 1985, the University has, in consultation with the Department of Education and the University Grants Commission, recently set up a Distance Education Council (DEC) as a statutory authority of the University. It shall be the general duty of the DEC to take all such steps as are consistent with the provisions of the IGNOU Act, the Statutes and Ordinances, for the promotion of the open university/distance education system, its coordinated development and the determination and maintenance of its standards.

(c) The DEC as constituted by IGNOU on 13-3-1992 consists of:

Vice -Chancellor, IGNOU as Chairman
Education Secretary
Secretary, UGC

Ex-officio

and the following nominated members:

Fr. T.V. Kunnankal, Chairman, National Open School. Prof. (Mrs.) Rajammal P. Devadas, vice-Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute of Home Science and Higher Education for Women.

Prof. T.N. Bhardwaj, Vice-Chancellor, Kota Open University Prof. R.V.R. Chandrasekhara Rao, Vice-Chancellor,

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University.

DR. B.R. Lulla, Director, Directorate of Distance Education, University of Bombay.

Prof. R.S. Rath, Director, Directorate of Correspondence Courses, Utkal University.

Prof. Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, Vice-Chancellor, Viswabharati.

Prof. C.S. Jha, Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University. Shri U.C. Tiwari, for principal Information Officer, Government of India.

(d) According to the information furnished by IGNOU and UGC as well as that available in the Department, no protests have been received from any University regarding the setting up of DEC.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

[English]

Rent of Premises of Technical Education Directorate

9073. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rent of the premises of Technical Education Directorate, Delhi situated at Rouse Avenue has been allegedly increased from Rs. 4500/- to Rs. 56,000/- per month recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for such arbitrary increase?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration has informed that as per the order of the Delhi High Court, a sum of Rs. 50,899/- per month is being paid as rent by Delhi Administration to the Dayal Singh Public Library Trust Society till final disposal of the matter in the Court.

Educationally backward Districts of Tamil Nadu

9074. SHRI C.K. KUPPASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the educationally backward districts of Tamil Nadu which are below Tamil Nadu's average level of literacy;

(b) whether the Government have provided special funds for upgrading the literacy level in such districts in Tamil Nadu in particular and the whole country in general; and

(c) if so, the total amount allocated for the purpose during 1991-92 and share of Tamil Nadu thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUNSINGH): (a) A statement is attached.

for educational development State Governments have been advised to concentrate of backward district.

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as peration Blackboard, Teacher Education, Non-Formal Education and Adult Education Programmes, Financial assistance is provided to State Governments

(c) The total allocations under Centrally Schemes as well as allocations to individual states been published in the Annual Report of the Department 1991-92.

STATEMENT

List of Districts having Literary Rate below Tamil Nadu's average Level of Literacy Rate 46.76 (All Persons) as per 1981 census.

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>S.No</i>	<i>Name of the Districts</i>	<i>Literacy Rate</i>
Tamil Nadu	1.	North Arcot	40.89
	2.	South Arcot	36.78
	3.	Dharmapuri	29.00
	4.	Salem	39.29
	5.	Periyar	39.81
	6.	Tiruchirappali	45.62
	7.	Pudukkottai	38.69
	8.	Ramanathapuram	45.32

Source: 1981 Census

Procurement of Wheat

9075. KUMARI PUSHA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procurement target of wheat for 1991-92 has been achieved;

(b) if so, the contribution of different States to the Central Pool during the said period;

(c) the prices fixed for the procurement of wheat from different States;

(d) whether wheat was purchased from the States according to the procurements prices; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The procurement of wheat being under price support operation and

totally on a voluntary basis, no target can really be fixed. A quantity of 77.52 tonnes of

wheat was procured for the Central Pool during 1991-92 rabi marketing season.

(b)

(Qty. in lakh tonnes)

<i>States</i>	<i>Qty. of wheat procured during 1991-92 rabi marketing season</i>
Haryana	18.34
Punjab	55.43
Uttar Pradesh	3.68
Rajasthan	0.07
	77.52

(c) to (e). The minimum support price/procurement price of wheat fixed by the Government is uniform throughout the country. MSP of wheat for the 1991-92 and 1992-93 rabi marketing seasons are Rs.225 and Rs. 250 per qtl. respectively. It has also been decided that during the current seasons, a bonus of Rs. 25/- per quintal will be paid to those farmers who sell wheat to FCI and its agencies procuring wheat for the Central Pool between 1.4.92 to 31.5.1992.

Price of NCERT Books

9077. SHRIGOPIGAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of the text books particularly the NCERT Publications have gone up very high;

(b) whether there has also been shortage of these text books; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to bring down the prices of NCERT Publications and also to make them available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) According to the NCERT, the following steps have been taken to contain the prices of its textbooks:-

(i) To continue to price the NCERT textbooks on a no-profit no-loss basis.

(ii) No to price textbooks for classes I-VIII beyond Rs. 15/- and to absorb the losses, if any.

(iii) To fix prices of Urdu version textbooks at par with the corresponding English or Hindi versions whichever is lower, and to absorb the losses, if any.

The NCERT textbooks are being sold and distributed through 35 wholesale agents (14 in the Union Territory of Delhi and 21 in other stations). The NCERT operates a Sales Counter at its Campus in Delhi. The Council has decided to open three regional publication

and distribution centres at Calcutta, Ahmedabad and Madras to cater to the requirements of Eastern, Western and Southern Zones respectively. The existing publication unit in Delhi will meet the requirements of the Northern zone.

Aids Study on Health Population and Development

9078. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank in its study entitled "Health, Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific" has emphasised the need for both the Government and Private Sector participation in improving health conditions and slowing population growth to promote more equitable economic development in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). No report of study conducted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) entitled "Health Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific" has been received by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Manufacture of Cancer prone item

9079. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project for the manufacture of cancer-prone item Alfa Olefins & Sultone is being set up in the country with foreign collaboration;

(b) whether Government's clearance has been obtained for project;

(c) if so, whether precautions have been taken to safe guard the general public from this health hazardous chemical; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to investigate the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Shortage of Anti-T.B. Medicines

9080. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of breach of contract regarding supply of anti-T.B. medicines by some pharmaceutical companies has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard so as to provide adequate supply of anti-T.B. medicines to masses at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). M/s Unicure (India) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi failed to execute the supply order placed on them and asked to cancel it on the ground that the same was received after expiry of valid rate contract. DGS & D has taken steps to repurchase the drugs at the risk and cost of M/s Unicure Ltd. under the conditions of contract, as the supply orders were placed during the validity period of rate contract.

There have been however no reports if general shortage of anti T.B. drugs in the country.

[Translation]

Assistance to Model Schools in Delhi

9081. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered to sanction additional funds to each model school in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the amount likely to be provided to each such school?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An additional amount of Rs. 50,000/- has been provided to each Secondary/Sr. Secondary school converted into Composite Model School in 1990-91 and 1991-92, in addition to the regular grant given to all the schools.

Goods Distributed Under operation Black Board

9082. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the mechanism adopted to ensure the quality of goods distributed under Operation Black Board;

(b) whether the manner in which these are being used is also reviewed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Procurement and distribution of good quality trenching learning materials is the responsibility of the State Govts under the scheme of Operation Blackboard. National Council of Educational

Research & Training in collaboration with Bureau of Indian Standards have laid down the norms & specifications of various items of equipment to be supplied under the scheme. The States/UTs have been advised to follow these norms & specifications.

(b) and (c). The National Council of Educational Research & Training and four other institutions have been entrusted with the task of assessing the extent of utilisation of teaching learning material supplied under the scheme of Operation Blackboard.

AIDS Scare in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi

9083. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE:

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

(a) whether virus of AIDS were found in an infant born to a foreign lady recently in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether there is lurking fear among doctors and para-medical staff of the hospital of being affected by AIDS virus due to the lack of proper equipments and other infrastructural facilities to ward off AIDS virus;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate safeguard facilities against AIDS infection?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d). A lady (African National) delivered a male child on 22nd

March, 1992 in Safdarjung Hospital. On screening for HIV infection, the parents and child were found HIV positive.

On knowing the incident, the Resident Doctors of the hospital approached the medical Superintendent and sought clarification regarding the type of compensation to be provided to a doctor who may get infected with HIV through the handling of patients and whether the hospital infection control procedures can be strictly enforced in the hospital.

After the incident, a meeting was held in the Date. General of Health Services with the Medical Superintendents of the major Delhi hospitals in which it was inter-alia recommended that the guidelines on hospital infection control issued by the Directorate General of Health Services should be followed strictly. It was also recommended that the inpatients' treatment can be carried out in the ward and there is no need for having a separate isolation facility. Full blown AIDS patients should be kept in an area near the ward where the chances of opportunistic infections are minimum.

Consequent to this meeting, the Medical Superintendents of A.I.I.M.S., Dr. R.M.L. Hospital Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital, Lok Nayak Jaiprakash Narayan Hospital, and the Lady Harding Medical College and Smt. S.K. Hospital have been formally directed to enforce/implement strictly the Hospital Infection Control Guidelines with a view to minimise the risk of infection of health care workers in handling the patients and to work out additional funds if required for the implementation of the various provisions of the Hospital Infection Control Guidelines.

[English]

Level Crossings and Encroachments on Suburban Railway Lines in Bombay

9084. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing level crossings and encroachments on the suburban railway lines in Bombay are hurdles in the smooth running of transport and a number of trains get cancelled/delayed as a result thereof;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to eliminate these level crossings for smooth running of suburban trains; and

(c) if so, the details of the plan in this regard and the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There have been cases of train delays and cancellation due to trespassing at some of the 31 level crossings in Bombay area.

(b) 10 of the very busy level crossings are sanctioned for replacement with Road overbridges as sponsored by the State/local authority on cost sharing basis. Other busy level crossings will be taken up for replacement with Road over bridges and when sponsored by the concerned authority on cost sharing basis.

(c) Funds are allocated in keeping with the anticipated progress by the State Government on approaches and by the Railway on bridge proper. Current year's allocation for Road over bridge in Bombay is Rs. 75 lakhs.

FCI Appeal Against Award of Industrial Tribunal

9085. **SHRIBASUDEVACHARIA:**
SHRI MRITYUNJAYA
NAYAK:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the Food Corporation of India has appealed against the award of the Industrial Tribunal during the last three years; and

(b) the details of cases where the guidelines of the Government have been violated and not appealed against such awards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOL): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

NMRI Facilities at Government Hospitals

9086. **SHRIGEORGE FERNADES:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government Hospitals in the country providing 'Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging' facility to patients, location-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide this facility to more hospitals so as to make available this sophisticated facility to masses at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The 'Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging' facility is available in the Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied

Sciences, Delhi and Nizam Institute, Hyderabad.

(b) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi has decided to purchase two 'Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging' machines for which necessary formalities are being completed. Further, the Delhi Administration has informed that six major Government hospitals have been linked with the following two private Diagnostic Centres for providing 'NMRI' services to 35 economically weaker patients per month, as may be recommended by the respective referring hospitals:-

1. Diwan Chand Aggarwal Training Research Centre.

2. M.R.I Diagnostic Research Centre.

Operation Black Board

9087. **SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on Operation Black Board so far;

(b) the number of children benefitted from the scheme, so far; and

(c) whether any review of the work done under the scheme has been undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Funds totalling Rs. 699.04 Crores have so far been released under the Scheme of Operation Blackboard.

(b) Children in 413546 Primary schools have so far been benefitted by the Scheme.

(c) The Working Group on Early Childhood Education and Elementary

Education set up for Formulation of 8th Five Year Plan reviewed the Scheme of Operation Blackboard and recommended that the Scheme should continue till completion during the VIIIth Plan and the minimum norm should be expanded to 3 teachers and 3 classrooms wherever enrolment in a schools justified it.

It also recommended a version of Operation Blackboard for Upper Primary Schools.

Strategy for Earth Summit

9088. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the meeting of the developing countries held in Malaysia during the last month to chalk out their strategy for the proposed Earth summit at Rio, Brazil in June, 1992; and

(b) if so, the strategy worked out therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) India participated in the Second Ministerial Conference of Developing Countries on Environment and Development held at Kuala Kumpur, Malaysia from 27-29 Aril, 1992.

The participating countries agreed to take a common position at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held at Raio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 1992.

The Kuala Kumpur Declaration on Environment and Development has been placed in Parliament Library for reference by Hon'ble Members.

Heart Ailments among Kids

9089. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

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

(a) whether, according to WHO statistics, at least 60,000 kids die of heart ailments every year in the World;

(b) the approximate number of kids who die in India of heart ailments every year and the percentage of the World figures they constitute; and

(c) the schemes under operation to prevent such deaths in India and the annual expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to World Health Organisation annual mortality due to rheumatic heart disease, though under reported, is put at 60,000

(b) No epidemiological study has been done so far regarding the mortality among children due to heart ailments in India.

(c) At present there is no such scheme in operation. However, necessary facilities for treatment of heart ailments are available in most of the major hospita in the country.

[*Translation*]

Colour in Medicines

9090. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Amranth' colours were being

used in medicines previously;

(b) whether its use is being banned/has been banned as such colours are harmful or health;

(c) whether some of the major medicine manufacturers still have the stock of such colours;

(d) whether any time bound programme has been fixed to dispose of the stock; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) As per the provisions contained in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1955, 'Amranth' has been permitted to be used.

(b) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to ban the use of this colour in drugs as no report of its harmfulness for health has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

[English]

Rural Eye Camps

9091. SHRIGEORGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Rural eye camps not hygienic' appearing in the Times of India dated February 7, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide better eye care

facilities in rural areas in hygienic conditions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The President of the All India Ophthalmological Society expressed his views on the unhygienic conditions and lack of post-operative care in rural eye camps, during 5 days Golden jubilee meet of the society. A view was also expressed in the meet about the inadequacy of eye collection and corneal grafting.

(c) Rural Eye camps approach is one of the strategies adopted by the Government of India under National programme for control of Blindness for reducing the rate of blindness through Cataract Operations. Although the Government have upgraded the PHCs district Hospitals, Medical Colleges and Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology with manpower, drugs and equipments but provision of permanent eye care facilities to the rural masses spread over more than 5 lakhs villages in India is far away due to financial constraints. For providing eye care services in rural areas, further development and strengthening of Community Health Centres and small eye hospitals in the mofussil area as well as sub-divisional area (Taluk area) is planned phased manner. Till such time adequate infrastructure is established, camp approach has to continue considering the large backlog of cataract operations. However, the Government of India have issued guidelines for organising eye camps which provide for pre-operative care, post operative care as well as follow up measures.

Art Auctioneer of U.K.

9092. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government

has been drawn to the news item captioned "Sotheby's comes to India" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated February 18, 1992.

(b) if so, the terms and conditions on which this firm has been allowed to auction the various articles of art in India and how much commission they are permitted to repatriate to U.K.; and

(c) whether the articles of art proposed to be auctioned by this firm do not contain ban items to be taken abroad?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No licence for dealing in antiquities has been granted uptill now in terms of the provisions of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972.

(c) No details of the auction items are available with the Archaeological Survey of India.

Development of Human Antibodies for Treatment of AIDS and Cancer

9093. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Human antibodies in test-tube' appearing in the 'Hindi' dated January 13, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to use this therapy for the control of AIDS and cancer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the Report, scientists have been able to produce antibodies in a test-tube outside the human body. The antibodies are the proteins that protect the body when infective organisms attack it. If further experiments prove successful, the technology may help in production of large quantities of antibodies outside a living body which may have potential application in the management of AIDS and cancer.

[*Translation*]

Short Stay Homes

9094 DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for construction of Short Stay Homes for the welfare of distressed persons;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for the construction of these homes; and

(c) the number of such homes constructed during 1990-91 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c). The Department of Women & Child Development implements a scheme for running Short Stay Homes which provides a component of assistance for renting premises for the homes. There is no provision for assistance for the construction of buildings for Short Stay Homes. In 1990-91, 53 new homes were sanctioned.

West Asia Environment conference

9095. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the participants from India to the West Asia Environment Conference organised by the World Trade Centre, Dubai in April, 1992;

(b) the recommendations made by environmental experts in the conference; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the suggestion/ recommendations made in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) West Asia Environment Conference was held in Dubai from 7-9 April, 1992. Government of India was not invited to this Conference. As such no official delegation from India participated in the Conference.

(b) No recommendations made in the Conference have been received by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Tiger Population

9096. SHRI DHARMANNA NMANDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in tiger population in the country due to large scale destruction of forests in all the Tiger Reserves during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise. However, intensive patrolling by the departmental staff is undertaken in all Tiger Reserves to protect the flora and fauna. In Addition, a new scheme titled "Eco-development around National Parks and Sanctuaries including project Tiger Areas" has been launched to ameliorate the hardships of the people living on the fringe of such areas and to reduce their conflict with the park authorities.—

Environment Friendly Chemicals

9097. SHRI NAWAL KISHRE RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have embarked on creation of a list of environment friendly chemicals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Government has identified sixteen categories of consumer products, some of which are chemicals or may include a composition of chemicals in the process of manufacture. Within each category, criteria will be specified according to which products would be identified & whose manufacture use and disposal would significantly reduce the harm that would otherwise be caused to the environment. The categories of products identified are:

- (i) Soaps and detergents
- (ii) Plastics
- (iii) Food items such as Edible Oils, Tea, Coffee, Baby food, processed foods, Beverages
- (iv) Papers (Fine paper, Sanitary Papers, News Print, etc.)
- (v) Textiles, Diapers, etc.
- (vi) Preservatives and Food additives
- (vii) Cosmetics e.g. Shampoo, Lipsticks, Face Power
- (viii) Paints
- (ix) Batteries
- (x) Lubricating Oils
- (xi) Packaging
- (xiii) Aerosol
- (xiii) Pesticides, Insecticides, Biocides and Weedicides
- (xiv) Drugs
- (xv) Electrical Goods/Electronic Goods
- (xvi) Wood substitutes.

Preparatory Committee Meeting in New York

9098. SHRI R. SURENDER
REDDY:
PROF. MALINI
BHATTACHAYA:

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

(a) whether India participated in the preparatory committee meeting of UN Conference on Environment and Development held in New York;

(b) if so, the issues discussed at this meeting particularly the outcome of the G-77 developing countries calling for substantive changes in a position paper submitted by industrialised nations which spelled out methods for financing environment and development projects;

(c) whether the hard line pursued by U.S. and its allies resulted in virtual break down of negotiations at preparatory committee on a statement to be adopted at Rio;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the stand taken by the Government of India in asking the West to share more to undo eco damage; and

(e) whether the Government propose to prepare its own paper for the Brazil conference taking into account views of North and South?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) India has participated in the Preparatory Committee meeting of UN Conference on Environment and Development held in New York from March 2 to April 3, 1992.

(b) The issues related to the programmatic items of Agenda like desertification, protection of oceans seas and coastal areas, protection of the quality and fresh water resources, education, public awareness, human settlements, wastes and toxic chemicals, protection and management of land resources, protection of atmospheres and property were discussed.

A draft Rio declaration on Environment and Development has been drawn up for further consideration by the Summit meeting at Rio. The issues related to forestry, transfer of technology and Financial mechanisms were also discussed in the meeting. The G-77 and China have put forward position papers on the financial mechanism and transfer of technology. However, no consensus could be achieved on these issues in the meeting.

(c) to (e). The Preparatory Committee has succeeded in preparing a draft Rio declaration on Environment and Development, which would be discussed in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) to be held at Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992. Copy of draft principles on General Rights and obligations (Doc. No. A/Conf 151/PC/WG III/L 33 Rev 1) has been placed in Parliament Library for reference by Hon'ble Members.

India has been associated with other developing countries in preparing position papers covering issues like providing for new and additional resources to developing countries, meeting full incremental costs of the measures to be met by the developed countries, meeting countries, funding mechanisms, technology transfer etc. India is associated with continuing attempts to narrow down any differences that may exist between developed and developing countries.

[*Translation*]

**Appeals pending with ADRM
Moradabad**

9099. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several appeals have been lying pending in ADRM office Moradabad since 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the full details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for their non-disposal so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Information
regarding appeals in disciplinary cases is as
under:-

1989-90	- Nil
1990-91	- Nil
1991-92	- 11 C6 cases of Feb. '92 and 5 cases of Mar. 1992)

(c) These appeals have been revived recently and no delay has taken place.

[*English*]

**Construction of OPD Block at
Safdarjung Hospital**

9100. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 398 on 5 September, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the construction work of OPD Block, Phase III (Central Wing) in Safdarjung Hospital has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the O.P.D that have started functioning therein;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct indoor blocks also having connection with O.P. Ds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). The construction work of OPD Block, Phase III (Central Wing) in Safderjang Hospital has been completed but the OPDS could not be started as the clearance certificate from the Chief Fire Officer has not been received.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. However, there is proposal to connect the new OPDs through the connecting corridor to the main Hospital Block.

Deputation of Doctors to Medical Camp in Amethi

9101. SHRI SYED SAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical specialists of Union Government have been deputed to a medical camp in Amethi organised by the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation;

(b) if so, the terms of deputation;

(c) whether there are further requests from the Foundation for deputation of medical personnel under the Central Government for various activities of the Foundation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIAMTI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARATHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Medical Specialists were deputed to the Polio Camp and the ENT Camp held on 14th March, 1992 and 6th to 15th April, 1992, to provide medical services to the patients attending the camp.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Alfa Olefins

9102. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alfa Olefins is used for the manufacture of detergents widely used in the manufacture of soaps;

(b) whether its by products are susceptible to cancer; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure before establishing units manufacturing Alfa Olefins that they are not health hazardous?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the conversion of Alpha Olefins to Alpha Olefins sulphonates, which are used in the manufacture of detergents, some unsaturated sulfones are likely to be produced as by-products. Studies carried out on mice suggest that one of these sulfones viz; propane sulfone has potential for causing skin cancer. However, Alpha Olefins sulphonates are less toxic than linalkyl benzene sulphonates. These are also rapidly and fully bio-degradable and cause less irritation to skin with low toxicity. Their use is, therefore, being encouraged for manufacturing detergents.

[*Translation*]

Agro Forestry in Rajasthan

9103. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the project started under agro-forestry scheme in Rajasthan during the last three years and expenditure incurred there on, year wise;

(b) the number of trees proposed to be planted during 1992-93 together with the area of land earmarked therefor and number of cooperative societies proposed to be set up during the same period;

(c) whether the agro-forestry has resulted in misuse and forcible acquisition of meadows and agricultural dryland of farmers; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) During the last three years, following number of seedlings were distributed to the farmers for planting on their own farm land under ongoing farm forestry programme:-

Year	No. of seedlings distributed (in crores)
1989-90	5.70
1990-91	3.99
1991-92	3.30

No, new project under agro-forestry scheme has been started in the state of Rajasthan during the last three years.

(b) Targets of tree planting and area coverage during the year 1992-93 are in the process of finalization.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Availability of Wheat and Rice

9104. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any guidelines to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to make available maximum quantity of wheat and rice during the Rabi and Kharif seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of wheat and rice made available by the State Government and each Union Territory Administration to the Central pool during 1990-91 and 1991-92, State-wise and Union Territory wise; and

(d) the Limit fixed by the Union Government in this regard for 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). It is being impressed upon the State Governments/ Union Territories to maximise procurement and make all out efforts to achieve certain level of procurement to replenish the stock of foodgrains in Central Pool in order to enable to the Central Government to meet their requirement for PDS.

(c) Statements I and II attached

(d) No limit can really be fixed as wheat and paddy are procured from farmers on voluntary basis under minimum price support operation. Rice is procured under statutory levy, which varies for State to State, imposed by State Governments on Millers. The extent of procurement of rice would depend, on the quantity of paddy processed by the millers.

