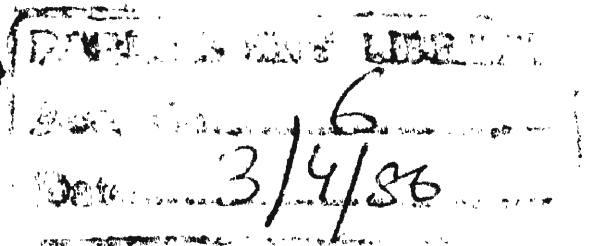


LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. V contains Nos. 31 to 40)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, May, 8, 1985/

Vaisakha 18, 1907 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : We are starting with
a very mild temper today.

Shrimati Chandra Bhanu Devi.

[*English*]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Good
start, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Well begun is half
done.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

“Review of State Government Activities
in the Field of Environment”

*750. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU
DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are
reviewing the activities of various State
Governments in the field of environment :

(b) if so, the broad details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to
merge the Departments of Environment
and Forests with a view to have a unified
authority for a better coordination of the
schemes in the field of environment ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b).
States have been advised about suitable
structures, activities and programmes for
environmental management. As the
Departments of Environment have recently
been set up, it is too early to make a review
of their activities.

(c) The Government has already crea-
ted a separate Ministry of Environment &
Forests for better coordination of the
schemes in both the departments. How-
ever, there is no proposal to merge the two
Departments.

[*Translation*]

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated
in the annual report of the Department of
Environment for the year 1984-85 that the
industries in Gujarat, Karnataka and Maha-
rastra have done a Commendable job in
controlling industrial pollution in com-
parison to other states. I would like to
ask the hon. Minister whether the Central
Government would issue special direction to
other States also to take concrete steps in
this regard ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir all
the states have been issued directives that
they should formulate their schemes regard-
ing environment and when these schemes
are forwarded to us, we review them.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI :
I would also like to ask the hon.
Minister if the Central Government have
formulated any time bound programme to
have an effective control on increasing
pollution in metropolitan cities ? If so what
are the main features of the programme ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Sir, The Pollution
Central Boards of all the states have been
given this direction that they should for-
mulate the schemes and when the schemes
are received by us, the Board would review
them and we would take action on them.

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Mr. Speaker Sir, this is one of the examples of the gap that very often exists between the philosophy and the commitments of the Government of India and the level of implementation by the State Governments. Now we are having a Ministry of Environment for several years at the Government of India's level. But is it not a fact that there are several major States like Maharashtra which up to now not even have a Department of Environment? And where the Departments of Environment do exist, they are not functioning and one of the major reasons for their not functioning is lack of funds. I would like to know which are the States which up to the moment do not have a Department of Environment and what steps the Government have taken to increase the financial assistance to the Departments of Environment in the States, and secondly, now at the Centre we have a very well carved out Department of Environment. They have merged the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Forest but this is not being implemented. I would like to know why this is not being done at the State Government level also. What is the dialogue you are having with the State Governments so that what you are doing at the Centre namely having one Ministry for Environment and Forests is also done at the level of the State Governments.

SHRI VIR SEN : The pollution control measures have to be implemented by the State Governments. The Central Government can give only instructions and advices. The implementation part rests with the State Governments.

As far as the question regarding how many States have set up departments, I may inform the House that four States have a division each under some other department and fourteen States and one Union territory have set up Department of Environment. Five States and two Union Territories have got separate divisions. So, in this manner, of course, all the States are establishing their own departments.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : What about the Financial assistance the Centre

is giving to them so that they can become effective? The Minister has not replied to this question. Or is it that you also do not want them to become effective?

MR. SPEAKER : And do you want a separate Ministries in the States also?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Separate Ministries or there should be separate departments. If they are not there, they should be directly under the Central Government. They have no money. What are you doing about it?

SHRI VIR SEN : On this question, of course, we will request the State Governments to look to their demands also.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am going to ask a question that has become highly explosive and controversial today. Environment is connected with pollution. It is connected with congestion in various States.

MR. SPEAKER : I know that you will be doing this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Congestion in cities is connected with environment. If the congestion in cities is to be avoided, in that case various areas have to be developed and regional economic imbalances have to be removed and Bombay hinterland has to be developed. Instead of that the Government is thinking of a very wrong and irrational path of banning influx of population in any city whether it is Bombay or Calcutta. And if that is done, as has been indicated by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in his Press conference yesterday, it will mean the violation of Article 19 of the Constitution, which says all citizens shall have the right to move freely throughout the territory of India. Therefore, will the Minister give an assurance that such an irrational measure of decongestion will not be followed, but they will have an economic balance in different regions so that nobody will take such an irrational attitude of banning any city for any population in the country?

PROF. K.K. TEWARI : The atmosphere is sought to be polluted by induction of politics.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
No, Sir. I am very serious about it.

MR. SPEAKER : He listed it so that
Bombay could just come in.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I
am further add that Prof. Ranga is support-
ing my question.

SHRI VIR SEN : I think there can be
no restriction of any citizen going to any
cosmopolitan city. Anybody can go there
and reside there if there is proper
accommodation.