STATEMENT-I

Statewise procurement of rice (Including paddy in Terms or Rice) during 1990-91 and 1991-92 marketing Seasons

State/U. T.	Marketing Seasons (October -September)	
	1990-91	1991-92
A- Central Pool		
Andhra Pradesh	33.35	16.99
Arunachal Pradesh	Neg.	Neg
Assam	0.07	0.05
Haryana	10.62	9.16
Karnataka	1.45	0.97
Madhya Pradesh	6.31	3.94
Maharashtra	0.23	0.40
Orissa	2.14	2.38
Punjab	48.21	42.84
Rajasthan	0.28	0.20
Uttar Pradesh	13.47	8.31
West Bengal	1.03	0.56
Chandigarh	0.21	0.24
Delhi	0.05	0.05
Pondichery	0.05	0.04
Total 'A'	117.43	86.13
B- Non- Central Pool		
Gujarat	0.17	0.08
Jammu and Kashmir	0.07	0.03

State/U.T.	Marketing Seasons (October -September)	
	1990-91	1991-92
Tamil Nadu	8.99	9.50
Total 'B'	9.23	9.61
Total (A+B)	12.6.71	95.74

*Position as on 30-4-1992. *30.4 NEg. - Below 500 tonnes

STATEMENT-II

Statewise Procurement of wheat during 1990-91 and 1991-92 Marketing Seasons

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

State/U.T	Marketing Season (April -March)	
	1990-91	1991-92
Haryana	25.95	18.34
Himachal Pradesh	0.01	-
Jammu & Kashmir	Neg	-
Madhya Pradesh	Neg	-
Punjab	767.49	55.43
Rajasthan	1.35	0.07
Uttar Pradesh	15.83	3.68
Chandigarh	0.02	-
Delhi	-	-
Total	110.65	77.52
Procurement		

Neg. Below 500 tonnes

[English]

Telecast of UGC Programmes

9105. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the subjects covered by the U.G.C. programmes on Doordarshan;

(b) the timings of the telecast of these programmes;

(c) whether the UGC programmes require improvement in quality and content;

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(e) whether there is any proposal to introduce the UGC programmes in regional languages; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the information furnished by UGC, The Commission has been telecasting educational programmes in English entitled. "Contrywide Classroom" for undergraduate students and general viewers. These programmes are not syllabus-oriented but of general enrichment type and cover inter-disciplinary subjects such as environment developments in Science, new discoveries etc.

(b) The programme is telecast from 1-2 PM and again 4-5 PM on all days excepting Sundays.

(c) and (d). The Commission has been making continuous efforts to improve the content and quality of the programmes. The steps taken by the commission in this regard include:

- Research to make the content more relevant;
- Pre-testing of the programmes to make them more interesting and effective;
- Training and workshops for the production staff, and academics involved; and
- Designing new programmes on the basis of the feedback received from viewers.

(e) and (f). According to the information furnished by UGC, there is no proposal at present to prepare the programmes in regional languages. However, the Commission plans to telecast programmes in Hindi as soon as additional time slot on Doordarshan is made available.

12.00 hrs

RE: ALLEGED THREAT TO THE LIFE OF CHIEF JUSTICE OF PATNA HIGH COURT BY THE CHIEF MINISTER OF BIHAR

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you a notice - *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: One by one

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you a notice that on the one hand Russia *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Paswan Ji, I have not called you. I shall call you later.

[English]

I will call you later. Let the Lady Member speak.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister of Bihar has given a threat to kill the Chief Justice of Patna High Court. At first, the executive was made ineffective when an officer of the rank of Commission rank viz. Shri Ramanujan was beaten in the Secretariat building, then it was the turn of legislative when Shri Hemant Sahi was killed. Now the judiciary is being maimed. Now, what more is needed to justify imposition of the President's Rule in the State? For how long the Central Government wait? A large number of people were killed there. Now, what more do you want? Why is the Government is mute witness to this? Why is the President's rule not being imposed there? Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you. I would like to urge the Prime Minister and the Human Resource Development Minister, who is also sitting here, that the Government should make a statement about it. Even efforts are being made to liquidate the judiciary there. You must have got this information through the newspapers. Democracy has become a mockery. Dictatorship has debased the administration. The slogan of social justice is an eyewash in Bihar. All this has become a mere show. The incidence of kidnapping is the highest in the State. Development work has come to a grinding halt and the Constitutional machinery has completely failed.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard that the Chief Minister of Bihar has given a telephonic threat to the Chief Justice of Patna High Court and used filthy words against him. In this connection, the Patna High Court.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: This is a question pertaining to the judiciary. A threat has been given to kill the Chief Justice.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: In this connection, the Chief Justice of Patna High Court has sent a written report to the Government of Bihar in which it has been stated that his life is in danger and if something happens to him after his death his family

members should be escorted to West Bengal. In the face of threat given by the Chief Minister of Bihar, the judiciary in Bihar is not feeling safe. This has created a constitutional crisis. If the Chief Justice of the High Court receives such a threat, the rule of law shall end and the rule of the jungle will prevail. This is a problem of constitutional crisis not only for Bihar, but for the entire nation. It is, therefore, requested that you may ask the Law Minister to make a statement in the House in this regard. I would like to know from the Government as to what is the real situation and what steps are being taken for the security of the Chief Justice? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is such a matter, when I heard it four days ago, that I felt it proper not to say any things on such a serious issue on the basis of hearsay. I saw that yesterday in the other House when this question was raised nobody contradicted it and the Minister of State of Parliamentary Affairs assured the House that the Government is in touch with the Bihar Government and facts are being obtained. I would like to submit that this should not be considered as a party issue. I would like to request other members of the Opposition and even the members of the Congress Party if there is no truth in it, action should be taken against the person who has spread this kind of news. If there is any truth in it and if the Chief Justice has really made any such complaint to the Governor and if he has also said that anything happens to him, then his family should be looked after etc. etc. Then I do not think that the farmers of our Constitution had visualized any serious circumstances than this which could not be called the breakdown of constitutional machinery. I do not know whether the Chief Minister has threaten the Chief Justice in respect of a case being decided by him. I only know that this matter has been going on for the last four days and there is no contradiction of it from the Governemnt side. I have some information. Since a serious allegation has been levelled, why is it not being denied by any Member of the Cabinet? He should stand and say that there is no truth in it. I would like to reveal a fact. One of my friends from Gandhi Nagar who is well known

to him and was doing practice in the High Court, made a telephonic call to him about the incident, he said.

[English]

"I would not like either to confirm it or deny it." This was the reply given, which has its own implications.

[Translation]

That is why I would like to request the Government to state the facts in the House. Arjun Singh Ji and Kumaramaglam Ji are sitting here who gave an assurance in the other House yesterday that they were in touch with the Bihar Government and the House would be informed about the correct position after verification of the facts. Therefore, House should be informed of the correct position. If it is a baseless allegation, the matter should be treated as closed. If there is some truth in it, proper action should be taken.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, a judge has been threatening the State Government openly. I raised this issue on the floor of this House, but there was no response from the Government. A sitting judge is saying that the State Government should be kicked out. I would like to know the response of the Government. (Interruptions)

I am not trying to exonerate anybody, but the fact should be ascertained. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my point was different. I shall come to that, but because the leader of the Opposition has... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you speak twice in the Zero Hour, other Members shall not get a chance...

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this matter was raised by hon. Lady Member, I did not take it seriously, but when the Leader of the Opposition says anything, then obviously it assumes some seriousness. Today morning, I talked to the Chief Minister of Bihar and we are also equally concerned over such matter. I would like to state that what ever has been said is absolutely baseless... (Interruptions) You may kindly listen to us. (Interruptions) The Congress Party and the B.J.P. have failed in all their tactics and now the judiciary. (Interruptions)...

Is getting perturbed... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: No, No. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: This is a serious matter... (Interruptions).... The leader of the Opposition without ascertaining the facts.... (Interruptions).... You may kindly listen to me... (Interruptions)... This will not do... (Interruptions) You may listen, you have levelled charges and you will have to listen. Please listen to me... (Interruptions)... This is a very serious matter, you will have to listen to me... (Interruptions) We also possess information about what the U.P. Government is doing and what is the Congress Government doing elsewhere... (Interruptions)... The law and order situation has deteriorated in Delhi.... (Interruptions).... As far as Bihar is concerned and the Bihar Government is concerned, I stated that I had a telephonic talk with the Chief Minister. If the leader of the Opposition or any Member of the Congress Party have some proof, they should lay it on the Table of the House.... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): The news about the threat

given by the Chief Minister of Bihar to the Chief Justice of the High Court is indeed very disturbing. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Two days ago, I have come from Gorakhpur (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Look, kindly examine this issue and do something about it. No, not like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, sit down. In such cases it is not good to jump to any conclusion and if something has been stated, first let it be examined and there after do something about it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, sit down. I am no my legs. Why are you shouting? I am helping only you. First let it be examined, and then thereafter do something. It has also been stated that if someone has done something wrong, action can be taken against him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: All right. We have no objection, but if ever any case regarding rift between Chief Justice of India and the Prime Minister appears in future, we shall certainly raise it and then you should not object to it.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why time and again I have been repeatedly stressing this point in the House that one should be very careful before speaking anything against the Prime Minister or a Chief Minister or a Judge of the Supreme Court or someone else. And therefore it has been stated earlier that at first it should be examined thoroughly only then it will be possible to do something about it. If certain action is necessitated, we will take appropriate steps in this regard.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, the reported news about holding out threats by a Chief Minister to the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court is indeed very disturbing and it is for the first time in the annals of history of Indian democracy that we heard of such reprehensible acts. I agree with hon. Lal K. Advaniji that what is important is to know about the veracity of the thing and if it is true, nothing could be more disturbing and shameful for any law-abiding and respecting citizen of the country.

All that I wish to say is that I was hurt and I was pained when I heard a senior colleague Shri Somnath Chatterjee saying that it was the Chief Justice....

MR. SPEAKER: Do not go to the other point.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: That is very important. It is coming from a senior advocate of his stature to try, to defend and to divert the thing. We know it is the judiciary of the country to which every ordinary citizen of the country turns when he is aggrieved by any action of the executive. We are proud of our judiciary. It is shameful indeed to impute motives against the judiciary and try to stimulate a sort of war between the judiciary and the executive. I would urge the hon. Minister for Law to come out with a statement. In this context, it is of utmost importance that we try to approach the Governor to find out whether he, in fact, did receive a letter from the Chief Justice and if he did receive, this matter must receive our due attention.

[Translation]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): You stated that it should be examined. Thereafter it should be debated. But before the probe is made, you have allowed the matter to be raised. First, it should be probed.

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you get angry at others? I have no mahine to conduct the

House. If I allocate you time the people from that side get angry, if they are given time, you get angry. Nobody adheres to rules. The total responsibility of controlling the House rests on the presiding Officer only.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir, we are really disturbed after the Leader of the Opposition mentioned about this. One of his friends from Ahmedabad telephoned the Chief Justice and confirmed it to him. Then he raises this question inside the House. His friends talk to the Chief Justice and confirm it. Then he raises this matter inside the House. The Congress-I Member talked to the Chief Justice and confirms it and try to raise it inside the House. The Leader of the Opposition did not refer it to the Chief Minister to confirm this before raising this issue inside the House. This is very disturbing. The Leader of the Opposition could have very well talked to the Chief Minister of Bihar and confirmed this matter before raising this matter inside the House. Through his friend only he talked to the Chief Justice. The Lady Member must have taken this matter and ascertained it from the Chief Justice only. She did not talk to the Chief Minister and confirm this matter whether it is a fact or not. The political mechanisation behind this whole story is known to everybody. Let us not play to the politics of this combination.

[*Translation*]

SHRILAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been referred individually, I can quote the whole proceedings of the Rajya Sabha while observing all the decorum, but as proceedings are not quoted I would like to state only this much that I did not act only on the basis of the talk over the telephone. Yesterday when I watched the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha, a very lengthy discussion had taken place there. May persons were present there, Members of the principal opposition party, whose member is the Chief

Minister of Bihar, were present there. Nobody contradicted it. Even the hon. Minister assured thereafter that he would lay all the facts on the table of the House, after getting all the information in this regard.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we wanted to raise this issue during the zero hour.

SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI: He must have obtained the latest information. It has been discussed yesterday. Thereafter he must have obtained the latest information. He should give the information obtained by him without creating any further doubts in this connection. You might have noticed, I told earlier that I did not know its veracity. But if it is false, whosoever has spread this rumour is guilty, and if it is true then it is a very serious matter.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Two of your Members have done it already.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): After your observation, why are you allowing it? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am objecting to it because you should not speak during the zero hour without prior notice and also such complicated issues, which may cause conflict between the judiciary and the executive as well as the other House, should not be discussed here. It is not good in our own interest. It is not a matter of pride that we have spoken here. Whatever we speak, that should be correct. Merely speaking cannot serve the purpose. Please do not insist on speaking and it is not good to have further discussion on this issue as long as the facts are not available. Let the hon. Minister say something in this regard.

[English]

We will go to the other items.
(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the short question of whether actually the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court has written to the Governor, we shall definitely come back to the House as soon as possible, as soon as we get the facts. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Everyday they say they will come back to the House but they are not doing that.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: We have already - yesterday - contracted the State Government to find out the facts also. We will come back to the House. I would like to say one thing.

MR. SPEAKER: Come back to the House with information.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Yes, with information. Normally, when we say we will come back to the House it means 'with information'. We come everyday back to the House. If I may submit, certain amount of self-restraint, I think, could be advisable on all of us because this is a very delicate issue.

MR. SPEAKER: You are right.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: It deals with far-reaching consequences on all sides. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY
(Coimbatore): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir,

Cauvery river water dispute was referred to Cauvery Tribunal. The Tribunal in its interim Award has stated that Tamil Nadu is entitled to 205 TMC of water. Supreme Court has also directed that the water may be released by June. But Karnataka is not paying heed to this. It also gave rise to violent incidents in Karnataka. It is also known that about 2 1/2 lakh of Tamils living in Karnataka were to flee for life as victims of violence let loose on them. They had their property and belongings destroyed and they fled like refugees.

I feel that I have been elected by the People to bring to the notice of the Government the problems faced by the people and to represent their case for redress. Entire Tamil Nadu is now facing water scarcity. Not only irrigation but drinking water facility remain affected.

Tiruppur, Anuppapalayam, palladam, Sulur, Madukkarai, Sircar Samakkulam, Samalapuram, Somanur and Karumatham patti areas of Coimbatore district are facing acute water scarcity. I would like to draw the attention of this House to the sorry plight of the people in procuring drinking water. I am prepared to lay on the table of the House some of the Photographs depicting their problems in fetching water.

Likewise farmers from the districts Periyar, Salem, Tanjore and Tiruchy are not getting water for crop cultivation and harvesting is delayed due to this.

Hence I request the Central Government to attend to the problems faced by Tamil Nadu, in this regard. I also request the Union Government to come out with a statement indicating the steps taken by the Centre to alleviate the problem. I request the Prime Minister to come out with a statement at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN
(Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the

Cauvery Waters issue is a very vital issue. In Tamil Nadu, we have to start raising the *Kuruvai* crop in the month of June. The Government of Karnataka must implement the Interim Award of the Tribunal. It should not indulge in any dilatory tactics any further. On its part, the Government of India should advise the State Government of Karnataka to obey the directive of the Tribunal. But, after gazetting the Interim Award, the Government of India kept quite. It is not fair. It has to formulate the implementing authority in accordance with the Inter-State Water, Disputes Act,

I want a specific assurance from the Prime Minister to implement this Award. We want water to raise the *Kuruvai* crop in Tamil Nadu. The Government must come forward to implement the Interim Award of the Tribunal immediately.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, only last evening, that is, on the 4th of May, Orissa has been ripped through by a bad, severe cyclone leaving behind a trail of death, devastation and destruction. This is not the first time that Orissa is having this. Floods, famine and cyclone have become constant companions of Orissa for the last 35 years. The Orissa Government does not have much resources to carry on the relief work. So just giving relief or doles does not serve the purpose.

Therefore, the Minister of Agriculture as well as other Ministries combined must have a package programme by which the Government of Orissa can be helped in trying to give relief as well as take permanent measures to save them from all the three phenomenon.

12.27 hrs.

[Translation]

RE: TRANSFERRING RUSSIAN ROCKET TECHNOLOGY TO INDIA

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roseria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, again I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious issue.

The Russian Foreign Minister Dr. Granade Burbalaize is in Delhi. He has negotiated with all the senior leaders including the hon. Minister of Finance. He categorically stated that Russia was interested in strengthening cooperation with India in the field of transfer of Rocket Technology and defence equipment and software supplies and trade. He has also said that Russia has not postponed the transfer of Rocket Technology to India. And as you already know that yesterday America has categorically warned and threatened in the afternoon to take action in this regard. Till now it was merely making statement in this connection but now it has warned rocket engines to India is not cancelled, it will take stern action. The Chief Spokesman in the External Affairs of U.S.A. Margaret Tootwiler has warned that they may stop the supply of American technology to India. I think that we have been trapped in a most dangerous situation and our self-esteem is at stake. Nothing can be more harmful than the manner in which America has been using its veto power and my nearly thirty colleagues demonstrated before the American embassy yesterday. We demonstrated against its anti Indian Policies. It is an other issue as to under whose direction the Doordarshan functions and why did it not focus its attention on that demonstration. Again and again I am stressing on this point that this issue does not pertain to any party any Government official any opposition party. India has always taken a definite stand and it itself has always fought for its self-esteem and self defence I am worried to note that the image of India as the leader of the third World Countries has been damaged due to the stand taken by U.S.A against India. I think that this Government should move a Resolution expressing its displeasure against America strongly and the House should adopt it unanimously.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): I have written to you about this matter this morning. It has been broadcast by the BBC in the morning service that the United States authorities have declared that they are not going to allow either Russia or India to utilise

this Cryogenic Rocket Technology which only yesterday the visiting high-powered Russian Delegation has assured our Government that they have every intention of transferring that technology and they are not going to be cowed down by any external pressure. Now the threat has come threatening both the countries. I want to know from the Government what is their reaction to this. It is a very serious matter.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): They must respond.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The other day when the Super 301 threat came, the decision was announced against the export of our duty free chemicals and pharmaceuticals to the American market, then Shri Chidambaram representing the Government here reacted to it. He reacted in the way which, I think, was in tune with the feeling of the House. But today I want to know that here something has come which is much more dangerous and as I said the other it is not going to stop here. Once you catch their hands asking for support, they will drag you down further and further along that path. That is what is happening. I want to know what is the reaction of the Government to this matter. Are they going to go back on everything that has been agreed with the Russian Delegation two days ago? Are they going to bow down to this American pressure or will they stand fast on that?

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also join Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and Shri Indrajit Gupta in this matter. It is a very serious matter because now the U.S. has openly, by their press briefing made by one Ms. Margaret Tutwiler, has expressed clearly that India and Russia have been warned and if Russia sells this rocket engine to India and if this agreement is not cancelled immediately, then they will impose penalty on India and Russia.

In view of what has happened, I feel that a time has come when this House should join together and we have to condemn this kind of an attitude of the U.S. Administration. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not rush to such conclusions without having all the facts at your disposal.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, it is true because it is coming from the press briefing by the Chief spokesman from state Deptt. and nobody has denied this. You know, Sir, two days before, the Russian delegation has mentioned that they will maintain this agreement with us. They are our friendly countries. And now these two countries will have to see that this external pressure on us from the U.S. Government does not create any kind of problems.

Sir, in view of this, it is absolutely necessary that the view of this Parliament, the view of all the political parties should be raised so that the US Authorities also know that in India we are not going to subjugate or surrender to them our prestige and honour at any cost. That is my request. And the Government should come out with the actual position, by making a statement and by carrying all side of the House in this national issue.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that during the recent past whenever there was any discussion on this matter, and when the House felt that U.S.A. is making such a place for itself in the changing circumstances of the new world that it can dictate to any country according to its own wishes, there has been a reaction in the House in unison. Some days back when there was the question of transfer of space technology, America tried to do away with our old agreement with Russia. That time all of us expressed our resentment in unison and the Government gave a statement here in conformity to it. It is a matter of great pleasure that Russia took a right decision afterwards and it reiterated that it would strictly adhere to the agreement. As a reaction to it, America has threatened Russia and India as well. We should give a collective reply to it. I believe that if the Prime Minister, on behalf of the whole House and on behalf of the whole country tells the U.S.A. in clear terms that we are not going to bow before

these threatenings, but all the same we have to be vigilant about the attitude of Moscow in this affair. Their representatives are here. All of us should give a collective reply in this connection that the whole country is agree to it and there is no doubt about it. If the Prime Minister himself gives a statement in this connection, then it would be better.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, kindly recall that we raised it in the House earlier when we first came to know of this threat. That was before the Russian delegation - high-powered delegation - came here. Now we find that, after the Russian delegation has come here and has given certain assurances, this threat has come.

Sir, this is not just a newspaper speculation. This has come from the Chief Spokesperson of the State Department of the U.S.A. And they had clearly threatened with the imposition of penalties - penalties basically will involve suspension of access to U.S. technology which would require export licensing, suspension of access to U.S. contracts, and these sanctions are imposed for a specific period etc on both India and Russia. When such serious matters come to the notice of us, I wonder, why not the Government react on its own? Sir, our prestige is at stake. We are now being threatened and browbeaten - sought to be browbeaten by the imperialist country only because of the present situation and the economic policy that we have adopted. Our attitude is ambivalent because of the economic policy that we have adopted. Sir, I would like to know this. Why does the Government not react on its own? Why should it wait until the matter is raised on the floor of the House? There is nobody now. Even we do not find the External Affairs Minister. The Prime Minister is not here to respond to this matter. They should, on their own come and either say or give their reaction in response to this very serious matter. Today, where do we stand as an independent country? What is happening to our honour and self-respect? A foreign country is openly browbeating us. I will request you, Sir, to

kindly ask the Prime Minister to come here and take the House into confidence; tell the country and assure the country that India will never surrender to these threats and to these attempts of arm-twisting and browbeating.

Very significantly, yesterday, a delegation of Members of Parliament had gone to the US Embassy to protest against the present attitude of US Government. But, not one word came out on the TV. No publicity was given. Why? Do they want to suppress this also? They wish to suppress that the Members of Indian Parliament are protesting and holding demonstrations. There is no news about this so far as this Government is concerned, the Government media is concerned. This is the attitude of the present Government. We shall never tolerate this kowtow to the US imperialist; We shall expose and oppose. We want that the Government must immediately react; and let us know what is the present stand of the Government.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): I just wanted to say the same thing.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, very briefly I would like you and the House to recall that on the very day when Shri Chidambaram sharply reacted to the American pressure with regard to the import of pharmaceuticals into the United States, - action under S-301 — our Defence Minister welcomed and received the American Chief of Staff to discuss the defence collaboration. This is shameful. This is a matter of national honour. On the very day when the US Government threatens us with displeasure and retaliation, we kowtow to and we talked about defence collaboration with that Government. A voice was raised here that immediately the joint naval exercise with the US in the Indian Ocean must be cancelled. We want an immediate response to that demand from the Government, if the Treasury Benches have any sense of honour at all.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): That demand was the unanimous demand of

the House. Cancellation of the joint naval exercise was demanded by the entire House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to mention only two points. The Prime Minister read out a copious statement seven days ago on the issue of rocket technology. I do not know whether the Members of the House remember the long speech read out by the Prime Minister or not. There was no spontaneous reaction from his side. Prime Minister had said that there was no need of anxiety, every thing was finalised. That is what was said by the Prime Minister. Now there is some problem with this. Now the question is how the Prime Minister said these words here and on what basis and wherefrom did he get the information.

We have our embassy in America and every day the Members of our embassy talk to the concerned persons in the State Department. When the matter related to rocket technology was published in a newspaper of Russia it drew our attention to Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Prime Minister through you that there are so many queries which should be replied to by the Prime Minister. Those queries are as to what kind of reply was given by America; to what extent the negotiations with the Prime Minister has reacted the reaction of our embassy thereon; The information given to us by their Embassy located here. Sir, all these things are very important and the House should know about it otherwise it would be a grave injustice to the House. If the sitting of the House had not been scheduled for today, and if this incident would have taken place 4 days later, the situation would have been different. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this would have come 4 days later perhaps the House would have been kept in dark in this regard. Sir, please tell the Prime Minister to give a brief summary of his statement (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, you see,..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to complete. I have been asking this question for a long time. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a question of the zero hour now.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not the question of Zero Hour, it is the question of the freedom of our country (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: How do you expect everybody to be present here?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, it has nothing to do with the Zero Hour. This is a question of our sovereignty.