As far as congestion is concerned, the
Maharashtra Chief Minister, of course,
has taken a decision some time back to
increase the floor space index and there
are some objections about it. That is
being considered.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV
GANDHI) : Because it is a very important
subject raised by Prof. Dandavate, I may
add a word. There can be no question of
such restrictions.

MR. SPEAKER : You might be remem-
bering we had a question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
No restriction of people coming and no
people will be driven out also. Both.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we can have
satellite towns.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I would like
to clarify. There will be no restrictions
on coming in and no restriction on going
out.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : But,
Sir, anti-defection Bill has already been
passed.

MR. SPEAKER : You might be re-
membering the question once put on the
floor of this House, and I just said under
the Constitution it cannot be. That is
what we did at that time and I think the
whole House is aware of it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now we have done
it. There is no question of any more of
this and we do not know what it is.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Thomas.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Sir,
what I want to ask is that in Kerala the
forest land is being assigned by the Govern-
ment for the occupants who are there
illegally in the forest area for some time
on one pretext or the other. This has
ended in deforestation of a vast area. I
would like to ask the Minister whether the
Central Government will take steps to
avoid this because this has been going on
for a long period in Kerala where there
was good forest land which is now com-
pletely destroyed. This has also caused
environmental difficulties there. Even the
Silent Valley which was declared as a
national park by the Central Government
in the Western Ghats, is being destroyed
and this has happened because a section of
the people went to live there and en-
croached that area with the support of the
Government there.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES : No support has
been given by the Government. In fact,
they have also taken timely action wherever
there are encroachments. So, the Member
should withdraw his remarks.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister will
refute it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, this is a
Question Hour. He cannot make an allega-
tion. He cannot ask such things.
(Interruptions). This is a Question Hour.
So, that should not go on record. He
should withdraw it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You just put a
question.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Sir,
there was an instance when the Ordinance
prohibiting deforestation was lapsed and
no new Ordinance was brought in which
enabled persons to continue deforestation.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Are there any aspersions on anybody ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Thomas, you just ask the question. Otherwise I will call it irrelevant.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister in charge will refute. What are you doing ?

Is it going on record ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am to record everything, but I will also see that nothing as aspersion goes on, but the Minister is there to refute. If there is anything we will take note of it. Please sit down, there is no allegation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THOMPAN THOMAS : Will the Central Government take action in this matter for safeguarding the forests in Kerala which were being destroyed with the support of the Government ?

(Interruptions)

PROF. N.G. RANGA : How can he say 'with the support of the Government' ?

SHRI A. CHARLES : No government is allowing it, Sir.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is his view. But the Minister's view might be different.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Member is totally misinformed. The forests in Kerala are not being destroyed by the support of the Government.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : That is why I took objection. He should not have said that.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : He is also

misinformed about the lapsing of the Act. I am told that the Act was not allowed to lapse and an Ordinance was issued some time before it could lapse, I think two or three days before but there was no gap between the old Act and the new Act coming in. *(Interruptions)* I have not finished yet.

Sir, the Member has raised a very vital question as to what the Centre can or cannot do with the forests in a particular State. There are certain historical problems regarding this question which we must tackle in this House at some stage. Originally, forests were for exploiting. They were a wealth to be harvested. On top of that, there is a tremendous population pressure on land and the result is that forests have diminished very substantially. The political pressures in the States, in the districts, in the blocks, are invariably much higher than they are here, at the Centre. So, there are certain decisions we can take at the Centre which are very difficult to take at the lower levels, in the particular locality. Unfortunately, we do not have enough jurisdiction over this to actually take action. I would like that this subject is debated sometimes and we come to a conclusion on how the problem is to be handled because the dangers of the depletion of forest wealth are very great and are going to do untold harm to the country.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is all now. I think, 15 minutes have passed on this Question.

Steps to Attract Tourists to Andhra Pradesh

*751. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to attract more tourists to the historically important places like Kondapally near Vijayawada, Amaravathi, Nagarjunasagar, Golconda Fort, Fataknama Palace and other places in and around Hyderabad city in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Department in consultation with the State Government had identified a number of centres of tourist importance in the State for phased development with the combined resources of the Centre, the State and the Private sector. The centres mentioned by the Member i.e. Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Nagarjunasagar and Amaravathi are among these centres. Kondapally is near Vijayawada, and Golconda Fort and Falaknama Palace are in Hyderabad. The Department of Tourism has requested the State Government for submitting tourism infrastructure development schemes in these centres for financial assistance.

The Department of Tourism brings out tourist publicity literature in Hindi, English and several foreign languages on various tourists centres in India including Andhra Pradesh to publicise the places of archaeological, historical, cultural and religious importance. This literature is widely distributed free of cost through the Government of India Tourists Offices in India and abroad. The Department has brought out a number of brochures which publicise the places of tourists in Andhra Pradesh mentioned by the Hon'ble Member.

The Department of Tourism also produces documentary films on places of interests in India in which Andhra Pradesh's historical monuments, art and culture has also been depicted and these are shown to foreign Tour Operators and Travel Writers by our overseas offices.

In 1983-84, the Department opened a Government of India Tourist Office at the level of a manager at Hyderabad. In 1984-85, the Department of Tourism invited 10 Belgian Travel Agents on a familiarisation tour of India including Hyderabad. 5 Travel Writers from U.K. and U.S.A. were also invited to visited Hyderabad.

The Department of Tourism provided financial assistance of Rs. 50,000/- to the

State Government for the celebration of Golconda Festival held in February, 1985 which is celebrated annually at the Golconda Tombs.

The State Government operates weekly conducted tours from Hyderabad to Nagarjunasagar. There is also a launch service for tourists from Nagarjunasagar to visit Nagarjunakonda. Another fast launch 'Zaria' is operated from Nagarjunasagar upto Srisaillam for tourists on the river Krishna. Daily conducted tours are also operated by the State Government in and around Hyderabad city.

At present, there is no proposal with the Centre or the State Department of Tourism to develop Kondapally near Vijayawada.

At Nagarjunasagar, a cluster of tourist guest houses is available and the State Government proposes to further develop it as a Buddhist centre during the 7th Plan by providing a meditation pavilion, landscaping and gardeus etc. The State Government also has plans to provide tourists facilities at Golconda. The Falakunma palace is a private property. However, efforts are being made by the State Government to convince the owners to open it for tourists.

SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO : Sir, I am happy that several steps are being taken for development of tourism in the places mentioned by me. I would like to know from the Minister this because Kondapally is a very important centre and known for handicrafts and toys, namely Kondapally toys which will earn precious foreign exchange. Will the Government consider to develop Kondapally as a tourist centre and take necessary steps for construction of a tourist hotel at Vijayawada and also necessary steps for operation of fast launch services in the river Krishna to take tourists from Vijayawada to Amara-vathi which is a very famous Buddhist centre and to Nagarjunasagar ?

[Translation.]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT : The hon. Member has expressed his happiness over

the steps taken by Government. I am happy too. We have done a lot of work in Andhra Pradesh...

MR. SPEAKER : Have you ever been to Kondapally ?

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT : I have not visited the place yet.

MR. SPEAKER : First of all, both and the hon. Minister and myself should be taken there. First, the place should be shown to us, then we would make our recommendations !

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT : You have referred to Kondapally and have also thrown some light on its importance. I welcome the suggestion of the hon. Member. There is no proposal under consideration regarding Kondapally among the proposals sent to us by the State Government. If the State Government send us any such proposal we would consider it sympathetically and try to develop a tourist centre there. So far as operation of launch services in Krishna river up to Amaravathi is concerned, we would not have any objection to considering much a proposal if it is sent to us.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANDREESWARA RAO : In the statement given by the Minister, he has said that the Department of Tourism produces documentary films on places of interest in India in which Andhra Pradesh historical monuments are also depicted. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many such documents were prepared pertaining to Andhra's historical monuments, art and culture ? Will the Government take necessary steps for taking over of Mehaboob Mansion which is very beautiful building with architectural as well as historical importance ? That building is being decayed in the city of Hyderabad. Will the Government take necessary steps for taking over of that building and keeping it under the Archaeological Survey of India ?

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT : You have asked about the documentary films. For the information of the hon. Member, I

would like to tell him that we had invited about ten travel agents from Belgium last year. Five travel-writers from U.S.A. and U.K. had also come, whom we had sent to Hyderabad. In addition we have got a list which contains names of publicity material as also exclusive literature about Andhra Pradesh. If you like, I would read them out, otherwise I would inform you separately. At present, I do not have information about Mehboob Bhawan. If you write to us, we would get it examined.

SHRI OWAISI : Many tourists from outside the country visit these buildings and tourists specially from the Arab countries visit such buildings and when they visit the mosques, they find that a notice board is put up there that nobody can offer 'Namaz' there. It is having a very bad effect and it is bringing a bad name to the entire country. Why should you put up such restriction there that nobody should offer 'Namaz'. Let there be no restriction. One who wants to offer 'Namaz', may be allowed to do so and one who does not want to offer may not do so. The restriction is bringing a bad name to our country.

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT : I do not know which place the hon. Member is referring to.

MR. SPEAKER : He might be referring to old palaces

SHRI OWAISI : I am referring to Hyderabad and all other places which the tourists visit. It is happening in Delhi also and all other places and it is bringing a bad name to our country.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : The main question relates to Andhra Pradesh and this question does not arise out of it. We have gone there many times and found that these buildings are in a very dilapidated condition and are very old structures. If a large number of people would go inside them, their condition may deteriorate and these buildings may collapse. In other countries also, in the Arab countries and Islamic countries, there are such buildings which are very old and offering of Namaz in those buildings is prohibited. It is not only in India that there is such a restriction but in other countries as well.

SHRI OWAISI : These buildings are at places which are very far off and nobody goes there and if anybody goes there and wants to offer 'Namaz' there, he should be allowed to do so, because such a restriction is bringing a bad name to the country.