MR. SPEAKER: You are using very strong language.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I am using very strong language because I do believe that the day you adopted your new economic policy, you surrendered the freedom of this country. I have said it in this House. I have said it outside and I will continue to say it.

[*Translation*]

Economic deterioration has started with that because we do not agree. So please ask the Prime Minister to make a direct statement on this issue; secondly, the question raised by Shri Shahabuddin..... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody wants to speak on this?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You hear some of them.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. (*Interruptions*)

(English)

SHRI GEORGE GERANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please tell me, is there anything left? It is a question of exercise, please tell the Government to have the consensus of the House, so that Americans can understand that it is of no use to continue with this practice

(English)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJD. CHAVAN (Karad): Sir, the timing of the US warning is very crucial. It has come at a time when the Secretary of State of the Russian federation, Mr. Gennady Burbulis, is here for signing a very important trade protocol. This is clearly a very ominous sign. It would indicate the shape of things to come the emerging world order, and the unipolar reality. All of us will have to be prepared for that. It is clearly an act of techno-terrorism particularly aimed at weakening our negotiating position in the crucial bilateral negotiations that are going on at GATT and the Earth Summit at Rio and also our demand for restructuring and democratisation of the United Nations.

I appeal to the House not to treat this issue as a partisan issue. We are all concerned. We know that this is not a genuine issue. The United States has said that this violates the missile technology control regime. Everybody knows that cryogenic engines are not used in missiles but they are really used for booster rockets. We have tried to develop our capability for geo-synchronous satellites. It is a very lucrative business. Indian scientists are very well in it. US wants us to stop from that. (Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: (Barasat): Sir, this Parliament has got the right, responsibility and also duty as a Parliament to reflect the collective view of the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us understand one thing. In spite of the fact that what has happened in the newspapers, the Russian Minister is here to talk to you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Anyway it is for the Prime Minister. (Interruptions) I also want that the answer should come from the Prime Minister or the leader of the House. I am not in a position to say nor you are in a position to say what is the authenticity of the information. But information is there. The matter is before the House. If anybody is to deny, it is the Government to deny it. Where is the Government? Let the Government come and deny it. (Interruptions) Yes, there is the Government! So far as this side of the House is concerned... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow other Members also to raise their issues.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The entire House is concerned. We deeply condemn this attitude on the United States of America. (Interruptions) This should go on record to see that national prestige and honour are protected and preserved.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Before I go in for this, I just want to extend full support to this. You were good enough to allow me to raise that issue in the Zero Hour on that day. Now I go to really a very sad thing. It has come to our notice that very eminent freedom fighters have been given eviction notice. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What is the reaction of the Government on this issue (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We want to know the response of the Government on this matter (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We want to know whether the Prime Minister is going to respond on this issue today or not (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Geetaji is speaking on freedom fighters. Her issue is also equally important. You allow her to speak.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: The issue relates to the freedom fighters.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow Geetaji to speak. It is not that you alone will speak, and nobody else will speak. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETAMUKHERJEE: Sir, I shall proceed to the subject on which I gave you the notice. It is a very sad affair that very eminent freedom fighters who were given accommodation in Delhi have been given the order of eviction by the Director of Estates. Now, this list is very comprehensive but I will just give you a few examples to show how serious is the matter.

Shri Valmiki Choudhury who has been given the notice had been the former Secretary to President Rajendra Prasad. Shri D.K. Barua was the Secretary of Congress (I) as well as the Governor. Shri Madhu Limaye, in those days, was not pro-Indira. Even then, he was given accommodation. Then comes Shri Sardul Singh and Shrimati Prakash Kaur who happens to be a relative of Bhagat Singhji. Shrimati Kamla Bahuguna is known in her own capacity and not to say any more about her. Shri Indradeep Singh who is also a very old freedom fighter and a Member of the other House for a long time as well as a Minister in the Bihar Cabinet. Shrimati Subhadra Joshi whom everybody will remember for her role in Goa freedom struggle. Is this the thing to do against them? Now, it is being said that accommodation was given only on medical basis. Let me tell you, Sir, that these freedom fighters have applied to the Prime Minister also. They have stated with great grief that when this residential accommodation was granted to the freedom fighters, there was nothing specified that they were being given for a specific period. It was said and they were

given to understand that they will be occupying these houses either for political activities or for some other medical difficulties or whatever it may be. Now they are in great difficulty. Most of them are very old. We have never heard of freedom fighters of such eminence being dealt with on such a score. I request the Government, particularly the Minister for Urban Development, through you, to take up the matter and immediately cancel the orders which were given for their eviction.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Sir, this morning, I have given a notice on a very disturbing news and a matter of great public importance.

Sir, 5000 employees of the Food Corporation of India have gathered in Delhi from all parts of the country to seek intervention in the affairs of the Food Corporation of India. Their main grievance has been about the mismanagement of the affairs of the Corporation by the top bureaucrats on deputation to the Corporation. Sir, four years of wage settlement for employees of Categories 3 and 4, which was due from 1st August 1987 was finalised on 28 February 1992. The dialogue on wage revision prolonged for 18 months. But during this period of 18 months, neither the Chairman nor the Managing Director of the Food Corporation of India had participated in the dialogue even for a duration of five months. The subordinate officers were made to negotiate in the matter. The top functionaries have failed to show any respect to the grievances of the staff of the Food Corporation of India. Now that the procurement season has begun, should the strike commence, we shall all suffer. 46 Members of Parliament, cutting across Party lines, have signed a memorandum and we submitted it to the Food Minister in order to see that action is taken on the matter. The Food Minister is here and we would like to know from him what action he has taken on the memorandum signed by 46 Members cutting across Party lines on this very very important matter. If no action is taken, the employees of the FCI will go on strike from the 15th of this month. The Food Minister is here and he may respond.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): There is no response from the Government....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You always speak. Let Shri Manjay Lal speak. He is also as much a Member of this House as you are.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the studio of Muzaffarpur Doordarshan Kendra, equipped with modern techniques is ready since March, 1989. At that time the date fixed for inauguration was 31st March, 1989 but it is not known why was the date cancelled. Again 13th October, 1990 was fixed as inauguration date but that too was cancelled. The studio building was built at a cost of Rs. 30 lakh nearly four years ago. Studio is fitted with modern gadgets worth Rs. 3 crore approximately. Costly O.B. Van, used in production of programmes is lying idle for one year. Employees posted at the Kendra are being regularly paid monthly salary for no work. Therefore, I would like to request the Information and Broadcasting Ministry of the Government of India to take urgent steps for early inauguration of the studio of Muzaffarpur Doordarshan Kendra which is ready for quite some time.

[*English*]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Sir, both the Railway Ministers are here and I draw their attention through you to a matter of great public importance.

Sir, CIDCO has taken up construction of Kalva-Turbhe Railway line and it has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 29 crore so far. The Railways should, therefore, be persuaded to take over the line as per the earlier commitment and they may also be requested to commission the Kalva-Turbhe Railway Line for goods traffic immediately. Railways should be persuaded for making the line fit for commuter traffic from Thane to Turbhe and for further extension to Junagar to be connected with Mankhurd-Belapur Railway Line, which is expected to cost about Rs. 58 crore. The work on Mankhurd-Belapur

Railway Line has already been started the work involving Rs. 30 crore on Belapur-Panvel. The Railway Ministry may be persuaded to upgrade this Railway Line for suburban commuter service. The work of Nhava-Sheva Port and Dronagiri and Ulva nodes is being completed by the CIDCO and it has become necessary to construct the Railway Line between Belapur-Nhava-Sheva Uran on priority. The funds to that effect are deposited with the Railways. The length of this Railway Line is more than 20 kilometres. The Railway authorities should be persuaded to take up construction of this Railway Line with similar funding arrangement as in the case of Mankhurd-Belapur Railway Line.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR (Hingoli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to raise a very serious matter concerning the family members of an hon. Member of Parliament. In the morning I also gave a notice in this regard. The family members of Shri Ashok Deshmukh were scheduled to go to Aurangabad on 2nd by IC-491 flight, for which they had got reserved tickets. However, on 2nd they could not board the plane and the officials of Delhi Airport did not inform him. Therefore, the family members started on 3rd out the aircraft force landed at some place for technical snag. From 3rd to 5th he did not come to know the whereabouts of his family members. On 4th when he found out that his family had not reached Aurangabad, he telephoned numerous times to the Ministries of Home Affairs, Civil Aviation and Defence and was told by the PAs that the family was staying in a hotel at Udaipur. When she made a request that his family members might be sent by the 4th but despite the request the Airport officials did not send his family while thirteen were sent to Aurangabad by flight the same day. Priority was not given to the wife and children of an hon. MP but instead 13 foreigners were sent. Action should be taken against the erring officials for not giving information about the whereabouts of the family members lodged in a hotel at Udaipur. Only after persistent enquiries he came to know at 10.00 p.m. that his family

members are staying in a hotel at Udaipur. I have been informed that even by today i.e. 5th, his family members have not been sent. Sir, this way solution cannot be found. I would like to request the hon. Minister to look into it.

[English]

MR SPEAKER: Please look into it and do whatever is necessary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): I will look into it. Sir.

SHRI. P.C. THOMAS: Sir, it is really very shameful.

MR. SPEAKER: When I have said this, it is not necessary for you to say that it is shameful and all that.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 21st April, 1992 the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna, in its programme "Pallav" provided publicity to a private commercial organisation for 15 minutes. In the programme telecast as children programme the Natraj Circus of Patna was given wide coverage even without advertisement fee. In the programme the artistes and the persons associated with the Natraj Circus were extensively interviewed, thereby giving wide publicity to the Circus in whole of the region where programmes of the Kendra are beamed. Is any government organisation freed to give such a wide publicity? I would like to submit that during our public meeting camera teams of Doordarshan are not deputed for coverage but when any programme is attached by Doordarshan officials the camera team is deputed to cover the event which is not important. So, whether Doordarshan officials are free to decide about covering the programme even if it is not important? In this connection I would like to know the guidelines issued by the Government to Doordarshan and also all the facts regarding giving of

publicity to a commercial organisation, which was organising its programmes in that area, at that time, in the coverage of Patna Doordarshan Kendra? I would like to have the full information about the programme and also about the action taken against the officials responsible for telecasting the programme without charging the advertisement fee? This has also been openly reported by the newspapers in Bihar.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I have given a notice regarding scarcity of wheat which is being supplied to Kerala. There has been a complete disruption of the quantum of wheat which is being supplied to the State of Kerala for quite a few months now and this is going to affect the State in a very serious manner.

Regarding the strike of FCI workers, I had already made a submission last time and the Hon. Minister was pleased to make a Statement in this House. The Minister had assured the House that regarding the agitation of the FCI employees, the Government will have an open mind.

13.00 hrs.

It is said that the Government will keep an open mind. But I am sorry to say that there has been no open mind. The Food Corporation of India employees have given a notice that they are going on strike from 15th and they are going to stage a *Dharna* before the Prime Minister's house from 8th to 10th. I would request that some statement should come from the Minister to avert this strike. Because, this is going to be a very serious issue.

There are about 70,000 workers in the Food Corporation of India and the Employees' Association represents 95 per cent of these employees. They are going to be on strike for some very strong reasons.

There have been some victimisation of the Members of the Union and the Staff. The General Security of this Union has been

transferred just for the reason that a strike notice has been given and that they are going on a strike. Even against some other Members of the Union also, very stringent notices have been issued. In the said notices, the charges that are levelled against them are misconduct and so on.

Sir I would urge upon the Minister to give a statement regarding this aspect also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I support him on this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Sir, I would like to take this opportunity of requesting the hon. Members to persuade the agitators to withdraw the agitation. We are keeping an open mind. We will surely look into the genuine grievances.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You direct the Management that they should sit with them and solve the problem.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, can I have the kind attention of the Railway Minister? It is because, I want to congratulate him. This is for the first time that I am congratulating the Railway Minister in the last two years.

In Mumbai, the locals are over-crowded. There has been a demand from lady commuters that they should have, at least, one train during peak hours. I am glad that Ladies' Special Computer Train is starting from today. Perhaps, it is an akshayya Tritrya auspicious day. Because of that, it might be starting today. It would start from Church Gate to Borivili. My only demand is this. From Church Gate to Borivili is only half a sector, it would be better, if it is extended further upto Virar which is 20 kms. away so that the entire sub-urban Western Railway sector can be covered.

So, I demand that train should be extended from Borivile to Virar and that this facility should also be started on the Central

Railway which would help lady commuters.

I once again thank and request the hon. Minister to make a statement saying that this would be considered as early as possible.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, the problem of the Food Corporation of India employees is not going to be sorted out by merely saying "Now, we will deal with the matter with an open mind". Their petition has been pending with the Ministry of Food since the month of March. We have been waiting very patiently for over two months for a solution. It is essential that instead of reiterating that they have an open mind, the Government should tell us where its open mind has now led it to.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have written several letters regarding this.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, on the 1st of May, the employees of Food Corporation of India held a rally in Delhi. Thousands came from northern part of our country and they raised their demand.

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you ask only one Member to articulate on this point and then allow other Members to raise other point. If on one point seven Members speak, then the other Members do not have an opportunity.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: But, the point is this, When we are told that they will be going on strike and the Minister sitting here does not come out concretely as to how he is going to deal with the employees' demand, then it becomes our concern. How can we deal with this kind of classic Government like this?

MR. SPEAKER: But the entire discussion cannot take place at this point of time.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: He knows everything. Thousands of employees came. They were not divided. This is not what is expected of our responsible Government.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We want to know what steps the Government is going to take regarding the strike.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, property worth crores of rupees has been gutted in the fire in MTNL office in Kidwai Bhawan. Two employees have suffered severe burns. Though efforts are on to extinguish the fire but even then the special section of telephone has been badly damaged resulting in disruption of telephone services thereby adversely affecting the work of other organisations. In favour institution of an enquiry to investigate the cause of fire which engulfed the fourth and fifth floors and also disrupted all important work of entire telephone lines. Therefore this incidence needs to be immediately investigated and also the irregularities that come to light should also be investigated. Because the building had already been declared unsafe but even then negligence was shown. I would like the hon. Minister to make a statement on this incidence.

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA (Etah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture to a matter of urgent public importance. Farmers are not selling wheat to the government agencies in Mandis due to which increase in prices of foodgrains has resulted in panic everywhere. Prices have started rising since the last week of April.

Last year in 1990-91 the target of procurement of foodgrains by the Government which was fixed at 7.5 million tonnes was revised to 9 million tonnes in the year 1991-92. On 1.5.92 just 2.2 million tonnes of foodgrains was left in Government stocks. In view of this shortfall the Government decided to import 10 lakh tonnes of wheat and not only decided but also sent the Foreign Secretary to visit a number of countries. The price of wheat to be imported or of the wheat if it had been imported would not have been less than Rs. 620 per quintal according to the Government statistics.

At present the procurement price of wheat has been fixed at Rs. 250 per quintal. The State Government has also announced a bonus of Rs. 25 and a grant of Rs. 50000. So, in all the farmers can get Rs. 280 per quintal for wheat.

Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh are the major contributors to the government's foodgrains stock. It has been noticed that in the 'Mandis' in these states the farmers are not selling their produce to the government agencies but are selling wheat to the private traders at the rate of Rs. 325 to 350 per quintal. In view of its failure the Government has begun imposing a number of restrictions on movement such as movement by rail etc. Restrictions on movement have resulted in closure of flour mills. Due to disruption of supplies in Tamil Nadu alone these mills are operating at 35 per cent of their capacity. As a result of which 36,000 workers employed in these mills have been left with no means of livelihood.

Imposition of restrictions is no solution of the problem. On the one hand the Government boasts of its liberal policy and on the other hand a number of restrictions have been imposed. Therefore, I demand from the Government to reduce the open market price of wheat as also to bring down the cost of production borne by farmers and revise the present liberal policy so that farmers can get remunerative prices for their produce. On the other hand, in order to reduce the demand of wheat in the open market the Government should strengthen the Public Distribution System and also increase the per unit quota of wheat so that the common consumer may not go to open market to buy wheat. In this way with the decline in demand the price of wheat will go down automatically and the private wheat traders will not be able to purchase wheat at high prices. As a result the wheat will begin to come in the Government godowns.

If the Government does not take the prompt and timely action then I fear the wheat selling at present at Rs. 4.5 or Rs. 5 per kg will sell at Rs. 10 per kg in the off season. The rise in price will have an adverse

affect on the 40 per cent population living below the poverty line and the middle income group people, who will find subsistence quite difficult leading to allround anarchy.

* SHRI KEWAL SINGH (Bhatinda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the workers of F.C.I. were on strike for three months during the last year. In this regard, a written assurance was given by the hon. Minister that the Government has just assumed the office.

[English]

AN. HON. MEMBER: Translation is not coming

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If you had told us in advance, we would have made the arrangements for its translation, all right, let him speak. He is speaking for the first time. It is being recorded in audio. It may be translated later on.

* SHRI KEWAL SINGH: The hon. Minister of Food gave an assurance that the Government had just taken over and the country was in a state of crisis. Therefore, the strike should be called off and the Government would solve all the problems of the workers through negotiations. The contract system has been abolished in F.C.I. throughout India except Punjab. Now it exists only in Punjab. Why is this injustice being done with Punjab? We are the victims of the gross in-justice. We have shown a lot of patience. Now if any kind of loss occurs further, the hon. Minister of Food will be sole responsible for it.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What about Ayodhya report? That is a very important thing.

MR. SPEAKER: We are fixing a date.

13.10 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Reports and Reviews on the Working of the Gandhi Samiti and Darshan samiti, New Delhi for 1989-90 and Rashtriya Sanskrit sansthan, New Delhi for 1988-89 and statements showing reasons for delay in laying these papers, etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smiti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Gandhi Smiti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90. — — —
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1890/92]
 - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at

(3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1891/92]

(5)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur, for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1891/92]

(5)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur, for the year 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur for the year 1989-90.

(6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1892/92]

(7) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, for the years 1988-89 and 1989-90 together with Audit Report thereon.

(8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1892/92]

Notification under Food Corporation Act, 1964

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): I beg to lay on the table a copy of the food Corporation of India (Contributory Provident Fund) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. E.P. 41/2/87 in Gazette of India dated the 20th February, 1992 under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1894/92]

Notification under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) The Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 95 (R) in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 1992.

(ii) The Environment (Protection) Second Amendment Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 329 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th March 1992.

(2) A copy of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 107 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th February, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 63 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

- (3) A copy of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 108 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th February, 1992, under sub-section (2) of section 53 of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- (4) A copy of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Amendment Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 311 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977.
- (5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 182 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th March 1992 specifying the rates of cess payable by every person on an industry specified in Scheduled I of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 issued under section 3 of the said Act. [Placed in Library. See No LT - 1895/92]
- (i) The National Commission for Women (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chair person and Members) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 74 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st January 1992.
- (ii) The National Commission for Women (Allowances Payable to Co-opted Members) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 118 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st February 1992. [Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1896/91]
- (2)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 1990-92 along with Audited Accounts.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1897/92]

Notification under National Commission for Women Act, 1990 and Annual Report and Review on the working of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi for 1990-91 and statement for delay in laying these Papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Union Government (No. 8 of 1991) - (Commercial)- Vayudoot Limited Operational Performance. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shri M.O.H. Farook, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (No. 8 of 1991) Commercial- Vayudoot Limited Operational Performance under article 151 (1) of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1898.92]
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Pawan Hans Limited, for the year 1990-91 within the stipulated period of 9 months after the close of the Accounts year. [Placed in Library. See No LT-1899/92]

Annual Report and Review on the working of the Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for 1990-91 and statement for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1900/92]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding for the year 1991-92 between the Container Corporation of India and the Ministry of Railways (Hindi and English versions) [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1901/92]

Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review on the working of Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi for 1990-91 and statement for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): On behalf of Shrimati D.K. Tharadevi Siddartha, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 together with an Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi for the year 1990-91.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1902/92]
- (3)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta,

- for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, for the year 1990-91. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1903/92]
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1990-91
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1990-91.
- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1904/92]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1905/92]
- (9) A copy of the Pharmacy Council of India's Employee Group Savings Insurance Regulations, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 26-10/89/PCI in Gazette of India dated the 4th January 1992 under sub-section (4) of section 18 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1906/92]
- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cancer Hospital and Research Institute Regional Cancer Research and Treatment Centre, Gwalior, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Cancer Hospital and Research Institute regional Cancer Research and Treatment Centre, Gwalior, for the year 1990-91.
- (11) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1907/92]
- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cancer Institute, Madras, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Cancer Institute, Madras, for the year 1990-91.

- (13) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above. [Placed in library. See No. LT-1908/92] LT-1910/91]
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (No. 2 of 1992) for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (Scientific Departments). [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1911/91]
- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Banglore, for the year 1990-91. (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (No.4 of 1991) for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (Revenue Receipts-Indirect Taxes). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1912/92]
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Kidwai memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, for the year 190-91. (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (No.5 of 1992) for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (Revenue Receipts-Direct Taxes). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1913/92]
- (15) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1909/92] (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 (No. 12 of 1992) -Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Corporation [Placed in Library. See No. LT - 1914/92]

Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India — Union Government (No.1 of 1992) for the year ended the 31st March, 1991 - Civil, No. 2 of 1992) (Scientific Developments) etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151 (1) of the Constitution:-
- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India -Union Government (No.1 of 1992) for the year ended the 31st March, 1991- Civil. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1916/91]
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India -Union Government (No.1 of 1992) for the year ended the 31st March, 1991- Civil. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1917/92]
- (2) A copy of the Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Civil) for the year 1990-91 (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1916/91]
- (3) A copy of the Union Government Finance Accounts for the year 1990-91 (Hindi and English versions). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1917/92]

13.12 hrs

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ASSURANCES

Fourth Report

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
(Moundsaur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to
present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English
versions) of the Committee on Government
Assurances.

13.12 1/2 hrs

RE. PETITION RE. PASSENGER HALT
AND MINI RAILWAY STATION AT
SHYAMACHARANPUR, DHENKANAL,
ORISSA

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): I
beg to present a petition signed by Shri
Prasanta Mishra, Social Adivist, Shri Binay
Mahapatra, Secretary, District Unit of CPI,
Shri Nabin Ch. Narain Das, Ex-Member
ZRUC, S.E. Railway and Ex-Chairman,
Dhenkanal Municipality, District Dhenkanal,

Orissa and others regarding passenger halt
and mini railway station at Shyamacharanpur,
Dhenkanal, Orissa.

13.13 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Taking up of some New Works during
1992-93

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
C.K. JAFFER SHARIED): Mr. Speaker, Sir.
The House will kindly recall that while replying
to the general discussion on the Railway
Budget for 1992-93 on 17th March, 1992, I
had stated that I propose to take up the
gauge conversion of Purulia-Kotshila and
Madras-Tiruchchirappalli lines and
electrification of Bandel-Katwa section. I had
also indicated about the inclusion of
conversion of Kptkapura-Fazilka section in
Punjab in the Action Plan for gauge
conversions. Accordingly I propose to take
up these works, each of which constitutes a
New Service, by withdrawing amounts from
the Contingency Fund of India as permitted
in such cases, for making an immediate start
to these works. The following details are
furnished to the House.