[English]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : From Nagarjunasagar to Srisailem Sagar of the entire Krishna river, there is a launch service and the launch by name 'Zariya' purchased from Soviet Russia is now in operation. This river tour is unique in its kind. In the whole of India, there is no such service. The entire launch service goes in the river valley from one Sagar to another Sagar. Unfortunately, this picturesque and beautiful spot has not been brought to the tourist map. No documentary has been prepared. The entire area can be converted into a virtual 'Disney land.' But unfortunately this has not been brought to the tourist map and no documentary has been prepared. No film has been prepared.

Will the Government take steps to see that this is brought into the tourist map and also a film is shown on that ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : The tourism development programmes are presented by the State to us and then we look into them to see what we can do. I believe there are no plans at the moment pending from Andhra Pradesh.

Regarding making it into a 'Disney Land', I believe the whole of Andhra Pradesh is being made into a make-believe world !

SHRI E. AYYAPA. REDDY : This is a 'Disney Land' where starvation has been banished and people are able to purchase rice at Rs. 2/- per Kg.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : This dream should be converted into a reality !

SHRI DINEH SINGH : There are many important places of tourist interest in Andhra Pradesh and tourism will

develop there only when there is a programme of organised groups that are taken to Andhra Pradesh.

Would it be possible for Air India and the Tourism Development Council to organise groups ?

So far, the groups are only travelling in the North. They come to Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Benaras and onwards.

Would it be possible to organise tour that takes them to the South and then they can have the exit point in Madras ?

PROF. N.G. RANGA : It is a good suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT : The tourists who come from outside the country, have their tour programmes preplanned. The travel agents formulate prior programmes to bring them here and according to the programme, the tourists are go to Andhra Pradesh and the South.

[English]

Economic Upliftment of Tribals Through Forestry Programmes

*752 **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee on Forestry Programmes for alleviation of poverty has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations concerning different aspects of tribal economic upliftment through the forestry programmes;

(c) whether his Ministry has discussed with the concerned Ministries/Departments and the States on the basis of these recommendations and prepared schemes and programmes during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Statement-I containing the main recommendations is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Discussions have been held on the basis of these recommendations and proposals drawn up for the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(d) Statement-II containing the list of draft proposals proposed for inclusion in the VII Plan is placed on the Table of the House. The Seventh Plan has not yet been finalised.

Statement-I

Main Recommendations of the Committee on Forestry Programmes for Alleviation of Poverty

1. Identification of beneficiary schemes

- 1.1. Contractors should be eliminated from all forestry operations.
- 1.2. Massive afforestation should be taken up through Individual Beneficiary Schemes.
- 1.3. People's movement should be created in favour of Social Forestry.
- 1.4. People should be led to evolve location-specific agro-forestry techniques.
- 1.5. (a) Production, processing, storage marketing etc. of minor forest produce should be developed.
- 1.5. (b) Employment generation of 25 million standard person years should be aimed at.
- 1.6. Forest-based cottage industries should be promoted.
- 1.7. Shifting cultivators should be induced to take up settled cultivation of crops like rubber, coffee etc. in situ.
- 1.8. Forest Villagers should be given loans etc. to develop by growing food and animal protein.
- 1.9. Artisans should be trained in

designing, marketing etc. and be provided raw material & camping facilities.

1.10. Tree-leaf fodder & pasture should be developed.

1.11. Tribals should be involved in scientific management of trees on their land and returns to them be maximised.

2. Financial

2.1. Adequate funds should be provide for raising plantations, conversion of shifting cultivation to settled cultivation, elimination of poverty through cottage industries, development of forest villages, collection, processing and marketing of minor forest produce in the Forestry Sector, Rural Development Department etc. Foreign aid should also be used.

2.2. NABARD should support social forestry projects.

3. Organisational Changes :

- 3.1. Department of Forestry should be created at the Centre.
- 3.2. Establishment of Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education.
- 3.3. Department of Forestry should be created in each State.
- 3.4. Existing Central Forestry Commission should be upgraded as a National Forest Commission.
- 3.5. Forest Research Institute, Dehradun should be made a National Forest Research University.
- 3.6. A National Forest Produce Corporation should be created at the Central Government level.

Statement-II

Main Schemes listed in the draft Seventh Five Year Plan for the Forestry Sector are :—

1. Proper Land use through Tree Farming.

2. Social Security through Plantations.
3. Plantation for Tassar Cocoons.
4. Imparting Training to improve Skills and Crafts.
5. Development of Forest-based Cottage Industries.
6. Minor Forest Produce Development Corporation in the States and at the Centre.
7. Plantation of Minor Forest Produce Species including Medicinal Plants.
8. Lac cultivation.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : This question is a basic policy question because it concerns two things : the economic aspect of the tribals and the ecological aspect of forests. I would like to know whether the Government has accepted these recommendations in full. The Minister has indicated in the statement a list of draft proposals proposed for inclusion in the Seventh Plan, the only important thing there is the Minor Forest Produce Development Corporation which has been proposed, it has not yet been finally announced. Keeping these things in view, I would like to know how the Government propose to eradicate the drawbacks in the forest policy, whether the Government is going to announce a new forest policy by which the impediments in the implementation of the schemes will be removed.

SHRI VIR SEN : As far as the recommendations are concerned, it is clear that some of the recommendations have been accepted and we are acting upon them. The second question is about the Minor Forest Produce Development Corporation. This is also under consideration and it will be established in due course of time. The third question is about the new forest policy. The new forest policy is also under consideration, and I hope that, in a very short time, it will be placed before the House.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Apart from this recommendation, there are a number of other recommendations on shifting cultivation, encroachment in forest areas, etc. These were recommended long

back, but due to lack of implementation of the schemes, the economic upliftment of the tribals based on forests has not yet taken place. I want to know whether it is a fact that the infrastructure required for implementation of any programme including this programmes is : interpretation of scheme, the identification of the programme, the implications of the scheme on the tribals, impact on the tribals if the scheme is extended to those areas and involvement of the tribals which is important in forestry programmes, I want to know whether this mental infrastructure which is a component of the mind will be implemented and if so, in what way.

SHRI VIR SEN : The hon. Member has asked a few questions...

MR. SPEAKER : You answer to only one. He is entitled to only one supplementary and you can answer whichever question you like.

SHRI VIR SEN : As far as shifting cultivation is concerned, we have given instructions and directions that, as far as possible, they should be induced to take up settled cultivation. It is recommended in this report also that efforts should be made to see that the tribals begin to cultivate at a particular place, they should settle at one place. It is also suggested that plantations like rubber plantation and tea or coffee plantation should be resorted to in these areas where jhuming cultivation is going on.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : My question was about implementation.

SHRI VIR SEN : As far as implementation is concerned, it will have to be done by the State Government. We can only, as I have already said, give directions and advice to the State Government, and it is for the State Government to act upon them.

SHRI ANAND GAJAPATHI RAJU : The upliftment of the tribals is a very important programme. Also the general feeling that goes is that the programmes that are implemented for tribals are basically implemented for the entrepreneurs rather than for the people who work, for

the people who go round doing *podu* cultivation, who are always on the move. Because these tribals are always on the move and they are not used to be entrepreneurs, imaginative programmes have to be devised so that they could be brought into the economic mainstream. Secondly, their culture and orientation should also be taken into consideration. Because hundreds of crores of rupees have been spent on this programme, will the Minister devise something which is more innovative and which dovetails with the economic operations of the tribals ?

SHRI VIR SEN : The Forestry Committee for eradication of poverty has given a number of suggestions and we are taking into consideration those suggestions and will be acting upon them.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Between 50 to 80 per cent income of the tribals comes from forests. In the Sixth Plan as well as the Seventh Plan one of the objectives is the eradication of poverty amongst the tribals. There is 100 to 300 per cent difference in the prices of minor forest produce at which the tribals are actually selling and the prices at which they are sold in the market. So will the Government take necessary steps to reduce this gap in the prices of minor forest produce and assure the tribals remunerative prices for their minor forest produce ? This one item will create a lot of impact on the eradication of poverty. It will also help in two aspects—one is conservation of forests and the pressure on land will also be reduced.

SHRI VIR SEN : A Minor Forest Produce Corporation is being proposed and it will look after every aspect of this problem. Buying, collection and marketing—every aspect will be looked after by this corporation.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : There are a number of Girijan colonies in my constituency. When I visit, almost in every colony there is a complaint that these Girijans and tribals cannot avail of the facilities given by the Government because of the very strict enforcement of the Forest Conservation Act by the Government. That is to say, they are given

housebuilding loans but they cannot construct the house because they are not allowed even to cut the tree which they have planted. A very strict enforcement of the Forest Conservation Act is there in my State of Kerala. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Minister has received such complaints and if so, what action he would take to ensure that the strict enforcement of the Forest Conservation Act does not stand in the way of the development of the tribals.

SHRI VIR SEN : No such complaint has been received by me. If any such complaint is received, we will look into it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Take this as a complaint and then answer.

SHRI VIR SEN : We will look into it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I have visited a number of colonies in my constituency. They have told me this problem.

SHRI VIR SEN : There are certain restrictions under the Forest Conservation Act where it is necessary for the State Government to come to the Centre for a no-objection certificate. When this question comes, we will consider it. At present we have received no complaints and if any such complaints are received, we will look into them.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : You know, Sir, there are tribal people who are living in the forests and their culture and traditions and even their economy fully depends upon the forests. And according to the Central guidelines, during 1984-85, 16.19 per cent of the outlay on forestry in States sector was earmarked for the tribals. Is it a fact that there are some allegations that some States did not implement this directive—particularly Bihar State ? May I know what positive steps have been taken against those States who have not followed the Central directive ?

SHRI VIR SEN : The Central Government has no authority to take any action.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : But there is a directive.

SHRI VIR SEN : Directives, of course,

can be issued but it depends on the person receiving the directive whether he implements it or not.