Sl. No.	Particulars of work	Anticipated Cost	Outlay for 1992-93	Amount proposed for withdrawal from Contingency fund of India
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(In crores of Rupees)

Gauge Conversion

1.	Conversion of Purulia-Kotshila NG line to BG (35 kms)	Cap.	20.00	5.00	0.50
2.	Conversion of Madras-Tiruchchirappalli MG to BG (337 kms.)	Cap.	200.00	20.00	0.50
3.	Conversion of Kotkapura-Fazilka section (90 kms.)	Cap.	30.00	10.00	0.20

Sl. No.	Particulars of work	Anticipated Cost	Outlay for 1992-93	Amount proposed for withdrawal from Contingency fund of India
	from MG to BG with lifting of MG track from Kotkapura to Bhatinda (45 kms.)			
		Electrification		
4.	Bandel-Katwa (104 kms.) (Including facilities for running EMU services).	Cap. DRF ACSPF	39.42 4.21 1.87	1.00 0.10

The money so withdrawn from the Contingency Fund of India will be recouped through Supplementary Demands for Grants which I shall be submitting to the Parliament during the next Session. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1918/92]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): For a project costing Rs. 10 crores only Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: You bear with us till we have another exchange with the Planning Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madhavrao Scindia, the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism was to make a statement. He wanted to make it after 4.30 P.M. I am permitting him.

Now Matters under Rule 377.

13.15 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need for setting up an electronic telephone exchange at Hanumangarh Town, Sri Ganganagar district, Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): The telephone exchange at Hanumangarh Town, district Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan was

installed about 25-26 years back. Moreover, your Department has already declared that the life of this telephoen exchange has expired ten years ago. The capacity of this exchange is of 1000 lines and its annual revenue comes to the order of Rs. 30 lakh. About 100 applications have been pending for new connections for a long time. Therefore, there is a dire need for an electronic exchange having capacity of 2000 lines to meet the requirement. Today, to provide proper telephone facilities is the need of the hour in view of the increasing urban population, industrial and business activities. Our city is a big business centre where transaction of lakhs of tonnes of wheat, grains, mustard oil, 'narma', cotton, rice and guar etc. is undertaken at large scale. Our area is an agricultural area being irrigated by three canals - Bhakhara, Rajasthan Canal and Ghaggar and as a result it grows more foodgrains which is much more than its consumption needs. Its 90% production is transported to other States of the country through Railway and roads. Therefore, proper telephone facilities are very essential for the efficient communication system for this foodgrains business.

Despite S.T.D. facility, existing telephoen system is not working well.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to set up an Electronic Exchange at Hanumangarh town, district Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan immediately

(ii) Need to issue letter of intent for setting up sugarcane factory at Kothakota in Visakhapatnam district, Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA (Anakapalli): Sir, I would like to bring to your kind notice that Andhra Pradesh is located in tropical zone which is considered highly suitable for production of sugarcane crop. Presently, the State is having only 33 sugar factories with daily crushing capacity of 56,600 metric tonnes. Though there is a vast potential for the growth of sugar industry, it is seen that progress in this regard is very slow. My constituency Anakapalli has good irrigation potential with abundance of ground water facilities. All the four sugar factories are crushing to their full capacities. In 1971, a new Letter of Intent was issued for setting up of co-operative sugar factory at Kothakota for making use of the surplus sugarcane available in the district. Unfortunately, the farmers of our district were not able to utilise the opportunity and failed to raise the required share capacity of Rs. 1 crore and the same licence lapse for want of funds and other allied reasons. Now that the State Government in May, 1990 has forwarded two applications along with others, from Private Sector after liberalising the licensing policy for establishing new sugar factories considering this fact, the State Government did not get a fair share in getting the Letter of Intent for the last six years.

Hence, I would request the Central Government to issue as special case either new Letter of Intent or renew the previous Letter of Intent issued for Cooperative Sector Sugar Factories.

(iii) Need for early completion of remaining 660 Megawatt Thermal Power Project at Kanti in Muzaffarpur district, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur): The entire area of North Bihar is a highly populated

area in the country. In the absence of industrial development of the area, the population of the area is entirely dependent on agriculture. But the cultivation is lagging behind owing to constant flood, drought and natural calamities and lack of irrigation facilities. The economic plight of farmers is known to everybody.

In 1977, the former Central Government had taken a decision to set up a 660 Megawatt Thermal Power Station at Kanti, district Muzaffarpur, Bihar with a view to improve the economic condition of North Bihar. Under this scheme, the existing 220 Megawatt Thermal Power Unit of remaining 440 Megawatt Thermal Power is still held up. With the result, the development of that area is not being carried out.

Therefore, I would like to request the Central Government to expedite the completion of remaining 440 Megawatt Thermal Power unit at the earliest so that desired economic development could be made in that area and regional economic imbalance can also be removed.

(iv) Need for early completion of excavation work started at 'Ballal Dhipi' Nadia district, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI AJOY MUGHOPADYAY (Krishnagar): Sir, the excavation at 'Ballal Dhipi' in Nadia district, West Bengal has been started by Archaeological Survey of India, Calcutta with the object to expose the full view and complete picture of the structural complex, which is the largest and one of the ancient religious complexes/temples in Bengal. But it has been observed that the work has either been stopped or at least not carried out with the proper speed, creating an adverse reaction among the people of that locality.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government to issue necessary instructions so that the important excavation work starts with right earnest.

(v) Need to look into the pilfering and adulteration of LSHS meant for Atomic Power Station Rawathbhata near Kota, Rajasthan

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA (Nagaur): Sir, the hon. Prime Minister was informed by the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL) in letter dated 31.12.1991 that at three/four places on Baroda-Ahmedabad Highway, a well-knit gang was involved in theft and adulteration of petroleum products being consumed by the Atomic Power Station, Rawathbhata near Kota. This Atomic Power Station takes approximately twenty tankers per day of LSHS, a petroleum product, from Baroda Refinery. The drivers/transporters of these tankers are pilfering ten to twenty drums from these tankers *en route* and mixing water to equalise the weight. The white cement plants situated in Rajasthan are also taking LSHS from Baroda Refinery. They have immediately detected contamination in their fuel, that is, LSHS and taken action against drivers/transporters. They also brought this to the notice of the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL). NCCL had sent a team to enquire into the matter and found that on Baroda-Ahmedabad Highway, there were four places, that is, Baraja, Ratanpur, Peopelak Chowkeri and Padamala where a few people were engaged in pilfering and adulteration of petroleum products. They frequently change their venues of operation also.

Private companies have started thorough checking before unloading of these tankers to avoid any quality problem/production loss but the heavy water plant at Rewathbhata which is fully owned by the Government of India has not taken any action so far. The Government of India is not only losing lakhs of rupees on account of this pilferage but plant and machinery worth several crores of rupees of this Atomic Power Station are also at stake due to adulteration in LSHS supplies. More than four months have passed when this matter was brought to the notice of the Government but no action has been taken so far. Thefts are taking place. Hence, I request the Central

Government to conduct an immediate enquiry in the matter.

(vi) Need to hold negotiations with Bangladesh for ensuring repatriation of illegal immigrants to that country

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, recently an agreement was arrived at between Bangladesh and Myanmar (Burma) Governments, after several rounds of discussion in respect of the repatriation of Muslim refugees from Bangladesh to Myanmar. According to the Bangladesh Foreign Minister, the number of refugees stood at approximately 2,23,000. They had come to Bangladesh as a sequel to the happenings in Myanmar. The agreement needs to be welcomed as early 2,23,000 persons will go back to their motherland.

During the Bangladesh war between India and Pakistan, lakhs of Pakistani nationals came to India illegally. Even after formation of Bangladesh, there is a steady stream of illegal immigrants. While they were initially staying near border areas, during the course of twenty years they have spread to different parts of the country. This illegal immigration has been causing social tensions. Many of them have even got enrolled as voters. This has also become a security threat to the country.

I therefore, demand that Government of India should hold immediate negotiations with Bangladesh and ensure that all illegal immigrants are repatriated on the lines of Bangladesh - Myanmar accord.

(vii) Need to withdraw the levy of export duty on finished leather goods

SHRI C. SREENIVASSAN (Dindigul): A levy of 10 per cent as export duty on certain types of finished leather has been proposed in the Budget. This has already resulted in steep hike in prices of leather goods due to which foreign buyers are turning to Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka markets where the export prices of finished leather are

[Sh. C. Sreenivassan]

considerably less. This will, in turn, greatly affect the foreign exchange earnings of about Rs. 800 crores per annum out of the export of this item.

Moreover, Sir, the leather industry is already facing recession because of other external factors. With the continuing recession and the proposed burden of 10 per cent export duty on finished leather, it is feared several lakhs of employees engaged in the leather industry as also in the export business particularly in Dindigul in Tamil Nadu, which is under my constituency, will be displaced thus aggravating the unemployment situation in the country. Any proposal for levy on leather would only lead to retardation in production and export of leather items and foreign exchange earnings.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this matter and take immediate action to withdraw the proposed 10 per cent export duty on finished leather so that the interests of exports and the people engaged in this industry may be protected.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.25 p.m.

14.27 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till
Twenty-five minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock*

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty minutes past Fourteen of the clock

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

FINANCE BILL, 1992 - CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee to continue her speech on the Finance Bill

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Hon. Chairman, to refresh the memory of the House. I shall give a very brief gist of the points made by me yesterday.

I observed, this Finance Bill will enrich the richer and hit the poorer. In this connection, I mentioned that eighty per cent of the Government revenue still comes from the indirect taxes whose burden is being borne by the commonmen. I pointed out, how the decision to allow big industrial houses to open their own mutual funds and exempting such funds from income-tax will lead to speculation rather than inducing industrial production. I took exceptions to the exemptions to Wealth Tax and some of the Capital Gains Tax. I pointed out that these things are hitting not only poor men but also small scale industry sector which is still a biggest employer in our country. I mentioned the suicide and starvation deaths taking place among the textile workers.

Today I will straight away come to the point on which I was talking in the middle. That is the question of resource mobilisation. Yesterday, some Members of this House have rightly pointed out that there is a possibility of serious drought this year and some are also talking about cyclone. I believe both may be there. Undoubtedly this is a very dangerous situation.

Yesterday, I objected to the fact that this Government is refusing to tax a very big section, that is rural rich, while it is making all attempts to enrich the richer. They are not touching the rural rich. I would like to state here that during the Question Hour, something was discussed about raising of procurement prices and strike in the *mandis* of Punjab on the one hand and on the other, there was this question of why should the Government import wheat. The hon. Minister, Shri Tarun Gogoi actually played a very innocent role. He neither denied that they had decided to import nor had he said that they would import it. But he said one thing, the implications of which he kept rather hidden. He said, "Yes, the Government wanted to import at a particular moment but it has not yet decided upon it."

Then he said :-

"In response to the tender floated, very high price has been quoted".

He did not say who quoted this high price.

Let me make it clear that that fact is known to me unfortunately. It is the same people of the Punjab green belt and the green belt elsewhere who did not cooperate in the procurement nor this Government try seriously. One thing more. It is they who were the first, the Punjab lobby was the first, to respond to this tender and let me state that this tender which he did not state, that this tender, was not less than Rs. 630/- per quintal. Just imagine. Not sellign even at the market price, holding on to it and now wanting Rs. 630/- from our own country, from our own Government! What I would like to say is that you cannot have it both ways. You must take one way. You must look at the poorest of the poor. You will have to import wheat this time is due to the fact that you could not procure. He said procurement is as poor as last year. But the situation is not as it was last year. Therefore, what will happen? Will you pay this price? Otherwise, you would not get it. Because international market is not like that, that even they will quote lesser price now. It is, in fact, the other way. It is also very high. Therefore, how will the Government keep the public distribution system running, if it is running at all, to the extent that it is running? Wherefrom will it have to give away? Yesterday I said that the mutual fund, for that, neither Shri Rameshwar Thakur nor Shri Dalbir Singh nor I will pay. Here I will say the same thing. Who will pay for that? This is really terrible and moreover this pressure of inflation will be there. So, with that, what is likely to happen to the poor? Starvation deaths, not only of the textile workers which are being reported, it will be galore among the poorer people. I would like to know how you are going to meet this situation.

In this connection, I would like to say something about women. A lot was said about women yesterday and it was said that women entrepreneurs are being given incoem-tax exemptions so that they can

flourish and so on and soforth. Excuse me. this is really a political gimmick. Nor do I agree with those who want even higher slabs also be exempted, as Shri Santosh Mohan Deb said. the point is if you wanted to do something for the millions of women, the first thing that you should have done is not to levy so much excise duty on the essential commodities. It is there where the key lies. You throw that away and show us why the income-tax slab you kept will be given some exemption. This is not the way to deal with women. I will tell you what our country's experience is. All the movements we fought till the time that I remember joining the movement—I joined the movement in 1939—up to today, every movement which won, it is the women who participated in it. Otherwise, no movement had ever won. I can tell the Government straight that if this remains the policy, women will not let you go. They are meek but when occasion arises, they can really flare-up. That will be the situation.

Moreover, there is another thing with regard to allocation of funds. The total allocation for Agriculture, Flood Central and Rural Development was reduced by Rs. 40 crores, that is by five per cent, in July to March of 1991-92. This time, it has been said said that in this year, under this Head, there will be an increase of 10 per cent. Let us just remember that the rate of inflation is 12-13 percent. Therefore, this 10 percent increase will be eaten up, in real terms, by inflation. So, this allocation for agriculture will really not be an increase. On top of that, the Handloom Sector's allocation has decreased from Rs. 262 crores to Rs. 216 crores. Taking the inflation into account, it will be naturally much less in real terms. Therefore, imagine the scene that will be there among the rural poor, among the weavers. The textile industry as a whole will be hit. But the Handloom Sector will be much more hit. Therefore, please just try to understand the scenario.

Sir, there is one thing. A lot has been said about the recently-given relief to the middle-classes. But I must say - every paper has commented and I have also worked

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

out - that whatever has been given by one hand has been really taken by another hand. Maybe, even more has been taken back. The whole calculation has to be made. But, doubtlessly, nothing has been really given. It has been stated here. I do not think this way is a very honest way of putting things. Please excuse me about my use of language. This is with regard to what I said about the concessions.

About women, earlier I told and I will tell you another thing. You have imposed the taxes which I have said earlier. You have increased the Government Employees' Dearness Allowance. But those who are widows of employees, they will not get Dearness Allowance if they are employeed. You say that there is double payment of Dearness Allowance. Why should it be so? The point is she is earning; she is giving her labour. that is why you are giving her the Dearness Allowance and that is because of the fact that she is entitled to the pension. Why should they not be given the Dearness Allowance?

May I remind you of the *Anganwadis* and the *Balwadis*? I fell ill and I could not listen to the answer of our Minister for Human Resources when I raised this point. I would like to know one thing. To the very big part of the women community, how much really are you going to give? I put this question because a lot of letters I am getting from them, being the President of one of the All-India Unions.

Lot has been said about garnering of black-money or your taking steps against tax avoidance etc. But may I ask, before this particular Government came to power - in between there were Governments of somebody else and earlier to that the Congress Government - in these years, which are the main houses who gave zero tax returns in India? Is it not the Tatas etc? So, their zero tax returns will be very much encouraged by your present attitude towards monopolists and multinationals. Yesterday, I dealt with it at great length. Will they be so good that they will just jump and get into your

net? I do not believe at least that such a thing will take place.

Before I conclude, I will just like to know one thing because some gentlemen and ladies have asked me about it. I have heard that Shri Manmohan Singhji had an appointment with the freedom fighters. And they made a plea that the freedom fighters' pension should be raised. If one had been always fighting for the cause of freedom fighters. Sontosh Da knows it very well. How many genuine cases are there who are getting Rs. 700 excepting the spurious ones that your Government has given? There is a *Swatantrata Sainik Sammelan Puruskar*. But I would like to know whether you are keeping that commitment.

In any case, with the points covered by me yesterday and today, it is most natural that I am opposing the Finance Bill as it stands and the philosophy behind it, as it stands, on my behalf and on behalf of my party the CPI.

Since Shri Manmohan Singhji has come, I just want to say one word. Last time also you did not have the courtesy to be present when I spoke on the Finance Bill. You told me that you would be discussing with me. But you never discussed. I will ask you the same thing. I had thought that I would raise the same point if you are present.

About saving foreign exchange, I suggested that you cancel among other things, at least some domestic flights. But instead of that you have increased the number of domestic flights. I do not use flights very much. But one day I went to Nagpur and to Raipur. What did I see there? I saw that the flight was fifty per cent empty. One day I wanted to go by the Vayudoot and I asked about the availability of seat. They said that they have 75 seats vacant. The same was the thing when I was coming from Shri Scindia's Gwalior. Is this the way to do things? What have you done? Why did you introduce more flights after last time? This point should be answered by you. Do not answer like you answered last time that, "I want to disrupt all the communications." It is

because no poor person uses this communication of domestic flights.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our Budget has been presented in the month of February since the British period. They had started this tradition for their benefit. After passage of a long time the Budget is still being presented in the month of February which has been causing an estimated loss of thousands of crores of rupees to the country. If you present this Budget after the rainy season, say in the end of November, all the information relating to foodgrains produced, irrigation facilities made available and electricity generated in the country can be made available easily. That is why, in our country, business community prepares its budget after Diwali. I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister, who has been observing the economic situation for the last several years, to present the Budget again in the month of November so that it could present the real position of the country.

Now-a-days you prepare the Budget on the 5th of February and the funds are made available in the last week of April or first week of May to any village or district. That money cannot be used properly due to rains. What would be the use of the funds in Assam. The allocation of funds reaches Assam when it starts raining there. In the same manner, some other states also face the same situation. I would be grateful if you present the Budget in the month of November.

Secondly, the budget is a mirror of the economic situation of our country. There are two-three major problems in our country. The country should ponder over these problems. Increasing unemployment is the constant problem of our country, which should have been given and is to be given a serious thought. There is no doubt that the number of unemployed youth is increasing here day by day. According to the Government calculation it is 4 crore and 20 lakh, but actually the number is many times more. There is a need to take some concrete and

comprehensive steps which are not seen in the Budget. I would like to suggest that there are about 1 lakh 15 thousand Gram Panchayats in our country and in all these Panchayats at least small and medium scale industries should be set up where at least 100 boys and girls may be employed. There is a lot of scope in it. These industries can be Agro industries or otherwise. Owing to setting up everything in the cities, the people of the villages are coming to the cities. That is why, a number of problems relating to housing, water, electricity and others are increasing. If you set up industries in the villages, they will get their employment there and the number of problems will also be less.

For the purpose, late Leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi set up a small and tiny industry development Bank with its headquarter at Lucknow. His intention was to set up more and more small and tiny industries in the villages. The regard and the importance which should have been given to this Bank are not being given. Our Finance Minister and our Government hope that they will be in a position to meet the requirement of all the small, medium and big industries to be set up in the country. I hope that these industries to be set up in the country. I hope that these industries will be set up in big cities like Bombay, Delhi and Ahmadabad. But will the hon. Finance Minister ensure that more and more industries will be set up in the areas where there are no industries, and in the small cities and in the capitals of our States, so that all the industries do not concentrate only in the big cities but also spread to the small cities. Many people will get employment therein and the problem of environment, water and electricity will also be solved to some extent. On one hand we are liberalising the rules and regulations to set up big industries, which of course should be done for the purpose. But on the other hand the control on the small and medium industries is increasing. How is it increasing? As there are 10, 12 or 15 departments, when the industry inspectors of these 10, 12 or 15 departments visit the industries, their work suffers. The small industrialists do not have accountant, clerk or that much staff to show their accounts and other papers daily. This

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results in the fall of production and rise in corruption. I will submit to the hon. Finance Minister that the grip of rules on these industries should be loosened. But it is also necessary to have some control over them but it should not be in the way that it may affect production and give rise to corruption. Today what is happening in our country, the youth want to enter into industries or into contractorship but these Mafia people keep such youth at bay at gun point. They people get contracts even in Government offices at gun point and do not allow the youth to come nearby.

Then they further sell these contracts to someone. This practice is on the increase. Not only this, even if the younmen succeed in getting contract, they people do not allow them to complete these contracts. The collector and S.P. in the districts support the mafia, the dada or the unsocial elements and derive benefits from them. They do not let these youth make progress, who enter into this field. What is this going on? We talk of privatisation and joint venture in Public Sector. When the private industry becomes sick then it is said that the Government should take over it. when we talk about public sector, it is said that it should be given to private sector. Last our brethern from Bengal should get annoyed. I would like to submit that it is clear that many sectors are mixed there and many others have gone to private sectors immediately. We do not want that it should be done like this. Today, whether it is a private sector, public sector or joint sector, everywhere efficiency is needed. It means that in every field, attention should be paid towards efficiency in management. Workers come and work and go away after taking their wages. If the private industries, public sector or joint sector are becoming sick, it means that the management is defective there. Hon. Finance Minister, sir, start come management training courses or give them to the management professionals to bring improvement since there are I.A.S., I.F.S. or I.P.S. everywhere. Therefore, a few years back I.E.S., Indian Economic Service was started, since the I.A.S. people did not allow

them to function. Therefore, the professionals should remain there so that industries in the private sector public sector or joint sector may not become sick. The electricity boards and state transports in every State are in very poor condition and these are running in loss. To improve their condition, it is said that these should be given to private sector. Do you think that their condition will imporve by handing them over to the private sector? Bring in the efficient management and do not let the politics come into it. Let them do some work and exercise some control on them. State transport and electricity board should be brought under control. I do not want to discuss the small industries. What is going on in our country? We have made seven five year plans but the regional imbalance is growing whether you have a look at Northern Uttar Pradesh, Northern part of Madhya Pradesh or the Jharkhand area of Bihar, there are many such areas. My suggestion is that you put the proposal to form small States in the cabinet. It is said that many disputes will come up by opening the issue of reorganisation of States as it is like a Pandore Box, but we have at present 32-33 States which may increase upto 40. One should not be afraid of it. If the administrative expenses will increase as a result of it then the benefits will also be mroe. For example, I want to submit that there are seven districts of Madhya Pradesh which are called Chhattisgarh. Government receives a large amount of revenue from the region. Bastar, Raigarh, Shadol, Nalgaon, and Durg etc. are included in Chhattishgarh. Government receives revenue from Bhilai Steel Plant, from Corba, from the jungles of Bastar, from Belladila or from the minerals found in that area. But the State Government spends only one hundred to one hundred and half crore rupees there. The youth, the farmers, the labourers the businessmen and all others want that Chhattishgarh should be given the status of a State, a separate State should be formed.

15.00 hrs.

That is all the more necessary from other point of view also that the unemployment is increasing there and the

youth there do not get any work. When Madhya Pradesh was formed, it was formed from the remaining small parts of North, South, East and West.

There are seven rivers in Madhya Pradesh but the State Government is not utilising the waters of these rivers properly. Water should be utilised, properly, whether it goes to Bihar, Gujarat, Orissa or U.P., we do not have any objection. But the farmers of Madhya Pradesh must get water first for irrigation, which they are not getting, as big irrigational projects are not constructed on the rivers there. We have been observing for many years that the land is fertile there the labour is hard working and the people are comparatively honest. Therefore, if the irrigation facility is made available there then Madhya Pradesh can give more production of oilseeds, pulses, wheat, rice etc. to the country. As America is saying that she would not give wheat to India because the later is giving rice to Cuba, this type of situation will also not come up. We can have good production. Therefore, my submission to you is that the water of the seven rivers of Madhya Pradesh should be utilised and for it the Government there should be requested and there should be some control on the grant given by the centre with a view to ensure that it is being utilized properly. Therefore, whenever the issue of making small States comes up, Chhattisgarh should be made a State.

The hon. Finance Minister has taken some very important steps to encourage industries and to increase production, I extend thanks to him for it and welcome these steps. Besides, we want that small industries, domestic industries, rural industries and medium industries should also be encouraged. Apart from it, the agriculture production should also be increased. There is a dire need to enhance the production of fruits, and other agricultural items. The Government should encourage to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds. Besides, attention should be paid to check the deforestation. The people in Madhya Pradesh, plant Sagaun trees and cut down it after five to six years. Therefore, proper arrangements should be

made to look after the jungles.