[*Translation*]

“Closure of Mussoorie Lime Mines for Environment Protection”

*753. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to close the sixtyone lime mines of Mussoorie hills permanently for protection of environment;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) After a detailed consideration of the environmental and socio-economic impact of the limestone mining operations in Mussorie Hills, the Supreme Court has ordered that—

(i) 27 mines be closed permanently and taken up for reclamation;

(ii) 6 mines be allowed to continue mining operations; and

(iii) 19 mines be reviewed by a High powered Committee to consider their continuation or otherwise.

(iv) 9 mines were not being operated even before the judgement.

(b) and (c) Supreme Court has set up a High Powered Committee to report about the 19 mines to decide whether they should be continued or not.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Sir, Mussoorie is a beautiful place and it attracts many tourists also from different countries. Is it not a fact that big businessmen are operating mining business there and the government is hesitating to take any drastic measures to close these mining operations ? These mining operations are doing more harm than good to the hill city of Mussoorie. May I also

know whether it is a fact that on this very subject villagers of the area submitted a petitions committee of Rajya Sabha in 1983 ? What were the recommendations of the Petitions Committee ? What action has the Government taken so far on those recommendations ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Sir, I require a fresh notice to answer this supplementary.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Sir, the petition was filed before the Petitions Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : He might have to find out the details.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : As a result of the 27 mines having been closed how many workers were rendered jobless and what alternate employment has been given to them ? If not, why not ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Sir, the decision of the Supreme Court has been there recently and, I think, this particularly relates to the Labour Department.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Sir, I am not satisfied.

MR. SPEAKER : Please repeat your question.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : After the clousure of the mines.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Answers are not coming.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : He has said that 27 mines have been closed. As a result of the closure of 27 mines how many workers have been rendered jobless ? How many of them have been provided with alternative employment ? If not, why not ?

AN HON. MEMBER : Quite relevant.

MR. SPEAKER : He does not have the information because Labour Ministry is dealing with this subject. Labour Ministry will be able to answer this subject, not he. This question is only for environment, asking whether those mines have been closed or not. If the closure affects

some labour that will be entrusted to the Labour Ministry. You can table a separate question.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : They have already submitted a petition to the Petition Committee of Rajya Sabha. The Rajya Sabha's Petition Committee is there. The Minister should know it.

MR. SPEAKER : If he has any answer he can give it. If it is to be referred to Labour Ministry it will take time.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Generally questions are sent to them. The Minister should be ready.

MR. SPEAKER : It is concerning Labour Ministry. You have to ask Labour Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, they must consult beforehand because it is a collective responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER : I think you can collect the information and pass it on.

SHRI VIR SEN : That, I will do.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Labour is always our interest. We look after labour. I don't have the exact figures in front of me; but, if I remember rightly, the labour that was working there was not an absolutely local labour; they have come from outside and have been working there. But we have taken steps to protect the labour and we have put aside Rs. 25 lakhs under the Rural Development and N.R.E.P. to help employment of workers.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : The question as it appears in the Question List is clear. There are no lime mines in the country, either lime-stone quarry or domomite quarry. The Minister has been very kind enough to give the answer. This particular thing, how to maintain the eco system of this particular area, has been debated in the last Parliament, in your presence, Mr. Speaker, several times. Has the Minister taken up the matter with Ministry of Labour that under Clause 4 of Mines and Minerals Regulation Act of 1964 the provisions can be enforced for

closure of the mines detrimental to eco system in that area ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Supreme Court has set up a High Power Committee. That Committee will be reporting and recommending what should be done. The Supreme Court will decide whether the mines will be closed or kept open.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Government can take over any mines whenever it likes in the interest of the public if mine-safety is not there, if there is environmental pollution which is detrimental to the people. The Mines and Minerals Regulation Act clearly says that the mines can be taken over.

SHRI VIR SEN : I think we can take any decision after the Supreme Court has come to a decision.

SHRI C.P.N. SINGH : Sir, this question of closure of these mines has been debated in Dehra Doon for a long time. Fortunately, it is not the Government, but the Supreme Court which came to the aid and the limestone mines were closed. What is happening is this. Certain roads are constantly springing up where the mining has been stopped. Under the 'head' of road, lime-stone is being removed illegally. Will the Government kindly look into this aspect also ?

SHRI VIR SEN : Yes, we can look into it.

Relaxation to Females in Government Jobs

***754. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :**
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether female participation in jobs has considerably declined from 28 per cent in 1961 to 21 per cent in 1981;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to give some relaxations to female candidates as in the case of SC/ST in appointments in all the Government Departments; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Female work participation rates of 1961-Census and 1981-Census were 27.91% and 19.76% respectively. The lower percentage in 1981-Census was not due to actual decline in the female work participation but because of very liberal definition of "worker" adopted in 1961-Census. A person having regular employment in trade, profession, service or business was treated as a worker if he was employed even for one day during the 15 days preceding the date of Census enumeration. A house-wife who was generally engaged in household duties but if she engaged herself in any economic activity regardless of the period during which she worked, was also considered as a worker. In 1981-Census, however, main worker was one who had worked for more than 183 days in a year preceding the date of enumeration. This criterion was far more vigorous than the criterion adopted in 1961-Census.