There are three Horticulture Universities in the world. The first is in Canada, the second is in Switzerland and the third is in Himachal Pradesh. The subject of afforestation and planting fruits trees should be taught in the horticulture university and encouragement should be given for it. If you encourage our agriculture, our production will increase and we shall get more production of foodgrains. Since the population is increasing rapidly and for that we need more foodgrains. The Government has launched many programmes to contain population growth, but despite that it is increasing by leaps and bounds. Although certain drastic measures were adopted in 1977, for which the congress party had to bear the brunt. I would again ask the hon. Minister of Finance to gather courage and take stern steps to check unbridled population growth.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have taken very concrete steps in the Eighth Five Year Plan to increase agricultural production including that of fruits, oilseeds, pulses etc., and for afforestation. Although the Centre provides subsidies to all the States for oilseeds and pulses, yet the farmers do not benefit from it. One is at a loss to understand as to where it disappears. Therefore, hon. Minister of Finance, Sir, I would suggest that instead of allocating funds to the States for providing subsidies to the small farmers, the Government would do well to increase the procurement prices of foodgrains. I would also like to point out here that the existing procurement prices are too inadequate keeping in mind the heavy expenditure the farmers have to incur on power, irrigation interest on bank loans etc. Similarly, the prices of pesticides and fertilizers have also gone up, adding to the farmers' woes. Therefore, the Government should at least increase the procurement prices, so that the farmers may produce more and thus lessen our dependence on imported foodgrains. Keeping this objective in mind, the Government should pay more attention towards the establishment of such industries, which would benefit the agricultural sector.

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Mr. Chairman, Sir, recently the Prime Minister said that the functioning of the Public Distribution System would be improved and strengthened. Lately, I have been to my State of Madhya Pradesh and I have found that the system is lying absolutely paralysed. Many items including wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene are not made available for the past three to four months, sugar has not been supplied. One is at a loss to understand the reason behind all this. The Government should order a probe into it and find out the guilty. The people are complaining that things are not being made available to them, despite the Prime Minister's assurance to the country. The Government should find out ways and means to redress this grievance. Let not the people accuse the Prime Minister of making false promises. The Government should not let this happen.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak against this Finance Bill.

Sir, it would be an exercise in futility to complain that the successive Congress Governments responsible for the present State of Affairs viz. poverty, price-rise, unemployment etc. In fact, the perpetuation of these ills is an integral part of their policy and identity. Therefore to expect the elimination of poverty, mortgages and unemployment as a result of any Finance Bill or a budget would be living in a fools paradise and such expectations arise in the minds of only those who expect something from the policies that are being pursued since the past 40-45 years. The policies adopted and being followed assiduously since last year is bound to give a fillip to these problems. When the last Budget was presented the Union Finance Minister gave repeated assurance within and outside the House that the price-rise would be checked within the next two months and that gradually the Government would be able to exercise and effective control over it. Later on, he said that the Government would be able to check price-rise by October or November and now the hon. Finance Minister

has come out with a statement that the price-rise would be gradually checked within the next three years. The Finance Minister doesn't possess the resolve and courage to stick to his promises because he is very well aware of the fact that his policies are not going to check price-rise, eliminate unemployment or even put an end of the famine and drought that hits the country, every year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now we were taking about inflation during the course of which the Finance Minister claimed that very soon it would be brought to a single digit, but even last month, it was recorded at 13.27 per cent and as per the weekly reports in newspapers, the figure even now stands at 13.7, 13.5 and 13.17. So far as the question of price rise is concerned, the whole sale Price Index as on 20.4.91 stood at 192.9 and although this year it was said that the price rise would be brought down to last year's figure, the achievement is that it has gone up and the figure as on 19.4.92 stood at 218.5. Thus, the rise in prices is comparatively faster than inflation and it can by no means be compared to the progress made by the country. It is impossible to achieve the ambitious 5-6% growth rate as envisaged by the Government. The pace of inflation and price rise is four times higher than the Government's wildest imaginaitons. Same is the situation of unemployment. So, first of all, I would like to say that poverty or scarcity cannot be eliminated through a Budget or a Finance Bill. There is famine in 9 States of the Union and there is an acute shortage of foodgrains throughout the country and according to the weather forecasts, the coming monsoon won't be that favourable as to accelerate agricultural production to meet the challenges posed by the famine. Therefore, sir, we will have to think about our policies afresh and if the Government doesn't change its thinking, then the unemployed, the famine and drought stricken people of this country will compel them to change their policies. This Budget or this Legislation does not provide any encouragement to the Public Sector. Almost every day, the Prime Minister goes assurances to the workers that the policies pertaining to Public Sector won't had to retrenchments but apart from the

voluntary retirement scheme, there is no provision in the Budget to strengthen the Public Sector and encourage its workers. Kanpur is an old city and there textile mills under National Textile Corporation and the British India Corporation. 25,000 employees have not been paid wages since April, 1, last year. Similarly, w.e.f. May 1, 1992, 3,500 workers of the F.C.I.'s Gorakhpur Unit have not been paid any wages. The unit has been lying locked since the last one and a half years. Despite the closure of the unit, they were being paid the wages, but with effect from May 1, when the entire country was celebrating May Day (Workers' Day) there employees have stopped receiving their salaries. Unfortunately, the Union Government and the Minister of Finance is not paying any attention towards the plight of these workers. Therefore, I would like to ask them that Service conditions of the workers of these Public sector Units should remain intact. Prime Minister gives assurance that the service conditions of the public sector workers shall be honoured, I would like to submit to the Government that it should consider it seriously why the wages of the labourers have not been paid. We expect that Finance Minister would give some positive reply to this serious issue while replying to the Finance Bill.

Secondly, there is the question of Centre-State relations. It has been submitted time and again that if small States are formed, country would make progress. That is not so. The country would make progress only when they do not depend on Centre. Our position has changed. The smaller States being formed by the Government continue to depend on Centre for resources to a great extent. The Government should seriously consider the guidelines prescribed by Sarkaria Commission for financial resources. Delivering a lecture at the meeting of NDC, the Finance Minister himself had admitted that the increasing deficit in the States would compel the Centre to stop the amount of assistance to be given to States for developmental processes. With the passage of time the Centre would not be able to release any assistance in the power sector as the deficit economy is becoming a burden.

A total deficit of about rupees twenty thousand crores by all the States together is on the increase. So long as the States would continue to depend on the Centre and so long as the deficit continues to be the responsibility of the Centre, the economy of the country cannot improve.

Tax structure and tariff rates differ from State to State. Octroi system has been withdrawn in some States. In other States the rates of sales-tax is comparatively low than that obtaining in other States. As a result people smuggle goods from one State to the other in order to evade taxes. Dishonest people try to find out other means for doing such business. It is the responsibility of the Central Finance Ministry to call a meeting of all the States and to bring about uniformity in tax structure. Similarly, the rates of tariff should be revised from time to time and the Centre should provide guidelines to States for fixation of rate of taxes. There is great difference in electricity rate per unit in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and in Delhi. Uttar Pradesh has enormously increased the electricity rates. The result is that the Uttar Pradesh Government has drastically increased electricity rates recently at the Centre's directives. The direct impact of the increase is that small and medium industries in Uttar Pradesh, which is industrially backward State, would become sick and perish. The Government should take this factor into consideration.

Similarly there is great difference between the credit deposit ratio in Banks in one State and the same in other State. It is highest in industrially forward States like Gujarat get the maximum benefit of credit deposit ratio today but the credit deposit ratio in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is low and I would like to say it frankly that all our public financial institutions and undertakings about a discriminating attitude towards industrially backward States in respect of development, industry and all other areas. Its limits should be prescribed, uniformity should be brought about and the Government may give a thought to increase credit deposit ratio, particularly in industrially backward States. I hope the Finance Minister would lay down

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some guidelines in this regard.

Secondly, I would like to point out that the estimated cost of the projects started by Central Government goes up when these projects are not completed in its stipulated period. The report of the Programme Implementation Committee for the year 1991-92 states that the estimated cost of 307 projects of the country has risen from Rs. 70,043 crore to rupees 94,511 crore since these projects have not been completed in their stipulated period. Emphasis is laid on financial discipline here again and again but due to this financial discipline all our projects are being affected adversely as they cannot be completed in time. The nexus between officials and contractors results in escalation of cost of projects. This is putting a new kind of burden on our economy. Government needs to think over it seriously.

The Government and the Finance Minister of the country has granted concessions to smugglers just to win their laurels. That concession is that we can bring five kilograms of gold from foreign countries. Earlier the Government had imposed heavy tax on it but now it has brought it down. I would like to ask whether it would help in any way in checking smuggling of gold? Three hundred tonnes of gold is consumed annually in this country and three fourth part of it is brought into the country by smugglers. The Government may go on lowering tax to any extent it likes but the greatest way to hide the ever generating black money is to purchase gold. Dishonest people of the country succeed in hiding the black money by purchasing gold. The Budget or the Finance Bill presented by the Government of India do not suggest the ways to plug the generation of black money. Instead, the Government is adopting finer means of encouraging or boosting black money.

The Government had imposed tax at the rate of nearly 14 to 15% on gold to be brought by NRI's but it has reduced it now to 7 to 8%. In Pakistan, the rate is 3%. If the Government reduces it further, that country

will make it tax-free. So the smuggling of gold from that country to our country is continuing. It knows no end. In order to curb black money effectively, the Government should take stringent steps.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Finance Minister has given some concessions in wealth-tax and income-tax retaining some existing provisions. I would like to submit in this regard that section 80 CCA under which people were encouraged to seek early retirement and engage themselves in self-employment, has been deleted. This provision enabled people to save more money so that they would take to self-employment. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to restore 80 CCA and 80 L. The Government has constituted SEBI to regulate capital investment, brokers and banks and to put the policies to and end that encouraged illegal trades. It should be strengthened to curb all forms of black money.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, some concessions have been given in excise-duty on taxis. A particular category of people have taken undue advantage of the concession and it has appeared in newspapers that the cars have been shown as taxis and thus evasion of excise-duty to the tune of Rs. 20 crore has been done. Excise-duty was evaded by Fiat, Maruti and Ambassador car agents. Those who do not drive Tax, but have purchased cars for personal use, have misused the concession by getting bogus registration of their cars as taxis done. I would like to submit that the Government should give it a rethinking provide concession only to those taxi-drivers who have got themselves registered with R.T.O. or find out some other ways to curb tax-evasion. The hon. Finance Minister may find out some ways to curb it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): A Member of Parliament also owns an agency.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: A Member of Parliament also owns an agency that distributes cars. That person has taken maximum advantage of the provision. An inquiry should be ordered in this case also.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Inquiry has not yet been conducted.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Does a Member of Parliament also have an agency?

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Of course, Sir, it has appeared in newspapers that there is an agency in Pune and that agency has sold highest number of cars in two months and all the cars sold through that agency have been shown as taxis. It might have been in the knowledge of the Government or Finance Minister but neither the matter was ever considered nor inquiry was made into it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this manner, all the firms of Hindalco were raided last year. An FIR and a charge sheet were prepared against it. But the charge sheet was not produced in the Court. The officials must be having some conspiracy in it.

My submission is that the Government should think seriously in regard to the amount involved in the suits pending in the Court. This matter should be given serious thought.

Taxes worth billions of rupees are due against a Tobacco company alone and the amount is pending due to litigation. There are a number of such companies the owners of which have made their tax dues a matter of fake litigation and kept it pending in the courts by getting stay orders, in order to continue their activities of tax evasion. A Parliamentary Committee should be set up to go into this matter and a legislation should be enacted in this regard which may enable the Government to check the practice of keeping such matters pending in the courts for a long time which ultimately help the tax evaders to keep themselves engaged in the same practice. The Government should find out a way to stop tax evasion as also the practice of obtaining stay orders and it should also take steps to ensure the recovery of taxes in time.

In the last, I would like to put forward a suggestion. Demands of Union Ministries involving more than about Rs. 88,000 crores

have been passed by the House without any discussion. Parliamentary Consultative Committees should be authorised to discuss the Budget of various departments and to give suggestions. This would enable the House to discuss the Budget of various departments, which otherwise becomes difficult due to constraint of time. We would also be able to keep control over the Consolidated Fund of India.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Finance Bill 1992 since it gives effect to the financial proposals which is the Budget presented to Parliament of the Central Government for the financial year 1992-93, which has been lauded as a landmark Budget by many financial experts, appreciated by many and criticised by few.

It is rather interesting to quote from *The Statesman*, April 2, 1992. I would like to refer to an article by one of our former Chief Vigilance Officer with whom I had the honour of working together in the same Ministry. He says as follows:

"Some have called this Budget a fraud on the people of India. The usual refrain is that the Budget is anti-poor and, being inflationary, it will hurt the poor most. Reduced Plan allocation for the anti-poverty programmes, both in actual and real terms, are considered an indication of the unfairness inherent in the proposals."

He goes on to say further as follows:

"12 per cent inflation, the 1992-93 with allocation is smaller."

Then he further goes on to say as follows:

"But there are some new schemes for rural employment, a revamped

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public distribution system and the announcement of an additional Rs. 500 crores for the National Renewal Fund for special employment generation schemes in rural areas. There is also the provision for a new agency, the "Small Farmers", Agri-Business Consortium"; to initially start 12 major projects for rural industrialisation.

He then further goes on to say as follows:

"The existing rural development schemes - like the Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana - have been yielding diminishing returns, with large scale funds' misutilization eroding their effectiveness. The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India has brought to notice such misdemeanours through his audit reports. According to one report these funds were misutilized for the purchase of jeeps, cars, air-conditioners, video cameras and for investment in National Savings Certificates."

This is rather serious. On this very aspect most of the Members of Parliament from Orissa have been raising this issue both in the November Session as well as in the Budget Session. We have met the various Ministers, the Rural Development Minister, Shri Uttambhai H Patel. He very kindly visited Orissa, Hhubaneswar, where my friend Shri Lokanath Choudhury and myself; had an occasion to bring to his notice this fact; and the State Government there had to admit that there was certain hanky-panky going on in certain districts. The reason I quoted was this. This gentleman is no less a person than the former Chief Vigilance Commissioner and also the former Union Secretary of the Union Ministry of Economic Coordination; and I had the privilege to serve with him in the Ministry of Personnel in 1985.

Therefore, when it comes from such a

person who was the Central Vigilance Commissioner, I think it needs the attention of the Finance Minister and the concerned Ministries to scrutinize it, in fact, deeply. He further goes on to say:

"The IRDP visualized helping those below the poverty line with income generating assets, partly through low-interest bank loans and partly through subsidy. The subsidy was as high as 50 per cent of the cost of an asset in the case of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries. Unfortunately, more benefits were cornered by the comparatively better off. Unscrupulous officials and non-officials posing as 'sevak' and 'pujaris' of the 'daridranarayan' started helping themselves with more of the offerings meant for the poorest of the poor under the anti-poverty programmes, debasing the quality of the field level administrative machinery of the blocks and banks. "Loan meals" had already led to a large scale misappropriation of bank funds, falsely shown to have been disbursed to the poor. Much of these loans, of around Rs. 10,000 crores, became irrecoverable and had to be 'waived' by the Janata Dal Government in 1990."

The reason why I quote this is only yesterday my hon. friend, from Kalahandi, Shri Subash Chandra Nayak — although he spoke in Oriya, it was translated — described the pathetic state and the appalling conditions in which the people from the tribal affected areas of Kalahandi and Koraput have been living and surviving and how mass scale exodus and migration have taken place.

Many a time in this very House we have discussed this matter and because it is a State subject many of my hon. friends from that side objected to referring to it but human misery cannot be left to a State or a Panchayat or a Municipality. It is a concern of the nation and I think it is time that we took a proper

deeper look at the malady.

Shri U.C. Aggarwal, whose article from the *Statesman* of 2nd April, 1992 I have quoted, has this to say:

"Reduction of expenditure under normal circumstances should lower inflationary pressures and help lower prices. Those who may immediately feel hurt by the Budget proposals are gold smugglers, "havala" merchants, and persons making easy and not "earned" money, by obtaining all kinds of licences, quota, permits which were then sold at high premiums. The poor should have no reason to feel aggrieved as chances of gainful employment are likely to improve if the Budget proposals are wholeheartedly carried out and also followed for a few years. For the present one can only feel happy that well begun is half done. Unless ill luck strikes the country, through a bad monsoon, or the Government develops cold feet due to pressures from vested interests and lapses into its old habit of populism and living beyond its means, the country can look forward to days of genuine prosperity."

While speaking on the drought only yesterday and day before yesterday my friends, Shri Mukul Wasnik and others, and also my friends from West Bengal were raising the question, or the spectre of drought which is on us where States like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Orissa and three other States have been mentioned, and this was predicted by the Worldwide Watch Institute which had forecast two years earlier that India will be in the grip of a drought. We had a string of three good monsoons over the past three years and by the law of average we are in for a bad drought this year and therefore the consequential shortage of drinking water, especially potable water is a thing which we will have to live with in the next three months.

I do not see any sense of urgency either on the part of the States or of our concerned Ministries here to tackle this problem which has been apprehended by many Members only yesterday during the Zero Hour.

The Finance Minister in Part B of his Budget speech on the 29th of February, 1992, had given an indication of his mind and conveyed to Parliament the taxation proposals in the Finance Bill.

In his intervention on 30th April, while moving for the consideration of the Finance Bill, he has given some reliefs and concessions as a result of representations from Members of Parliament, Chambers of Commerce, Industry, trade unions and individuals. He has indeed been attentive and sensitive, as he has mentioned in the Part-B of his speech in the first page.

I would like to quote from the Finance Minister's Speech where in he has said about the increase in the exemption limit and the reduction in tax rates, many of the income tax concessions were no longer justified. I had, therefore, announced the withdrawal of deductions under Section 80L, 80CCA and 80CCB of the Income-tax Act. Then, he goes on to say that the withdrawal of Section 80L will cause hardship, especially to pensioners and taxpayers in the lower income groups who have invested their savings in specified financial assets. Several Members of this august House both from the Treasury benches and from the opposition have urged reconsideration of the decision to withdraw concessions under Section 80L. In deference to their sentiments and in recognition to the need to protect to the maximum extent possible the interest of taxpayers in lower income groups, I propose, as an interim measure, to restore the deduction under Section 80L with a monetary ceiling of Rs. 7000. Taking into account the increase of Rs. 6000 in the exemption limits as originally proposed in the Finance Bill, the amendment I now propose with regard to Section 80L should take care of most of the complaints I have received from tax payers in the lower income groups.

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If I may say, the income tax proposals in the 1991-92 financial year provided for a basic exemption of Rs. 22,000/- and an exemption of Rs. 13,000/- under Section 80-L. There was thus an effective exemption of Rs. 35,000/-. There was in addition, provision for Rs. 50,000/- to be deducted from the taxable income u/s 80-CCA and another Rs. 10,000/- u/s 80-CCB.

In the current Finance Bill, the hon. Finance Minister initially said in response to the views expressed by hon. MPs from both sides of the House, he had increased the basic exemption limit from Rs. 22,000/- to Rs. 28,000/-. This was in his Budget Speech. He got a round of applause for this gesture, although not from my BJP friends but from some other sections of the House. The Finance Minister in a latter part of his speech said that he had withdrawn the provisions of Sections 80-L, 80CCA and 80-CCB. His proposals have thus cruelly hit the fixed income groups of salary earners who are already reeling under the price increase, which is at the moment 12 percent and it was 16 per cent last year.

The hon. Finance Minister has now announced partial restoration of the concessions u/s 80-L at Rs. 7,000/-, which I quoted from his reply given on 30th April. Thus what he has done with the present announcement is only to really bring the exemption to the level of the 1991-92. He has in real terms granted no concessions to the salaried class. By increasing the concessions u/s 88 to Rs. 60,000/- from last year's level of Rs. 50,000/- he has played only a further cruel joke on the fixed income groups as for making an investment of Rs. 10,000/-, the investor gets a tax concession of only Rs. 2,000/-. I would like to be corrected, if I am wrong Mr. Finance Minister. But, this is my view of reading it and I do not claim to be a financial wizard nor I am an economist; I am a simple soldier from a very backward State like Orissa.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that his personal

income tax concessions to the high income group by reduction in the upper slab of income should not be at the cost of middle income groups. Under his present proposals, individuals with income over Rs. 3 lakhs have been given substantial relief while hitting at salaried classes with incomes below that. Is this the message of social and economic justice which Government wants to send down to the Government servants - the Government is supposed to be an ideal employer - who are already bitter with the Government because of the stagnation and total blockage of promotion prospects because of our economy drive?

Now, the Finance Bill has referred to the Chellaiah Committee for the simplification, rationalisation and restructuring of the tax structure and interim report has been referred to. I do wish that Parliament will have a chance to discuss the Chellaiah Committee Report in toto so that the House can also be taken into confidence. There are provisions relating to direct taxes, income-tax, welfare measures for the handicapped, dependents medical treatment, tax incentives to working women, special relief to senior citizens, payments under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, enhanced incentives for savings by artistes, authors, sportsmen, actors - my friend Sunil Dutt should be happy - medical benefits for employees in private hospitals, exemption of compensation received by victims of Bhopal gas leak disaster and exemptions to cooperatives promoting the interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Then, there are measures against tax avoidance - he has tried to plug the loopholes - modification of tax concessions relating to savings; measures to widen the tax bases, which is a laudable measure; measures for simplification, rationalisation; measures relating to Charitable Trusts and Institutions; streamlining of provisions relating to deduction of tax at source and recovery of taxes; restructuring taxation on firms; restructuring capital gains taxation; measures to promote capital market; Wealth Tax; Interest Tax; Exemption Tax; Customs; and Union Excise Duties.

Sir, the Finance Minister has waved his

magic wand and has done a laudable job. There is no doubt about it. He has given some reliefs which some of my friends in the opposite side say, lack the human aspect; it should have been more humane.

I would like to bring to your notice that although concessions have been given to many, I had the occasion to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance of the polyester staple fibre industry because one of the largest polyester staple fibre plants in Eastern India has been located in my constituency. Whereas the import duty and Excise Duty has been rationalised and lowered for most of the other industries, the polyester fibre industry has somehow been singled out for punishment. I do not know why. The import duties have been reduced to a maximum of 110 per cent (Basic + Auxiliary) to bring down the cover it provides to domestic products. Import duties on all manmade fibre inputs (basic raw materials, such as, Acrylonitrile for Acrylic fibre, Caprolactum for Nylon Fibre and Wood Pulp for Viscose fibres) have been rightly kept at a lower percentage. In the case of polyester staple Fibres, the import duty cover for domestic pricing of inputs for PSF, namely, LDMT, PTA and NEG has been retained at the same level, that is, 110 per cent, as duty on the Polyester Staple Fibre of 110 per cent. This disparity of artificially high prices of DMT/PTA/MEG under the cover of import duties is the most significant and avoidable cause of high prices of polyester staple filament resulting in arrest of demand and consequential sickness in the PSF industry. Therefore, I would once again appeal to the Finance Minister to take a look at it. When I met him for the second time, he wanted the Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry to put forward the proposal. I do hope the Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry would do that. In the event it does not, then I request the Finance Minister to himself take the initiative and call for the Chemical and Fertilizers industry to put forward the case of the staple fibre plant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please wind up.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: I have three-four more points, Sir. I would request you to bear with me.

My next point is the Centre-State relationship, although it does not concern the Finance Bill directly. As I said, I come from a very backward and under-developed State like Orissa and the problems of my State are the same as that of West Bengal, Bihar, Assam and Madhya Pradesh.

AN HON. MEMBER: Kerala also.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: I am being educated. Sir, Kerala, I thought was not in the same category.

Sir, one has to go back historically to see that the drain of resources, was there right from the East India Company days when West Bengal was a very flourishing and one of the leading States in India. At one time it was called the jewel in the Crown of India. And like the British drain, in West Bengal, with all its potentialities, the state of affairs was no different after Independence.....(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please conclude.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: You have to bear with me, Sir, I have been waiting for two and a half days to speak and if you give me ten minutes, it is not fair. I would like to take a little more time.

So, Sir, along with that West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Assam it is a paradox with them that having abundant natural resources, minerals, jute and forest resources, in the economic ladder these five States are still the lowest and lower than the All India national average and in spite of our Gadgil formula and in spite of our modified Gadgil formula and in spite of our consensus formula, now the Mukherjee formula with our Minister of Planning was mentioning, the fact still remains that these States have remained backward in spite of Five-Year Plans, in spite of Planning Commission's disbursement and in spite of nine Finance Commissions having given their recommendations. The Ninth Finance Commission had given a normative approach and on that normative approach it has identified some of the backward and under-developed States, the Finance Commission

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would give grant and 5 per cent inflation and been rated for it. Now, in the Finance Minister's own admission over the last two Budgets, when last year the inflation rate was about 22 per cent, not at the moment while we are discussing the Finance Bill it is 12 per cent. These two inflation indices have not been taken into consideration. Therefore, although there was a 40 per cent. deficit as a result of the normative approach of the Ninth Finance Commission, it will, in real terms, be somewhat around 60 per cent and now at a time when the spectre of drought — and today we also discussed the cyclone which has taken place in Orissa, and only two months back we had discussed on the *suo moto* statement of the Agriculture Minister, the floods in various parts of the country. So, these three friends of ours, the drought, flood and cyclone, have been constant companions historically for many many years and there is no way where the State Government has the resources to meet these situations because the present practice is that you are giving advances again their plan proposals. Therefore, these are again inflationary because they are like those of others, they neither create any permanent assets nor do they generate the desired amount of employment which should be given to people who are affected. These are not man-made, these are natural and therefore, although you do have a calamity fund for meeting such contingencies, it is not sufficient. Every year we discuss flood, cyclone and drought here, thousands of crores worth of natural resources are wasted, damaged and destroyed, and also many people die in the bargain, but yet we will not find a satisfactory solution. This is something we have to look at and create a special scheme somewhat like that of the hill areas or some special scheme which we have for the tribal development blocks or for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribals because a number of States are regularly in the grip of drought or flood or famine or cyclone. Therefore, I leave it to the hon. Finance Minister because he is a vizard in thinking of schemes and I do hope he finds them for West Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Bihar.

I come to the question of infrastructure which the Finance Minister in his Budget speech (Part A) had referred to and some of the States which I have mentioned are far below the All India average as far as infrastructure, i.e., power, communications, railways, roadways are concerned and although there is a scheme for attracting private participation in power generation and in infrastructure development which the hon. Prime Minister has also mentioned to the Chief Ministers and also in this House, I would like to state as a matter of caution that the left hand know that the right hand does, and I have brought it to the hon. Finance Minister's notice about a month back that the schemes which he is formulating here, in Parliament, are not known or the schemes by those concerned Ministries specially the Ministry of Energy which is in charge of power generation has been sending their instructions to various authorities, even outside the company, in trying to involve foreign participation. They give a totally different message than what the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister would like us to believe. Therefore, I do not know what is the response of the foreign participation in power generation, because the left hand is taking away what the right hand is trying to give.

Sir, the Finance Minister has left agriculture entirely on the State Governments to look after, if I am correct. In his Budget speech, he has said that agriculture is the bedrock of our development. Now, if irrigation, fertiliser and agriculture are left entirely to the State Governments, I do not know whether the bedrock of our development is going to succeed or agriculture will still remain totally dependent on the vagaries of the monsoon. The irrigation proposals which have come from the various State Governments, especially the medium and major irrigation projects are the ones which concern the Centre. In my own home State, the water potentiality tapped is only 30 per cent of the water resources on pen and paper. But the actual is around 17 per cent and the all India average is a little more than 36 per cent. Therefore, after seven Five Year Plans, if this is our achievement, I think, we shall have

to do a little introspection and see that some of the major projects like Rengali, Subarnareka, Upper Indravati and Upper Kolab are completed, which are not only for the State of Orissa, but the States of West Bengal, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are also involved.

Then, along with power depends employment because power is necessary for agriculture and industrial development and the aspirations of our educated youth, the aspirations of our semi-skilled youth can only be harnessed if we provided infrastructure which will also generate employment. I come from a State where we have a lot of village fires during summer, because we do not have expensive houses or fire-proof houses and as yet, there is no such scheme either by the State Government or by the Central Government. Therefore, I would like to mention here that rural appropriate technology and the technological missions which had been created by late Shri Rajiv Gandhi should be directed to focus their attention to these problems which would, in many ways, minimise the incidents and also prevent diversion of scarce funds there.

So, far as environment is concerned, we have been debating here about the massive pollution. I come from an area where the rivers of Brahmani and Mahanadhi have been polluted by the Central as well as State public sector undertakings and as yet, in spite of so many legislations in the environmental law, no punitive or preventive action has taken place. I think, this also does need a fresh look.

My last point is about the Ex-Servicemen and the soldiers who are preserving our freedom and the morale of our servicemen depends on how we look after them. We are concerned about freedom fighters here, in this House. This morning, I think, Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee raised it as a special mention. We are concerned about trade unions; we are concerned about other weaker sections of our society who are vocal, who have a lobby in Parliament and who can speak through their representatives, but these Ex-

Servicemen and soldiers have no such facility and they are deployed in very difficult terrains, inhospitable terrains and in inclement weather conditions. When they retire, we do not even look after them. I would like to refer to the high-level committee on Ex-Servicemen which had recommended one-rank-one-pension. That has been nullified and watered down. I was talking with my hon. friend Shri Jaswant Singh, a fine soldier and a very able parliamentarian who was with me in the high-level committee on Ex-Servicemen, where in 1984, we wanted to cater to all the 35 lakhs of Ex-Servicemen, because at the ripe old age, it is the Ex-Servicemen who require help, since they were getting a meagre pension. It is he who requires help and not the one who retired after 1986 because the Third Pay Commission and the Fourth Pay Commission have given him adequate amount of compensation for the rise in price index.

I conclude by saying the quality of our Budget proposals rather than the quantity or the amount which we use for the Budget is the crux of the matter. The evaluation, assessment, implementation and effective monitoring which are lacking at the moment, are the only things which can get as desired result. The accountability and responsibility has to be fixed.

I agree with my friend, Shri Chandulal Chandrakar that we should get out of the colonial outlook of having our Budget Session in April. We should have it in September so that the Finance Bill can be passed at October or November so that we get full working season after monsoon, from November to till next monsoon.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA (Rampur): Efforts have been made by the hon. Minister of Finance to improve the economy of the country. He also made efforts to improve the position of foreign exchange reserve and to reduce the Budget deficit. Efforts have also been made to increase the investment of capital. However, imbalance still continue in the country. The

[Sh. Rajendra Kumar Sharma]

16.00 hrs.

system being followed for the last 44 years in the country has been making poor poorer and the rich even richer. What will be situation in nature is still not clear. I would refer to the reasons of it in detail in the House later on, the need of the hour is that our entire economy should be linked with rural areas and rural people, which is not the case at present. The center of out life should be rural areas and not urban areas. The increasing population and growing unemployment has been posing a great threat to the country today. I do not hesitate to say that not even a single Member can evade the problems created by it. What is our condition — we are notable provide employment to even a single person after we are elected and visit our constituency.

A few days back the Ministry of Industry had pointed out that development would take place by improving the infrastructure which infrastructure do they mean? In rural areas, neither electricity is available nor there are means of transport. Inspector rule still prevails there, which has shaken the public life completely. Big companies are being invited here, whereas big Industries of our own country have not been allowing the small scale and tiny industries to flourish. The Government should specify some products to be manufactured only in small scale industries. The Government must be aware that leaving aside Tatas, Birlas and the foreign companies, the small scale and tiny industries in the country have been facing a severe economic crisis. Therefore, attention should be paid towards this.

Referring to the growth rate in the year 1992-93, the hon. Minister stated that it would be increased from two and a half per cent to four percent soon, and the rate of inflation would be brought down from 13 percent to 6 or 7 percent. But all these are just imaginary things like dreams, it is not possible in the real life. Because the monsoon forecast by the weather experts in regard to the Kharif Crop this year is also not favorable.

The coming years will be of more concern for us. The House and the hon. Minister of Finance in particular, must be well aware of the fact that there has been a bumper crop this year, but it is very unfortunate for our country that our economy has been totally mixed. FCI has not been able to procure even 50 percent of the procurement this year as compared to the last year, because the traders, businessmen and the big industrialists have been hoarding the foodgrains; and thus this problem will pose a challenge to the poor in near future. Therefore any submission is that the State Government and the Central Government should work in a co-ordinated manner and procure wheat. There is no scarcity of wheat in our country, but our system is faulty due to which we have not been able to achieve the desired results.

Sir, this year the production of sugar in the country is estimated to be 12 million tonnes. As per my information this quantity might be even higher that ; while the consumption of sugar in our country is just 10 million tonnes. In this manner about two to three million tonnes of sugar may be available for export. A few days back I had talked to the hon. Minister of Agriculture in regard to the 144 applications from Uttar Pradesh which were pending for licences for setting up new sugar mills. He said that prices in the foreign market were very low, therefore the Government would not like to export it. It is very unfortunate and distressing that even the persons holding such prestigious post as Ministers do not take these matters seriously. My submission is that it is due to the permission given for bringing gold up to 5 kg, which has been the cause for inflation in the country. Why should we not export sugar at the market rate and import gold with our own currency. This would solve the problem by generating resources from within the country itself.

Sir, you might be aware if the fact that the gas for domestic use worth about Rs.

32,000 crores is going waste in the country at present and it requires about 32000 crores of rupees either to store it or to make it available to the people.

Sir, at present the total forest area should be 33 percent out it has gone down to 10 percent is the Government concerned about it or not? The only concern has been to seek power. Nothing more than this seems to be in right which may proper the country in future.

Sir, the allocations for the communications has been increased from Rs. 3200 to Rs. 4200 crores and the telecommunication facility is being provided even at Panchayat level, where as the condition of the telephone system in the cities is in deplorable condition. Through you, I would like to submit that priority should be given to the matters which are related to the poor of the country of 80% people of this country.

Sir, through you, I would like urge the hon. Minister of State Shri Thakur—since he gave reply to one of my question in this House—that nobody seems to be concerned about the grants given by the World Bank and kept by the State Governments. The entire amount is going waste as the State Governments are not providing the matching grants. The Governments should take care of such grants. Whether it is meant for irrigation projects or power Projects. The assistance provided by the World Bank may be utilized for implementing such schemes. Sir, I have just spoken industries. Some blocks have been identified by the Ministry of Industry. In Uttar Pradesh also 7 or 8 blocks have been identified. There is neither the facility of roads nor electricity not any other facility like that in these blocks. I would like to request through you that such programmes should be taken up. No one can really stop the growth of industrialisation in our country if you solve problems of electricity, transport and inspector -rule.

Sir, I would like to say one thing about the sales-tax. It should be sorted out at national level by the Central Government

involving all the States because, you see, at one place the Sales-tax is 14 percent and in some other State it is 3 per cent.

Sir, there has been a long discussion about reducing the rate of taxes and raising the limit of income-tax but this limit has virtually not been raised from 22 thousand to 28 thousand keeping in view the devaluation of rupee and rate of inflation. The fact is that what was 22 thousand rupees last year has now become equal to Rs.28 thousand. According to the section 80L of income-tax Act there was a relaxation on interest upto 13 thousand rupees, now the limit has been lowered to 7 thousand rupees. It is clearly an injustice to tax-payers because the tax-payers are not going to be benefited by it because the prices are soaring high these days.

Sir, besides this, the exemption limit of income-tax should be increased from 28 thousand rupees to 48 thousand rupees which is now very essential and so far as I know all the members of the House hold the same view. Sir, under the clause 42 the middle class salaried persons will be affected by 80 C.C.A. Similarly, the Public funds under N.S.S. will get a Setback on which the Government has to give only 11% interest. And the State Governments will be affected badly because all the amount deposited under this scheme goes to the State Governments. The State Governments will be deprived of a big source, if section 80 CCA is withdrawn and State Government are already experiencing growth of resources. So lease do not withdraw section 80 C.C.A. So that the middle class people and State Governments may get maximum benefit.

Sir, the Central Government has no less in it. Income-tax is paid when money is refunded. I think there is no loss to the Central Government or to our Ministry of Finance as it. It is our greatest duty to continue to give relaxation on 50 thousand rupees to old -aged people. The elderly people are respected everywhere. It is our duty to pay regards to them.

[Sh. Rajendra Kumar Sharma]

[Translation]

I have to say something about minors under clause 35. It has been a tradition in our country that the father or the guardian deposits money in the name of minors only with the intention of saving money. Money comes to minors also through several other sources, for example it comes from their grandfather and grandmother or from maternal grandfather and maternal grandmother, so much so that when their father is dead the money goes in the name of mother in which minors do also have their share. But there is no justification of classing their entire money with the mother.

Sir, last year cut Government allowed to bring money from foreign countries. You must know that most of the money thus came as in the name of minors. The people will lose confidence in Government that it is going against its decision taken 6 months ago.

The firm under clause 65 which are in a position of giving tax, will have to pay tax on the maximum marginal rate of its total income, it is improper and unjustified. There should be 30% maximum marginal rate of tax on small firms whose income is below 50 thousand rupees and there should be 50% on those whose income limit is more than 50 thousand.

Sir, I would like to now come on section 80 HHC. Only such manufacturing units come under it which can sell their manufactured goods both inside the country and outside it. I would like to respectfully submit in this regard that there should be a separate assessment for the profit and loss of those who send their goods abroad from those who are confined to the country, the two should not be clubbed together.

[English]

About amendment in Section 269 (ss) in respect of acceptance of deposits and Section 269(d) in respect of repayment of deposits -

There is an ambiguity in it which should be removed. Suppose X has to pay Rs. 20,000 to Y, and 'Y' has to pay to Z. If X makes payment direct to Z then penalty will be imposed on him. Therefore, I want that this ambiguity should be removed.

Sir, to day there is no control on share markets which made the condition of these market is deplorable. Yesterday, while replying in the Rajya Sabha the hon. Minister of Finance said that all these cases, including the one involving Rs. 650 crore of state Bank of India outstanding against a particular person, would be investigated by the CBI. Now the office of the Controller of Public Issues has been wound up. Therefore, my submission is that one or the other control must be there otherwise there is no death of unscrupulous persons in our country who may set up bogus firms. There are experts who can raise the price of a share of Rs. 10 to Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 through manipulation in the market. For example, what M/s Usha Rectifiers did is known to everybody. Now - a-days the poor people of the country are investing money in the share market because of a number of temptations and speculation. I want that instead of people getting carried away by the speculation, the money should be channelled effectively for their benefit and for the benefit of the industries.—

Now I would like to make a submission about wealth tax. Various provisions have been made in the Budget about wealth tax. For example, this tax will be levied on Guest Houses, Residential Houses, Farm Houses falling within a range of 25 kms of Municipality Corporations, Notified Town Areas and Town Areas Committees. However, if the property is owned by a company then wealth tax will not be levied. The companies against which crores of rupees of Government are outstanding have been kept out of the purview of the wealth tax. i.e all the properties owned by these firms have been exempted from this tax. I would like to submit that all this will increase the already grave housing problem. People will not investment money

in the Housing Sector. If a private individual builds an extra house in addition to the one he is residing, it will ultimately solve the housing problem. Now tax will also be levied on him. He will be liable to pay wealth tax. There will be no loss in it.

Sir, the steps the Government propose to take to convert black money into white money through 'Gold Bond Scheme' will definitely prove to be a boon for the people possessing black money, because now they will be paying neither Gift Tax nor Wealth Tax. By the time gold is refunded to them, they will be paid interest for the period of deposit with the Government. No income tax would be levied on the interests of income so earned. Therefore, Government's endeavour to unearth black money will result in generation of more black money, because the policies of the Government have opened gates for the conversion of black money into white through 'Gold Bond Scheme' in the country. The Government should ponder over the issue afresh.

Standard deduction ceiling has been revised to Rs. 15,000 from Rs. 12,000 for women earning upto Rs. 75,000. I want that there should be no discrimination on this ground. All women are equal. The provision to give relief of 33, 1/2 percent to low salaried women should be done away with.

Sir, I have moved just a few amendments on the Finance Bill. I request you to accept the amendments

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL (Bhandara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for granting me this opportunity to speak. I rise in support of the Finance Bill 1992 introduced by the hon. Finance Minister and oppose all the cut motions thereto.

In a vast country like ours, with almost 70 per cent of the population living with very meagre incomes and out of that also a very large proportion of people living below the poverty line, we will have to devise newer ways and effective mechanisms to minor

our fiscal system. and there are lot of things which have been mentioned by the hon. the Finance Minister, a lot of new proposals have been introduced by him in this Budget and also in this finance Bill. But there are also many grey areas which need to be looked into and which needs some introspection.

We have been listening in the last ten months or so, ever since this Parliament was convened, that lot of restructuring necessary, opening up of our economy is necessary because that will lead to a higher rate of growth which in turn will be a solution to lot of ills and lot of problems which are existing in our country. 70 per cent of our population are in such a dire financial position, we will have to think of many ways by which we can support them and strengthen their financial position. Even in a country like United States of America, which the model of a free market economy, there also, I would like to state that the Government does support the poor people who are financially not very well off. They have lot of schemes like social security health schemes and other schemes by which the people who are not so very well off financially, are supported by the State.

And in our country we have been doing this for the last forty years or so. But at the same time, with our population, 70 per cent or so, needing support from the State, we definitely will have to spend more. And we will, therefore, have to collect more by which this percentage, this segment of population can be brought up from the level in which it is at present.

The country has lot of regions where backwardness is, I think, still a nations for many people living in the cities. Although my state of Maharashtra is supposed to be one of the most progressive and most industrially advanced State in the country, but at the same time, the Region Vidarbha, from where I come and especially in my district, which has borders with Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh on two sides, I still see poverty, unemployment, lack of any facilities like roads, railways, telecommunications and even the public distribution system which is being so much talked about. There

[Sh. Praful Patel]

are lot of grey areas which need a lot of introspection and lot of work and research needs to be done.

Therefore, in a system, where the basic approach is to take from the rich and give it to the poor, I would say and I think everybody will agree on that, that taxes are the price to pay for a civilised society. And there is no reason why any of us should oppose or should come to any misunderstanding or disagreement on the basic concept that is taxation. And raising of the revenues of the State is a very important factor as far as looking after the people of our country, as far as developing the b acquired regions of our country is concerned.

As far as our public distribution system is concerned, as I have mentioned earlier, it is the most vital aspect which the hon. Finance Minister and the Government of India should look into. No matter, whatever schemes we enunciate for the people, the basic concept of food, shelter and clothing needs to be looked into. Today, with rate of inflation of 12 per cent and above, which we have inherited and the way in which the economic is looking up, - there was a drought situation in most parts of the country last year and one does not know what would be the fate of the monsoon this year- there has to be some kind of an analysis as to how the interests of the people who are reeling under the inflation of 12 per cent and above, would be looked after.

Just a few months back, we were travelling in our Constituency during our local Zila Parshad Elections; and the poor man, the common man there felt the pinch, the most in his basic items of food like oil, *mirch*, wheat rice, that is staple food. Therefore, whatever our financial planning may be whatever the fiscal measures our Finance Minister may introduce, they must be consonant with the concept of providing food, shelter and clothing, at the lowest possible rates to the people of our country, to the segment which constitutes almost 70 per cent of our population.

As far as the taxation goes, I would say that, it is the only way by which the States can raise their resources, to look after the interests of the poor or to develop our economy, to give us all the infrastructure. It is unfortunate that over the last 40 years or more, we have come our with Budgets every year; we have had a Budget even this year, but there has been no consistency at all, as far as the taxation laws are concerned, whether it be in the form of direct taxation or indirect taxation. when the Budget is round the corner, it is a night-mare for everybody. It is a question of guessing; and trying to read between the lines and find out as to what would be in store for them. when the Budget is out, then also, there have been usually, a lot of inconsistency and anomalies. Therefore, the first major step which the hon. Finance Minister should take is to come out with such a policy that would be consistent for a minimum of five years; and more, if possible. There should be a stop to this guessing game and to this game of hide and seek, where one year you come out with a certain proposal and the next year you want to repeal it and come out with another proposal.

I think, Shri Jaswant Singh has mentioned it yesterday - I have gone through his speech - that there have been more than 333 amendments in the last two years, as far as tax laws are concerned; and if one would go over the last forty years or so, there might have been thousands of amendments so far. If this is going to be the states of affairs, I am sure - when we cannot follow the laws, when the tax consultants cannot follow the laws - that this is only going to further malpractices— corruption or whatever kind of mistake or anomaly, you would like to call it.

Therefore, the main point we should always try to adhere to is that we should have a consistent Policy as far as tax laws are concerned, which need not be changed from time to time; we should have some kind of a mechanism where we can monitor the taxation effectively, where black money which is a major cause of concern to most of us, to the growth of the economy, to the

health of the nation, can be curbed. Every one has been, time and again pointing out that black money should be effectively curbed and that it should be brought into the mainstream so that it can be put to more productive use and the country can gain and prosper out of that. But the basic question is that how this black money came into being. We have had laws; we have had tax rules where the effective rate of taxation in direct tax - income tax - was more than 97.5 per cent. We had wealth-tax and other taxes added along with the income-tax where the rate of tax for a person was more than 100 per cent. It means where one would like to have said that you keep the taxes and let me keep the income. But it is other way round: the Government could keep the income and the people could have kept the taxes. That would have been more applicable. Our hon. Minister, Mr. Thakur, is also a person coming from the taxation field. Therefore, he understands my sentiments, I am sure, even better. But there has to be some consistency as far as our tax laws are concerned.

Now I come to the black money part. We have such a big volume of black money in our economy. The kind of different laws and the different rules, which we have, are not going to stop the generation of black money. You have reduced the rate of taxation in the case of individuals and in the case of companies. But at the same time, black money is not only generated due to these direct tax laws but you look also at the indirect laws like you have sales-tax. Sales-tax is also very vital aspect of this black money. In one State, the rate of sales-tax is 15 per cent for one item. In the adjoining States, the rate of sales-tax for the same item would be 4 per cent or 5 per cent. To save that 10 per cent also, the people go in for malpractices. They try to put the entire deal or the entire transaction in 'number two'. These are also the aspect which the hon. Minister would need to examine. That would also put a little bit of a check to this black money menace.

You have brought out many schemes for converting the black money into white. You have the foreign exchange remittance scheme. You have the gold bonds scheme.

You have India development bonds scheme. But I am sorry to say that the volume of black money, as we have been talking many times in this House and whatever information one has got through economic journals and the economic survey, I think, is more than Rs. 100,000 crore. You have not been able to mop up more than about Rs. 8-10 thousand crore. That still leaves more than Rs. 90,000 crore or Rs. 100,000 crore in the system by way of black money which again would be regenerating about Rs. 10-15,000 crore annually. It would be adding to that. What you are basically mopping up by way of your schemes, is nothing but just the interest accrual on the existing quantum of black money in the country.

There are a lot of other things to which I would just give a little bit of run through. You have repealed sections 80CCA, 80L - partly restored now after the introduction stage. Mr. Thakur, as you know, you are very well read person. You know all the laws. I think, this is something which is for the common middle class - average salaried worker. He needs some kind of relief. From Rs. 22,000 exemption, you have raised the exemption limit to Rs. 28,000. It has come after a long span of more than two years. With the rate of inflation, I am sure, whatever little advantage he has gained by virtue of raising the limit, that has been wiped out completely.

Then, one has made other contributions under the various schemes. Those contribution may have been for certain other schemes like Jeewandhara which would be for 10 years or 15 years. suddenly you bring a stop to that scheme. What happens to the contributions already made under that scheme? The person would be standing to lose for the contributions made earlier under this scheme. He had ideas by which he would be trying to gain some kind of advantage over a period of time, say when he retires or he grows old. All those benefits, which would have accrued under that scheme, will now stand repealed. Therefore, I am sure that the hon. Minister would consider trying to restore the original limits of Sections 80CCA, 80CCB and 80L because in effect, by raising the limit from Rs. 22,000 to Rs.