For purposes of appointment to Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts under the Central Government filled by direct recruitment, the upper age limit in the case of widows, divorced women and women judicially separated from their husbands but are not remarried is relaxable upto the age of 35 years (upto 40 years for members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes).

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Sir, more than 50% population of this country consists of women.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you referring to this percentage position in the country or in the Parliament ?

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Sir, even this 27% or 19% as given in the statement is very less, far below our expectation. In Andhra Pradesh, the State Government has fixed 30% of the jobs for women. Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether the Central Government is going to adopt the same principle as that of the

State Government of Andhra Pradesh and what is the percentage of women's participation among the SC and ST quota ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, I am not aware as to what percentage of jobs the Government of Andhra Pradesh has reserved for women. But we went into this question and found that it would not be constitutionally valid to do so because it would mean discrimination on the ground of sex.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : I would like to know the percentage of women's participation in SC and ST quota.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I do not have the figures of women employees in SC and ST.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : I would like to know women employees in SC and ST quota.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Those figures are not readily available. I am trying to get even the percentage of women in Central services and other services. Actually, this work has not been completed. That way, I have the latest figures for I.A.S. For I.A.S. of 1983, it is 10.9% and for 1984, it is 11.2%.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : I would like to ask the hon. Minister if Government would accord priority to women's education up to the primary level as a woman could be a good mother ?

MR. SPEAKER : Are you satisfied with that only ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is correct that the ratio of girls up to the Primary level of education is less and as the level of education goes up, many girls leave the educational institutions and that is why they do not get higher education.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Why do they leave ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There are many reasons for that. In the rural

areas even the boys leave the school at an early stage. Keeping in view all this, it is the definite policy of Government that dropouts of the primary level should be reduced and to increase their ratio it is essential that women's education must be emphasised and that is the policy of Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Basudev Acharia also wants to contribute something.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA : There is a growing unemployment among the women and the job opportunities for them are also declining. There was a debate also in regard to this very session. In view of this will the Government consider raising the age limit for entry in regard to Government jobs for female candidates ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : There are some constitutional problems in raising the age limit for women in general under the clause which says that there shall be no discrimination on the ground of sex. But we are looking into how we can do this and we will do something.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : The question which I wanted to ask has been raised by Basudev Acharia.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you very much.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am glad that a male Member has asked this question and the Prime Minister has answered it. But I want to know another thing. In view of the fact that the participation by women in economic activity is still much less than participation by men, will the Government make it a special point to identify each areas of employment for women in which Government itself is concerned directly so that they are dealt with as a special target group. And what is done in regard to that should always be monitored and presented before the House because data is not very often available. What is happening in regard to this ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : For most posts under the Government, I

thought women were as qualified as men and that is what is really happening. As regards specific areas, for example in my Ministry, we have certain telephone exchanges which are manned only by women...*(Interruptions)*. But I am not relating this to the functioning of our exchanges. I just wanted to give an instance how we are doing this.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I would like to add a word to that. The hon. Member has a very valid point and we are looking into this. Like I answered in the last question, we are trying to see how we can pay this matter special attention so that women can get much more opportunities to do better. But like the hon. Minister has said a little earlier, the basic question is of education and as the hon. Member is aware, one of the first steps we took after this Government took over was to make education free for women.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Sir, I have seen specifically in Gujarat and Maharashtra that the number of woman workers in dropping down. One of the reasons is that you cannot employ female workers after the sun set ; for second and third shifts, the female workers are not available. In the Britannia Biscuits and pharmaceutical companies, they have given strict instructions that no lady worker should be recruited. The Government has given another facility to the lady workers, that is maternity benefits. All these benefits you have given to the lady workers. I appreciate that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That cannot be given to men.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : But taking advantage of this facility, the employers have given strict instructions as far as textile industries are concerned, not to employ female workers. In Maharashtra and Gujarat, the number of female workers last year has gone down by seventy-five per cent. I have got detailed figures. There are strict instructions not to employ female workers.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Did you make any contribution for creating such a situation ?

[*English*]

DR. DATTA SAMANT : As I said, in the textile mills, there are strict instructions that no female worker should be employed because of the shift difficulties, and because of the maternity benefits that they are supposed to extend to them. Employers are, therefore, wise enough not to employ female workers. I can give you hundred names of factories, where such instructions are given. They are in my union. Considering this, is Government taking any steps to instruct these employers to take positive measures and see that there should be so much employment for female workers? Or, to compensate, in either the government machinery or in other places are you going to reserve the number of lady workers, upto a particular percentage, say 40 or 50?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The number of lady workers as well as their percentage in the total working force is increasing. I will give some figures. In 1962, the percentage was 10.9 in the organised sector. In 1984, the provisional figures say that it is 12.5 per cent. So, it is not correct to say that the number of women workers in the organised sector is decreasing. On the other hand it is raising.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Prime Minister that he is taking keen interest in the progress of women in every field. But the answer to the question shows that the strength of women in the services during 1961 to 1981 has gone down from 28 per cent to 21 per cent. It is a matter of great regret...

MR. SPEAKER : He has said that it has increased.

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : If it has increased, it is a matter for happiness.