[Sh. Praful Patel]

28,000 and by reducing the benefits under these schemes, you are effectively bringing down the existing limit of exemption from Rs. 22,000.

Then comes the minors income. A friend from the other side just mentioned about this point earlier. It would be understandable if the minors income would be brought under tax by clubbing it with the income of the parents if the existing business income of the father or the mother is siphoned off in the name of the minor. But there would be minor's income by way of interest from deposits or other kinds of income which need not have necessarily accrued from the father or the mother. Therefore, if some kind of a relief is given to the minor's income, apart from the business income of the parents, I am sure, you would be doing some justice.

I would just mention one or two points about indirect taxation and excise duty. I would mention about the excise duty of marble and granite. Marble and granite are basically stones used externally, and as you have classified, as decorative stones. The price of marble and granite is almost the same in the higher category. You can get cheaper quality and also an expensive quality of marble and the rate duty on marble is Rs. 15 per square metre whereas in the case of granite, duty is 15 per cent *ad valorem*. Therefore, there has to be some kind of a case made out where marble and granite may both be brought under single classification. If granite is supposed to be a more expensive stone, then instead of *ad valorem*, it can be made, say, Rs. 15 or Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 or whatever it justified. But from *ad valorem* structure it can be brought into specific duty like that of marble.

I have a selfish interest on one point. I would like to tell Mr. Thakur, the hon. Minister about the beedi industry. I represent the beedi industry and therefore, I have a selfish motive. There is an exemption for duty for beedis which are made by manufacturers at the rate of 20 lakh beedis

or less per annum. Now, basically exemption for any item is given to large scale and small scale sectors so that economies of scale can be ensured whereas in the beedi industry, the only machinery is the human hand. You come from a State where there is substantial beedi manufacturing activity. I think even in your home town, lot of beedi manufacturing activities are there. If the rate of manufacturing is 20 lakh beedi per year, that means, the company is employing not more than ten workers whereas the average beedi factory size would be nothing less than 200 to 300 workers. That is the smallest of the smallest beedi manufacturing unit. So, this loophole by which lot of malpractices are taking place and lot of revenue loss accruing to the Government should be looked into. There is no justification for giving exemption for beedi manufacturing at the rate of 20 lakhs or less per annum because there is no question of economy of scale here, whether it is large or small manufacturer. It is because they are using the human hand. Therefore, I think this exemption is unnecessary.

I would just like to wind up by requesting the Government to quickly implement the Chelliah Report fully which presently has been implemented partially so that tax reforms can be made very effective.

As regards backward areas, they need special development but with the new liberalisation in the industrial policy the people of the backward areas are not going to get any advantage out of industrialisation. Therefore, some kind of relief in your taxation system—both in direct and indirect taxes—should be provided to people for setting up business and industry in backward areas, so that there may be incentive for people to go to such areas. Otherwise, places like my constituency Bhandara in Maharashtra, the constituency of the hon. Chairman and the constituency of Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, places such as Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and other backward and inaccessible areas, are definitely going to suffer with the passage of time, without any development. I therefore, make a strong plea that development of these backward areas should be promoted through some

kind of restructuring the tax system and given concessions in direct and indirect taxes for setting up industries in the backward areas.

[English]

16.36 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

National Action Plan for Tourism

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SEINDIA):

Mr. Chairman Sir, hon'ble Members are aware that when the present Government was formed in June 1991 the tourism industry was reeling under a severe crises forced by both international and national circumstances. The our break of the Gulf war at the begining of the year disrupted tourist traffic not only to India but throughout the world. The events in East Europe and unsettled condition in some parts of the country combined with the General Elections and the most tragic assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi created conditions in which tourism witnessed the sharpest decline in recent times.

Recognising the crucial importance of this important sector, Government initiated a series of imperative measures to change the situation.

A tourism Think Tank comprising all section of the tourism industry, travel trade, hoteliers, tourist transporters and the travel media was constituted to review the situation and evolve a positive blue print for a short- term as well as a long-term Action Plan for Tourism. This was done in order to involve a wide cross-section of participants from the industry rather than foist a policy for the top. A number of

meetings were held and all suggestions emanating from the tourism industry were discussed at length.

Since the State Government have a crucial and critical role to play in the promotion and development of tourism a meeting of State Tourism Ministers was convened in December 1991 to obtain their views on the future thrust areas of tourism. A series of unanimous resolutions were adopted at the meeting prescribing guidelines for the Tourism Action Plan.

A large number of Ministers of the Central Government are involved in the implementation of the Tourism Action Plan. I have personally interacted with the Ministers of Finance, External Affairs, Commerce and the Home Ministry regarding solution to the problems which the tourism trade was encountering at the Central level and many suggestions have also been incorporated in the National Action Plan for Tourism.

The National Action Plan for Tourism which I have pleasure in laying on the Table of the House is a result of all these exercise. It is a conceptual frame work which spells out the broad thrust which is necessary for projecting India as an interesting and exciting destination of the 90s. The major objectives of the National Action Plan for Tourism are.

Increasing the share of the foreign tourist arrivals to the country in the Global Tourism Movement from the current level of 0.4% to 1% in the next five years.

Increase foreign exchange earnings from Tourism from Rs. 2,440 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 10,000 crores by the end of the Century.

[Sh. Madhava Rao Seindia]

Domestic Tourism

- * To double employment opportunities for the present level of 14 million employment persons (Both direct and indirect) by the term of the Century.
- * To improve facilities to domestic tourists and expand them, particularly the budget category so as to ensure an affordable holiday for them.
- * To preserve and enrich the environment and make it an integral part of tourism development.
- * While retaining the traditional image, to encourage the diversification of the tourism product, particularly in the field of leisure, adventure, convention and incentive tourism.

Hon'ble Members would be interested to note the following important points of emphasis in the Action Plan:

* *Improvement in Tourist Infrastructure*

Efforts would be made to double the present capacity of 44,000 hotel rooms in the next three years. In special areas and specified destinations, the internal subsidy will be increased to 5% for all one, two and three star categories to stimulate their growth.

* *Promotion of Heritage Hotels*

There are a large number of hovels, fortresses and places which could be converted to heritage hotels not only for catering to foreign/domestic tourist but also to increase incomes in rural/backward areas. A series of measures are designed to help convert this national heritage to economic usage.

A series of measures are incorporated to promote and develop the flow of domestic tourism to different parts of the country for accelerating economic activity and promoting cultural and emotional integration.

* *Pilgrim Tourism*

Pilgrim Tourism constitutes a significant portion of low budget domestic travellers. Government has earmarked special schemes for improving accommodation facilities, wayside amenities, infrastructural support and transport facilities for development of pilgrim centres.

* *Travel Trade*

To encourage participation of travel trade in the tourism promotion activities, rules and procedures would be streamlined/liberalised for recognising travel agents and tour operators.

* *Human Resource development*

A national Culinary Institute will be set up to meet the requirements of trained manpower in the country. To correct the regional imbalance, regional institutes of hotel management and catering technology would be set up. Universities are being encouraged to start post graduate courses in tourism with financial assistance from the Central Government.

* *Convention Tourism*

To encourage convention and conference tourism, fully integrated convention complexes should be set up in the country. It would be the endeavour of the Government to set up a convention city with all

National Action Plan for Tourism*Motion to consider ...*

facilities of international standards.

tourists an insight in to the rich cultural heritage.

Trade Fairs

In order to promote tourism in India, a Tourism Trade Fair would be held once in three years.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the National Action Plan for tourism can succeed only through the active support of Central Ministries, States Governments and the private trade engaged in the development and promotion of tourism.

Foreign Investment

In tune with the liberalised industrial policy special incentives have been announced for promoting foreign investment in hotels and tourism related industry.

I might add that in the last few months we have already been implementing some aspects of the Action Plan I am glad inform the Hon'ble Members that these efforts have started yielding results and from October 1991 there has been a turnaround in tourist traffic which culminated in the peak tourist arrival figure of 2,03,000 in December 1991 an all time record for any month. Figures for April 1992 are also at record levels even when compared to the best tourist year so far - 1929.

Destination Marketing

Instead of promoting India as a generalised entity marketing efforts will now be concentrated on 15 specified circuits/destinations in different parts of the country for concentrated development along with publicity and promotion abroad.

Our optimism for tourism growth are therefore well founded. We need your continued advice and guidance to enable tourism to make a major contribution to the national economy and take its rightful place high on the national agenda.

Special Tourism Area

A new schemes for setting up a few special tourism areas in different parts of the country is being introduced. Special tourism areas will be defined areas with integrated infrastructure facilities along with tax concessions and fiscal incentives for eliciting investments in hotels, tourist complexes, sports and recreation facilities and the transport network. The scheme will be introduced in States which are willing to give maximum concessions for the project to flourish and grow.

I am happy to place the National Action Plan for Tourism on the Table of the House. [Pleased in Library; See No. LT -1919/92] It is a sincere endeavour to draw up a well defined and comprehensive plan of action for the promotion of tourism in India.

16.45 hrs.

FINANCE BILL 1992 Contd

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us continue now.

Shri Janarthanan.

Cultural Tourism

The National Action Plan for Tourism will seek to develop the multi-factors cultural manifestation of different regions for providing to

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill moved by our hon. Finance Minister on behalf of our Party, All India Anna D.M.K.

[Sh. M.R. Kadambur Janarthanam]

At the outside, I want to quote for the information of this august House what our political mentor Anna told on those days; "India is not a poor country, but Indians are poor."

Further, our Anna, before becoming the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, just thirty years back, in 1962 told this and I quote: "If Tamil Nadu is given thousand crores of rupees in the Fifth Plan, my Party will not contest the General Election". That was what he told in 1962. Accordingly, if Tamil Nadu was given thousand crores of rupees, we do not know what would have been our Party's fate. Thousand crores of rupees is a very big sum. The then Finance Minister, Shri C. Subramaniam indirectly cracked a joke also on our political mentor Anna. If thousands of crores of rupees was big then, lakhs and crores of rupees are spent now. Now, it is the Tenth Lok Sabha. But still improve a lot without eliminating poverty.

Now, our hon. Prime Minister has found a correct Finance Minister.

In Tirukkural, there is a saying:

Ethanai inthanal evan mudikkum
endruaindu adhanai avankann
Vidal.

So, he is best Finance Minister. The man who can discharge the duties had been selected and that is Shri Manmohan Singh. Why I say Shri Manmohan Singh is the best man? It is because, Mr. Palkiwala, who never praised or appreciated any Finance Minister so far as I know as an M.P. for the Third term, has praised him.

Now, I will come to the subject. Dr. Raja Chellai is a Tamilian. He belongs to my neighboring village. He was born in Kovilpatti. His recommendation is really good.

The Tax Reforms Committee headed by Dr. Raja Chellaiah had recommended in its interim report, an *ad valorem* excise duty structure or a combination of specific and *ad*

valorem duties for most goods like tyres, textiles and tobacco.

Though Dr. Manmohan Singh had declared in the Parliament that he had accepted the recommendation of the Committee, to our disappointment, nothing material has been done to implement the same. Therefore, throughout, excise duty on cigarettes had been increased. On the cigarette packets, we are printing "Cigarette smoking is injurious to health" and I would therefore consider this industry as an industry which is injurious. The Government is encouraging this industry indirectly for earning more money. It is earning more money from this multi-national company. Therefore, I have given a Motion. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Motion for modification. I had given a notice relating to the excise duty on cigarettes. The Motion has been admitted and published in the Lok Sabha Gazette of 29th April. So, I want to go on record as to how the cigarette industry was functioning prior to 1987 and how, in spite of increase in excise duty, it is functioning now.

The indirect taxation enquiry committee and Technical study group on central excise traffic (1985) recommended to the Government that the effort in general should be to have *ad valorem* pattern on central excise duty or have a combination of specific cum *ad valorem* pattern of central excise duty rather than purely specific—so that the difference in quality and value of the goods is maintained.

This point has been discussed in the Tax Reform Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Raja J. Chellaiah also and the Tax Reform Committee was of the view that the Government should have *ad valorem* duty in the interest of the Government revenue which will keep an indirect check on the unlimited profit (exploitation of the situation) of the manufacturers. The Tax Reform Committee had discussed in length merits and demerits of the present pattern of specific rate of duty vis-a-vis *ad valorem* pattern of central excise duty or a blend of specific cum *ad valorem* as

mentioned on page 113 of Dr. Raja Chelliah Report and report of the study group of Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Finance.

Prior to 1987 as per report submitted to the Government by one of the Government agencies, who after studying the annual report of all cigarette manufacturers submitted that profits after 1987 of all the cigarette companies are increasing to heights beyond control and recommended that central excise duty structure should be reviewed.

The merit of the proposal under reference has been further discussed by the Tax Reform Committee under the heading "Replacement of specific duty by *ad Valorem* duty rate."

Similarly, the Technical Study Group on central excise tariff (1985) have also recommended that in order to make the review elastic, the group could recommend a combination of specific cum *ad valorem* rather than purely specific duties so that difference in quality and value of the goods receive due weightage. Here I can give an example. In 1987, the price of one packet of 10 cigarettes was fixed at 1.70, but the duty was 1.25. So, the duty rate is 73 per cent. This was the cheapest cigarette in those days. The costlier cigarette was Rs. 5.50 and the duty was 4.00; and the present day duty is 72 per cent. But, today, after you have increased the excise duty rate, the present day duty is as low as 62 to 63 per cent. So, cigarette smoking, whether it is 60 mm or 10 mm or 70 mm, is dangerous; it is injurious to health. Therefore, discrimination in the length of the cigarette alone will not do any good for the Government because you cannot earn more; on the contrary, the multinationals are making huge profits. From this chart it can be observed that the margin of which cigarette industry was operating till 1987 was very less and all the cigarette companies even making good profits and prospering even with the meagre margins, but as on date, instead of central excise duty being raised the percentage of central excise duty on the printed price has gone down from 57.9 per cent to approximately 70 per cent or so on

various brands. The Tax Reform Committee has dealt at length of the demerits of the specific pattern of central excise duty in their report and the same is reflected in para 9.24 and 9.25 and have brought out a clear case of evasion on account of mis declaration by manufacturers and have held that in process of solving the valuation dispute one may end up in solving classification disputes.

Since I have moved the amendment Bill from the point of view of increasing Government Revenue and also keeping in mind public interest at large by maintaining the same level of specific rate of central excise duty as applicable today, but by introducing a blend of specific-cum *ad valorem* rate of excise duty, it is meant that any further increase in retail prices by the cigarette manufacturers would invite *ad valorem* excise duty at the rate of 75 per cent. It would mean that without disturbing the present system of working, the cigarette manufacturers have to pay Government treasury 75 per cent of increased price to the Government and 25 per cent will be their credits.

This methodology will (i) keep check on the price line, (ii) will act as an instrument on the unlimited profits of the cigarettes manufacturers, (iii) will amount to increase in Government revenue without controversies.

I, therefore, suggest that the Finance Minister in public interest will accept my suggestion and can raise roughly few hundred crores extra for the Government and may think that amount can be utilised to either raise income tax limit to please BJP friends or may think to give relief to common man.

With this I come to the textile industry. In the cotton textile industry the excise duty for the medium count, low count, 10's, 20's, 30's the duty before the Budget was Rs. 0.375 per kg. Today it is Rs. 0.65 per kg, 73 per cent more than what was. For 30's count, yarn it is 204 per cent more than what it was. These are the low counts of cotton yarn used by the common man clothe that is, the Janata cloth. For the 60's count the excise

[Sh. M.R. Kadambur Janarthanam]

duty has been reduced by 28 per cent ! Therefore, the Budget which aims at the welfare of the poor people should reduce the excise duty on the medium count cotton yarn used by the poor people. So, this must be reconsidered in the interest of the industry. The entire textile policy should be reconsidered.

The textile industry is at the cross-roads in 1992. The textile industry created in black market in 1942 during the World War. Now after 50 years it is again at the cross-roads, when we meet for the next session here we may find lot of *hallagulla* here on the textile policy.

You were exporting cotton yarn in November 1991 but in February 1992 you have permitted imports. You have stopped export of cotton yarn now. That will tell upon the Tamil Nadu textile spinning units very much. After all, you have exported only four per cent., while China and Pakistan are exporting 36 per cent of it. They are our biggest rivals now. So, taking into consideration all this, the textile policy should be reviewed and the import and export policy of cotton and cotton yarn should be received by the Government.

For that, I want to tell the Government that our Chief Minister DR. PURATCHI THALAIVI Jaya Lalitha, requested the Central Government to include the Sethusamudram project in the Eighth Plan. It is in the interest of not only the State of Tamil Nadu but also the whole country. Otherwise, whatever problems we had in 1962 along Himalayas we will have in 1992 along the sea costs. Therefore, the Sethusamudram project is a must India for the betterment of defence as well as economic considerations.

The Central Government has permitted us the Aromatic Plant at a cost of Rs. 20 crores for which our hon. Chief Minister has thanked the Prime Minister wholeheartedly. I once again request that the Sethusamudram Project should be included in the Eighth Plan. It may be taken up foremost by 2060,

or 2500, that is a different matter. If you are not including it in the plans, then that means that you are not planning at all. It is a great disgrace that you are not planning at all. I can quote Thiruvalluvar here, if need be. Whatever your officers say, the present conditions are very grave. Our leader is not with us now. We have lost our leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Because of whom, have we lost him?

One last point you must understand for the future. The Sethusamudram Project is a must for India and therefore, it should be included in the Eighth Plan.

And I am telling the Government, I want to tell, as one of the hon. Congress Members of Parliament has said, that whatever be the Plan, you can go the moon — whatever be the project, our people who are our masters who have not seen Delhi or even Madras they want rice and what. I have been elected thrice to Parliament. The people, through the public distribution system want rice and wheat to be supplied. They should be supplied at a rate as cheap as possible. That was the policy adopted by Shri Rajiv Gandhi. He exported only two lakh lacks of cotton. But the greatest wrong was committed by Shri Devi Lal when he exported 13 lakh tonnes of wheat. Never has it happened so in the history of India. Never did it happen like that.

17.00 hrs.

Now, we are suffering for that. Please follow the path of Rajiveji in the policy of import and export of textiles. Only in 1985-86, during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's period, there was export of Indian yarn to the other parts of the world. The present Textile Policy you are following on the export and import front should be revived.

Lastly, I would like to say something about black money. I am hearing the word black money only in India. In Singapore, Japan, London, or America, they say only dollar or yen or sterling and they do not call it as black money. When British ruled over India during the Second World War, that is, in 1942, 50 years back, the black money was

created. should we not be ashamed of this black money which was created and is still continuing? We have not been able to eradicate the black money even after 50 years.

According to the Doordarshan Programme 'Money Matters' in fifteen minutes, Rs. 1 crores of black money is being created in our country. Every hour, we are producing Rs. 4 crores of black money. It is announced on the T.V.

My Congress friends have told about the bidi industry, which is by hand only and in our Tamil Nadu the matchstick is produced is by hand only. Our hon. Finance Minister, Shri Rameshwar Thakur, knows the details. Our Chief Minister has stated on the floor of the Tamil Nadu recommended to the Central Government to remove excise duty on handmade tiny matchboxes. Now, about 10 to 12 lakh bundles of match boxes are lying idle without sale because of the excise duty problem. The match stick industries are mainly in five districts of Tamil Nadu namely, Kamarajar District, Chidanbaranar, Pon Muthur malingam, Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram districts. They were all Congress national leaders. The districts have been named after them by our leader, late MGR. We have named even a university after Kamarajar. Therefore, Kamarajar's name will be there in Tamil Nadu even after three thousands years. Therefore, we have given such an importance to Kamaraja's name. Shri Era Anbarasu is requesting to name one railway station after him.

Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Jayalalitha has requested the Central Government to include Sethu Samundram Project in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Sir, with these words, I conclude.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, on the 29th February, when the Finance Minister presented the Budget and also the Finance Bill, everywhere it was welcomed. Actually, it was a speech glittering through the all over India and entire nation saw it and heard it also. A section of the Indian

population, who do not understand all the implications of the Budget, welcomed it. I would say that the joy can be compared to the joy of the family where a baby is born after twenty years of marriage. Likewise, everywhere some of the persons welcomed the new Budget. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARCHAND SINGH (Ropar): You are well versed in Hindi. So please speak in Hindi.

SHRI RAM NAIK: I have no objection. Many hon. Members were delighted by the Budget proposals as if a child had been born in to a family 20 years after their married life. However, people like me, who have some knowledge of the Budget remarked that;

[English]

all that glitters is not gold.

[Translation]

That's why I submit that there is nothing for the Common man and the middle class in this Budget. I have already said that the Budget proposals will cause undue hardship to the people. The Common man is suffering badly because of raising prices and the magnitude of suffering can be gauged from the fact that the value of one rupee has been reduced to 10 paise taking 1947 as base year. When the prices are rising and the value of rupees is going down, Laxman, the Great Cartoonist working with "The Times of India" made his observations in his cartoon in a befitting manner. We come across his cartoons everyday. He is know all over the world for his cartoons. The Budget was presented on the 29th of February and Laxman's first cartoon about the Union Budget appeared on the 9th March. It was in English. Reacting the Budget, he made the following observations below the cartoon. He wrote.

[English]

X "The first day it looked really great."

[Sh. Ram Naik]

[Translation]

The second day he wrote:

[English]

The second day a bit of alarming.

[Translation]

He writes that that there is definitely some deception in it and it is not that all the good things are there in the Budget and he wrote again.

[English]

"X" and today it seems horrifying, marking me wish for the good old pre-Budget economic order".

[Translation]

After six-seven days he felt that the pre-Budget economic order was better. He did not feel that there were new proposals in the Budget for the commonman. That's why he made an observation that the conditions in the economy have deteriorated with the presentation of this Budget. Two months have passed since the presentation of this Budget and all the observations and beliefs the people about the Budget proposals have proved wrong. Now it is quite clear that there is nothing special for the commonman and the middle class. This belief is now increasingly gaining ground among the people.

Sir, the day demands for grants to the tune of Rs. 2,33,000 crore were guillotined in the House within five minutes, I was thinking about the situation that would develop in the country. The hon. Minister of Finance has also waged a war against the intellectuals in addition to the middle class. All this becomes evident when we analyse the Budget. Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Minister of Finance that besides taking care of the views of his party colleagues he should also pay attention towards our

speeches. I hope that the hon. Minister of Finance will pay due attention towards the Views of both the treasury and the opposition benches.

I remember correctly, while speaking on the Finance Bill last year, I had made some suggestions with regard to the Budget. I would like to repeat them in brief. My first suggestion was that the incomes tax imposed on Co-operative Banks and Co-operative Societies should be withdrawn. Secondly, I had opposed the provision which envisaged the deduction of income-tax from the interest on bank deposits. Thirdly, I had suggested that the tax imposed on air-conditioned hotels was unjustified and hence be withdrawn. Fourthly, I had said that the tax imposed on the Glass industry was unfair. When I made these suggestions, the hon. Minister was all praise for it, but unfortunately those very points, with which the hon. Minister fully agreed have been ignored while formulating this Budget. Therefore, I would like to make a humble submission that unlike last year, when the hon. Minister agreed to my suggestions 7-8 months after the passing of the Budget, this time, the Government should take an immediate decision on these suggestions, in the larger interests of the nation. The Government should take a decision in this regard, without looking upon it as a prestige issue.

Now, if one looks at the concessions announced on April 30, finds the the Government is keen to provide all facilities to the big industrialists, that the Government is keen to help people to convert their black money in to white money, that the Government has schemes to legalise even the activities of smugglers, but at the same time, apart from the rebate of Rs. 7,000/-, the Government has not made any concession for people with salaried income. The Government has neglected the middle class, which consists of the country's intellectuals and forms the country's backbone. This much neglect is uncalled for.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have some suggestion to provide relief and concession to middle class families. The income tax

exemption limit which has been raised to Rs. 28,000 should be raised further, keeping in mind the present value of rupee. The prices have gone up considerably as compared to last year and the actual value of Rupee has gone down. That is why I have given notice for an amendment to raise the income tax exemption limit to Rs. 48,000/-. I would not like to repeat the reasons behind this demand for raising the income tax exemption limit to Rs. 48,000, although the sky-rocketing prices and inflation are among the major factors.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Secondly, the Government should raise the second stage of income tax levy from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 75,000/-. The third stage of Rs. 1,00,000/- is alright and it need not be changed. Further, we have also given suggestions with regard to the amount of income-tax. If the Government accepts them, it would provide great relief to the Middle Class families. It is not correct to inflict such taxes from time to time on the salaried class, who earn their bread, sincerely and honestly.

The Government has given a tax rebate of Rs. 7,000/- that too under 70 L and 80 CCR. Without going into all that, I would like to say only this much that the Government should continue with the tax concessions announced last year. If it done, nobody will bother to think about beneficiaries and losers of the newly announced schemes. In this connection, I would also like to mention here that the Government should not change the provision of tax concessions every year. It is neither in the interest of the people, nor that of the Government. This will only erode the confidence of the masses in the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this regard, let us take an example. Say, a person takes a 'Jeevandhara' policy for Rs. 40,000. Now, when he took the policy, it did not come under the purview of the taxes and he takes it for a minimum period of 10, 15 or 20 years, thinking that the premium on his policy would be exempt from income-tax, but the Government suddenly changes its decision, resulting not only in loss to the investor, but also in building up a feeling of mistrust

against Government's policies. This means that there should be some commitment in Government's policies. The people should have complete confidence that no tax would be levied on insurance policies up to a certain amount. This, the hon. Minister can very well do, as this Department also comes under his Ministry. This can be done by amending the Insurance Act. It is a matter of Contractual liability. Therefore, the entire structure at income-tax should be such that changes in incomes tax concessions should not take place, every now and then.

If people purchase units from U.T.I. the hope of gaining some interest, they would be land in trouble if the Government imposes different rates of taxes on this interest, every year. Therefore, it is my humble submission that such changes, every now and then is undesirable. It is my suggestion that the income-tax concessions should be announced for a period of five years, on the lines of the import-export policy. It should not be changed for a minimum period of five years. Why are we adopting different postures vis-a-vis the income tax policy and the import-export policy? There should be some sort of permanence. This will enable the layman to make sound investments. People will also develop confidence in the Government. If a person upon his retirement receives a lumps gratuity amount of Rs. 70,000/- he will be able to make a sound investment plan. If the Government makes changes from time to time, then the pensioners will be the worst suffers as they will invest their entire amount in one scheme and one fine morning, they will find to their bewilderment that they stand to lose a good amount in the form of taxes, as a result of policy changes. Therefore, all concessions should be made for a period of five years. In this contact, I have given notice for several amendments and in very session, I have stressed the need for continuing the concessions till 1995-96. The Government should actively consider this proposal.

The Government has also made changes with regard to Hindu Undivided family. The HUF, as per our ancient tradition, is in itself a social scheme. If a handicapped

[Sh. Ram Naik]

person, who is unable to earn his livelihood is considered a member of a Hindu Undivided family. Then there is no need for him to take an individual insurance policy. In the progressive countries of the world, social security schemes are in vogue, but not in our country. Unless and until such schemes are launched in this country. The Government should not make change in the provisions provided in the Hindu undivided family.

In principle, the Government has agreed that there won't be any double taxation. It is my suggestion that the Government should impose taxes on them from the partnership and also on other income.

[English]

Please do not have separate taxation for partnership firms.

[Translation]

In order to avoid double taxation, the Government instead of imposing taxes on Partnership firms, should impose taxes on the income the Partner gets from the firm as also the income he receives from other sources.

I would also like to make some suggestions with regard to excise duty. The Government has made changes in the Excise Duty laws as well. Last year, we made several representations in this regard and also gave some suggestions. One of the suggestions was that there is wide disparity in the duty imposed on the bodies built for motor vehicles and the bodies built for Jeeps. For Jeep bodies, the Excise duty levied is 66 per cent. If the cost of the body is around fifty thousand, then an amount of about Rs. thirty three thousand becomes payable as excise duty. You know about the garages manufacturing these bodies. They fall in the category of small scale industry. Most of the jobs are done by hands there. For a big bus body only an amount of Rs. 8400 is payable as excise

duty while Rs. 33,000 is to be paid as excise duty, for a body of jeep of the price of Rs. fifty thousand. This is an anomaly. Therefore, I think such heavy taxes are not justified on the body of motor vehicles which are produced by small scale industries and in small villages. One could understand if a tax is levied on the production of the engine in factories, because some manufacture the body of Premier, some other manufacture the body of Maruti and this is done in garages. This is my first demand that such type of taxes should not be levied on bodies of vehicles manufactured in small scale in garages.

The condition for payment of excise duty for a small scale unit manufacturing cosmetics is that there should be production of items of the value of Rs. .5 lakhs. If such a Unit produces goods of the value of more than Rs. Five lakhs then it has to pay extra excise duty. But if radio, television sets, air-conditioners and fridges are produced in small units, then there is no excise duty upto Rs. twenty lakhs, there should be uniform laws for all the units in the small scale sector. Such an injustice to the persons manufacturing cosmetic articles should be done away with. If the value of the goods manufactured by them is more than Rs. twenty lakh, twenty percent excise duty should be levied.

After informing you about these things, I would like to express my thanks to you for two things. On 30th April, Government has granted concession on articles of thermaware, insulated ware, thermos flasks etc. There are the products which maintain the temperature of the food items. These products provide help in saving the energy. Initially Government had proposed a thirty percent tax on these articles. Many associations and people submitted their memoranda opposing this tax. You considered their plea sympathetically because this will promote the export of these articles. All those articles are manufactured in small scale sector. After the representations from the people were received, Government withdrew the proposed thirty percent tax. I express my

thanks for the withdrawal of tax because seventy percent of the total production of these articles in India. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should conclude after expressing thanks.

SHRI RAM NAIK: I would conclude after expressing my thank for a one thing. Seventy per cent of the total production of these articles is being contributed by small factories of my constituency. You have done a very good thing. I would once express my thanks for withdrawal of this duty.

I would like to point out once again to the matter which I had referred in the beginning. Government has reduced the excise duty on glad bottles which it had proposed earlier. It would help in increasing the production and manufacturers in the small sector would be benefited. Last time Government had granted concession six to seven months after these were announced by it. You should accept my suggestions specially the amendment regarding raising of exemption limit to Rs. 48000/- and make an announcement while replying to the debate.

In the end I would except from the finance Minister that he would consider the suggestion and accept them so that the people of this country and House feels that these demands had been accepted as we had put the demands in a correct way. Government should bear it in mind that people must not be forced to launch agitations to get and every demand fulfilled. With these words, I conclude.

SHR: ASHOK . ANANDROA DESHMUKH (Parbhani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill which has been moved for consideration and thank the hon. Prime Minister and Finance Minister.

Sir, in my opinion this budget is a Unique Budget. Such a budget has never been presented in the House in the past. Not only that this is historical Budget, but if the opposition Members also supports it, it would prove to be 'Amrit Kallash'. It is a matter of pride that our Finance Minister has presented

such a good Budget. Opposition Members may move some amendments and our hon. Finance Minister should consider these ammendments keeping in view the ideological discussion which has been going on since the last 40 or 42 years. Today one discussion s going on about the measures to be taken to provide food, shelter and clothing to each citizen of the country. We have not been able to provide all these basic necessities to people so far. But if we all join together in supporting this Budget, then it can become a 'Amrit Kalash' and can definitely provide food, shelter and clothing to all the people of the country. I support this Budget, because it is a very good budget. While supporting it, I would also like to submit that hon. Finance Minister has made a serious effort to link Indian economy with the world economy, but the Opposition Members have opposed it on the plea that the arrival of multinationals in this country would prove to be harmful for this country. I would like to ask them about the harm caused by the multinationals since the year 1950 till date. Examples of Korea, Hong Kong and many other countries may be cited, I am trying to say that multinationals do not make any adverse effect on the economy of this country. There are many countries who have welcomed the multinational companies in their country by granting them concessions in taxes. America has given 30% concession Britain has given 40% and Singapore has granted 31% and Hong Kong has granted 15% concession, to multinational companies. I know that ours is a poor country, which is at twentieth position in the matter of literacy, in water supply it ranks 123th and in export to ranked sixteenth in 1950 whole now it is on 43rd position. Therefore the suggestions of the hon. Members are welcome. Today countries like Korea, Hong-Kong—China are much ahead if our country. China is considered to be three times ahead, Korea was at par with us in 1950, but today it is ahead of us. Hong-Kong is thirteen times ahead of us. Korea is thirty times ahead of us. I am of the opinion that we would try to compete with these countries with the help of this Budget.

Respected Sir, Members from the

[Sh. Ashokanandroa Deshmukh]

Opposition have called this budget anti-poor inflationary and have said that multi-nationals would ruin this economy of this country. I do not know about the Dunkal's report but they have criticised the Dunkal's report also. Senior leaders have said many such things in their speeches. Members have just now said that this budget is not in the favour of the rural poor. But I would like to you submit that Government has done a praiseworthy job by granting a subsidy upto five thousand of rupees.

Last time, I had gone out of this House, but today I am present here because Government has given a subsidy of five thousand rupees. Provision has been made in this budget for making arrangement for supply of drinking water to the majority of villages. Shri Nitish Kumar has complained of the reduction in the number of mandays under employment schemes. In 1987, 87 crores of mandays had been generated whereas in 1990-91 ninety crores of mandays had been created. Thus this budgets strives to generate more employment by this method of generation of more mandays. In 1988-89 5040 crores of rupees had been spent on rural sector. Now it is the responsibility of Gujarat and Maharashtra State to undertake this job. Respective States should also discharge their duties. Two main specialties of the Budget are partial convertibility of rupee and granting of relaxation under gold law. Among its other major specialties are reduction in the Budget deficit, heavy curtailment in customs duty and a number of concessions on the foreign investment. This budget concentrates mainly on capital market and corporate sector.

Finance Bill not only presents budget proposals but also suggests changes in the tax structure.

17.25 hrs.

[SHRI RAM NAIK *in the Chair*]

In 1950-51, the ratio between the direct taxes and the indirect taxes was 43:57

where as it became 20:80 in 1990-91. The contribution of income tax to total taxes was 32 per cent in 1950-51 whereas it became 10 per cent in 1990. There has been no increase in the contribution of Corporate Tax. From 9.9 per cent in 1950-51 it has been reduced to 9.1 per cent in 1990-91.

Inflation has increased due to imposing indirect taxes and enhancing excise duty. The burden of taxes has increased manifold on the people.

I do not want to level charges against opposition parties. I would like to give some more suggestions. Indian economy has become a high cost economy. The need of the hour is to reduce indirect taxes especially excise duty. I hope that the hon. Minister will not only improve Corporate Tax structure but bring radical changes in the structure of indirect taxes during the ensuing session. I would like to urge upon him to enhance the income tax exemption keeping in view of the inflation. If the income tax exemption limit is increased from Rs. 28000/- to Rs. 40000/- it will provide some relief to salaried class people and middle income groups.

We have to check non-plan expenditure especially interest charges, Deference expenditure and subsidies to reduce the Budget deficit. The estimated budget deficit during the Seventh Five Year Plan was to the tune of Rs. 14000 crore which shot up to Rs. 35000 crore at the end of the Plan. We have been caught in the vicious cycle of non-Governmental expenditure and budget deficit because of foreign debt. Instead of foreign debt we require foreign investment. Besides, it is necessary to impose ceiling on borrowing. The problem of black money is eating into the vitals of the economy. It is essential to solve the problem of black money. The hon. Minister has recently stated while addressing the Income Tax officials at a meeting that the tax evaders should be dealt with strictly. It is an appreciable step. This, the hon. Minister of Finance should depute a Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance for the purpose of simplification and effective implementation of the new policies so that these are not ridiculed by the bureaucrats. The hon. Minister

of Finance has done some work in the interest of farmers. He has promoted export and fixed support price. We have made a lot of progress in the production of fruits. There is need for export promotion. While exporting fruits, better quality of packaging is required. Loans are provided for this purpose, to those who are interested in this work but the problem is that very high rate of interest, i.e. 18 per cent is charged from them. I would like that it should be reduced to 4 per cent. Besides, the transportation charges on grapes is also high i.e. @ Rs.80/-. It should be reduced.

I would like to urge the Government to pay more attention in this direction. Many good steps have been taken in the Budget. A small businessman has to pay only Rs. 1400/- as tax. They have fixed a flat rate of taxation. The Government has taken a good step in respect of gold. The exemption limit of the premium on Medical Insurance Policy would be Rs. 6000/-. It was Rs. 3000/- earlier. The exemption limit has been increased from Rs. 6000/- to Rs. 12000/- in case of handicapped people. Standard deduction of Rs. 15000/- has been allowed to working women whose annual income is Rs. 75000/-. Persons above 65 years of age with an annual income of Rs. 50,000/- have been allowed tax exemption of 10 per cent. Tax relief on retirement benefits to Government employees has been extended to private employees. As I have said just now, lot has been done in the interest of farmers also.

Special excise duty will not be imposed on tea, coffee, cement and sugar. In this way, it is a praise worthy budget. I would like to say one thing more. Special surcharge has been proposed on income tax. This would result in heavy loss to the states. In my opinion, it should not be imposed. That is my request to the hon. Finance Minister.

Although I do not know much about the subject yet I have tried to express my views in a short time at my disposal. I would like to request the Members of all parties to extend their whole hearted support to this historical budget with these words I thank you and conclude.

[English]

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasaragod): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Finance Bill. My submission is that though in certain area, the Budget and the Finance Bill has been lauded yet this Budget and the Finance Bill is not going to help the ordinary and poor people in this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rai, your Party's time is over. You can take about seven or eight minutes. The time which has been allotted to your Party is over.

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: The taxation policy reveals the class character of the Government. The policy of the Congress Government, throughout was to please the capitalists. The policy of the present Government also is the same. The Finance Bill reveals the true colour of the Government which is pro-rich and anti-poor. The congress party's policy throughout was double talk, say one way and do in another way. They are two opposite things. From Avadi to Tirupati, the only glaring feature which we see is that the Congress is always shedding crocodile tears for the poor and the down-trodden. But in practice, it is serving the rich and the capitalists. The Congress is the party which always talks in two ways. In Avadi, the Congress declared that its policy is a socialistic pattern of society. But all the steps taken in all these forty years clearly show that it is shedding only crocodile tears, which actually helped too get the rich people to get richer and the poor people to be poorer.

The wrong policy of the Government, all these years, created thousands of crores of black money in the country. In this Finance Bill and in the Budget, there is no provided to check the black money and to prevent black money.

In this year Budget also, there is no way to check the black money and its growth. The effective way to prevent the black money or to prevent the corruption is that the Congress Government must have a will because if there is a will there is a way. As far as the Congress Government is

[Sh. M. Ramannarai]

concerned, it has no will to prevent corruption, to prevent smuggling and to prevent and check black money. That is why this process continued. And in this Budget also, it is very very clear that black money will be increased.

As I said earlier, the Congress Government sheds crocodile tears. Now it speaks for the farmers. It says that it is for the farmers and for the poor people. If the Government is for the farmers, then why the Government has taken away these subsidies - fertiliser subsidies? It is because it is anti-poor and anti-farmers. This Government has taken away subsidies and at the same time it says that it is for the poor. Is it for the poor? If it is for the poor, then it should have introduced or should not have taken away the subsidy for the food articles provided for the public distribution system. So this Government - the Congress - Government - is only shedding crocodile tears for the farmers and for the poor. But actually, in the heart the rich people's interest is always there.

Now, you said that the time allotted for me is very short. So I cutting my speech also to that extent.

As few days ago, while discussing about a matter which is concerning the Bofors affairs, the Prime Minister has said that his External Affairs Minister handed over a paper to the External Affairs Minister of Swiss Government. Now the interesting aspect is that the External Affairs Minister told that some lawyer handed over a note to the External Affairs Minister to be handed over to the Prime Minister of Switzerland. This version was told to the House more than a month back. Now, if the Government wanted to know who is the lawyer who handed over a paper to the then External Affairs Minister, Shri Solanki, they would have known. Even after more than a month, the Government is not able to find out who is this lawyer who handed over this note. So, the fact behind is that then Government has no will. If there had been a will, the Government would have found out as to

who is the lawyer who handed over the note to the then External Affairs Minister. But after a lapse of more than a month, the Government is not able to find out the truth as to who has handed over the note. The same is the case with eradication of black money; the same is the case with stopping smuggling and the same is the case with stopping corruption. But, the Government has no intention. The Government has no will. That is why, it is continuing. The Government must seriously consider this. If the Government is very serious and truthful to what they say - that it is for the poor and for the farmers - then, the fertiliser subsidy which was taken away, which was beneficial to the farmers, should be re-introduced. Unless and until the fertiliser subsidy which was taken from the farmers is re-introduced, - whatever the Government say, that it serves the poor, it serves the farmers - it is nothing but hoodwinking the farmers and the country as a whole.

This Government obtained external loan from the IMF and from the World Bank. If the loans obtained from IMF and the World Bank were for a good purpose - for more industrial production and agricultural production in this country - then, it is good. It is good if and only if the produce is exported. What is happening now? Even if the idea is good and the loan obtained is for producing more in the industrial sector or in the farming sector, what is the guarantee that we will be able to export? Recently we understood this. Even if our country produces more, even if our farmers and industrialists are prepared to produce more for the export purpose, under the Super 301 of American Law, will we be able to export? what food articles, what industrial produce will we be able to export? But, I am afraid that we will not be able to repay the loans obtained by the Government of India from the IMF and the World Bank. We must seriously consider this aspect.

The last point is this. The American imperialists are threatening our country. They are threatening not only India, but they are threatening every Third World country. Now, I hope you understand that the Russian Government was threatened by the USA.

The only solution for this country is to depend on its own, to stand on its own legs, at least in the food sector. If India is self-sufficient in food sector, then, we need not fear for the American imperialists or other imperialists who are the agents of those imperialists.

So, India must spend more and more money for the farming sector, for the food sector and we should be able to proclaim to the world that India is self-sufficient in food. We will not be able to import foreign cars; we will not be able to improve videos; we will not be able to import luxury articles. But, at least, we will be self-sufficient in food. In food, we need not fear from anyone. My submission in this case is that the Government even at this stage should reintroduce the subsidies meant for farm sector, subsidies meant for productive sector and help the country to stand on its own legs so that we would be able to continue as a free country. India will require that we are not afraid of imperialists. So, this is my submission. There is no provision in the budget. There is no provision in the Finance Bill to say that India will be free to decide its fate in future. So, I have to oppose this Finance Bill.

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYRAGHAVAN (Palkkad): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Finance Bill. I also support the various concessions announced by him. This year's budget has come against the background of an unprecedented economic crisis. Because of the wrong policies pursued by the previous two Governments the foreign exchange reserve got depleted so much so that we had foreign exchange to import even one month's requirement. It was in such a situation that the Congress Government under the leadership of Shri Narashimha Rao took over. Within six months of coming to power, the foreign exchange reserve grew considerably. This has been achieved by increasing exports as well as cutting down on unnecessary imports. The change that have taken place in the economic sector are truly unprecedented. Through liberalisation the

Indian economy has been integrated with the world economy and thus it has been given a new vigour. Those who say that the Government has jeopardised the freedom and stability of the country by taking loan from the IMF should do well to find out what has been done by China and east European countries. We have come to know that China accepted or had to accept all the conditions put forth by IMF. Do you have nothing to say about it? Naturally a creditor would put forth certain conditions. Through mutual discussions, certain acceptable conditions will emerge. This is the universal practice. So, what is unusual about it? At the same time stand has the Government taken in respect of the patent law? Although the US administration threatened to include India under Super 301 and destroy our foreign trade, the Government did not yield to the pressure. The opposition has been shouting from the housestops for the past ten months that the Government is yielding to US pressure. But the Government has been carrying on serious negotiations with the representatives of US Government on this question and trying to convince them that their stand is wrong. Finally, only when the US Government took action against us, the opposition realised that the Government of India has taken a firm stand on this issue. The other day the opposition in Kerala organised a road block against the economic policies of the Central Government. At the same time when the Finance Minister moved the Finance Bill and announced concessions, Shri Somanath Chatterjee was seen nodding his head in appreciation. There they organise roadblock and here nod their heads in appreciation. I do not understand the meaning of this.

The budget is important for many reasons. It is the best cure for the ills which have afflicted the Indian company. Shri Manmohan Singh can be compared to an export surgeon. He started his treatment when the economy was afflicted by a very serious disease. Having realised that a major surgery is required, he performed it. When a surgery is done, there will be pain and loss of bad blood and pus etc. That is what we saw in the last budget. After that

the patient started getting better. So, he has prescribed medicines for improving the health of the patient in this year's budget.

This budget is a part of the policy of liberalisation. With this in view, he has given tax concessions which all welcome. Similarly, I welcome the basic exemption being raised in income tax. But, keeping in view the present level of price rise, the exemption limit of Rs. 28000/- is inadequate. I, therefore, demand that it should be raised to at least Rs. 35000/-. Today, the dearness allowance is taxed. This is quite irrational. The dearness allowance, in the real sense, is not an income. This is just a cushion against the price rise. If it is taxed, the very concept of dearness allowance will lose its meaning. I therefore demand that the dearness allowance should be exempted from tax. I welcome the other concessions particularly the concession on gold.

Sir, budget is the Chief instrument of development. There are many States in India where very great development has not taken place. Kerala is one such State. It has the highest literacy percentage and at the same time it has the highest number of educated unemployed persons. More than 36 lakh persons are estimated to be unemployed in the State. They can be given employment, if there is industrialisation. It has been seen that since 1977 the Central investment in Kerala has been coming down. This has adversely affected Kerala's employment position. Therefore there has to be speedy industrialisation. The Centre must invest money. But that is not Kerala's trend we see now. The work on the thermal power plant at Kayankulam is going very slow. The development of FACT has not taken place. Very meagre amount has been allotted for railway electrification. There are many such proposals which are pending. This has to change. The industrialisation has to be speeded up. Privatisation will not help Kerala because the private industrialists will set up industries in Delhi, Bombay, Madras

and such other places. Therefore the Government should invest in the industrial sector of Kerala. In this connection, I want to make another small submission. The Government of Kerala is supplying rice through PDS at the rate and is suffering loss. The Centre should at least make up some part of this loss and thus help the State Government.

18.00 hrs.

Now, I come to my constituency Palakkad. Palakkad is an underdeveloped district. But it is the rice bowl of Kerala. Since irrigation facilities are inadequate are not able to make a breakthrough in agricultural production. Today many parts of Palakkad are in the grip of a serious drought. When the Silent Valley Project was given up at the instance of the late Indiraji, we were promised that an alternative project would be given to meet the requirement of irrigation and power of this region. The Kurrurkutty Karuppara Project was conceived in this background. But, even this project has been shelved due to the objections from the environmentalists. Since the district is chronically drought prone at least the irrigation part of this project should be sanctioned and the farmers of Palakkad should be saved.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN
KUMARAMANGALAM):

Sir, if the House agrees, I make a proposal to extend the House for half an hour more. Anyway, there is the LPG meeting at 7 o'clock and if we sit for half an hour or so, two or more Members can have their say. There are a number of members yet to speak.

SOME HON MEMBERS: No please.

They may be given a chance to speak 18.02 hrs.
tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vijaya Raghavan,
you may continue your speech tomorrow.

*The Lokha Sabha then Adjourned Till
Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, May
6, 1992 / Vaisakha 16, 1914 (Saka).*

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