MR. SPEAKER : You have reversed your reaction very soon.

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : But despite that there are many widows who do not get the protection in the

services which they should have got. Their spouses die but despite their being qualified, they do not get an opportunity to work. I do not want any quota or reservation for them, but I want this much that the women who are eligible and qualified must be given an opportunity in the services to work on a post for which they are eligible on a priority basis. Is the hon. Minister thinking of something on these lines and what steps is he contemplating in this direction?

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : In my question itself, I have replied and with your permission I will repeat it. For purposes of appointment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts under the Central Government filled by direct recruitment, the upper age limit in the case of widows divorced women and women judicially separated from the husbands but are not remarried is relaxable upto 35 years and upto 40 years for members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As regards getting the job of the husband after his death, we have definite rules in that respect, under what circumstances, the dependent of the deceased government employee gets the job and we act accordingly. There are certain rules whether the son should get it or as to how many sons are working, and things of that nature. We have rules and we want to implement them.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : The rules are there, but these are not being followed.

[*English*]

Robot Technology

*755. SHRI S.L. MURMU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether robot technology has been developed indigenously or imported ;

(b) in what fields and at what place the robots are presently employed in the country ;

(c) whether the performance of the robot technology is satisfactory; and

(d) whether the Indian robots are employed in domestic, industrial and office jobs as employed in the West ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVAJ V. PATIL) : (a) A limited expertise is available in the country in the use of Robots and its commercial production has not commenced in the country. The proposals received in this regard envisage some import of technology.

(b) Robots are presently employed in the manufacture of picture tubes, in the nuclear field and for high Precision metal cutting/finishing.

(c) The usage of robots are now at preliminary stage and therefore, it is very early to assess the overall performance.

(d) No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri S.L. Murmu. That is all. Thank you, Shri Madhav Reddi.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Just now as the Minister has said, we do not have the technology in the country. We learnt that the technology is available in foreign countries and in the EXPO-85, which is being organised in Tokyo, the technology has been exhibited. I would like to know why Government of India has not participated in EXPO-85.

MR. SPEAKER : Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Availability of Picture Tubes

*756. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of units in India which are manufacturing colour and black and white TV picture tubes and the number of picture tubes manufactured by these units annually of different sizes;

(b) the number of agencies through which these picture tubes are being sold to the T.V. manufacturers;

(c) whether Government are aware of the difficulties encountered by the common people in getting a new picture tube; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take remedial measures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) At present there is no production of colour picture tubes in the country. Black & White Tubes are being manufactured by the following units. The names of the units together with the quantities/types of tubes produced by each unit during 1984 is as follows :

S. No.	Name of the Company	Quantity
1.	M/s. Bharat Electronics Ltd. Bangalore.	244,000 (51 cm)
2.	M/s. Punjab Display Devices Limited, Chandigarh.	23,836 (51 cm)
3.	M/s. Samtel (I) Limited, Bhiwadi.	(i) 37,673 (31 cm)
		(ii) 27,918 (36 cm)
		(iii) 266,176 (51 cm)
4.	M/s. Teletube Pvt. Ltd Ghaziabad.	189,826 (51 cm)
5.	M/s. Uptron Anand, Kanpur.	12,012 (51 cm)
6.	M/s. WEBEL Video Devices Limited, Calcutta.	(i) 12,246 (51 cm)
		(ii) 845 (60 cm)

(b) Black and White picture Tubes are being sold by these companies directly to TV manufacturers. Till the recent import policy for 1985-86, the import of Black & White picture tubes was canalised through Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET and T). While steps would continuously be taken to meet maximum requirements through indigenous sources and indigenous production, the shortfalls would be met through imports directly by TV manufacturers.

(c) and (d). No such major difficulties have come to the notice of the Government. Replacement can ordinarily be obtained by returning the old picture tubes to the TV set manufacturers or to ET and T.

'Festival of India' in France and U.S.A.

*757. SHRI G.G. SWELL :

SHRI R. PRABHU :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the stage at which preparation for the "festival of India" in France and the USA are at present;

(b) the financial allocations for the two festivals separately; and

(c) the highlights of the festival in each country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The festival of India in France will be inaugurated on June 7 and in U.S.A. on June 13, 1985 and the preparations are nearing completion.

(b) The Government of India will be spending approximately Rs. 515/- lakhs on the Festival of India in USA and about Rs. 200/- lakhs on the Festival of India in France.

(c) A statement is attached.

Statement

(d) Among the highlights of the

Festival in the USA would be the following 6 classical art exhibitions.

1. The Sculpture of India: 2500 B.C. to 1300 A.D. To be held at National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. from May 3 to September 2, 1985.
2. 'India' : Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, from September 14 to January 5, 1986.
3. "Life at Court" : Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, from 20.11.1985 to 9.2.1986 and at Dallas Museum of Art from 16.3.86 to 11.5.86.
4. "From Indian Earth" : Brooklyn Museum, New York from January to March 1986.
5. 'Kushan Sculpture' : Cleveland Museum of Art from 31.11.1985 to 5.1.86, the Asia Society Galleries, New York from 13.2.86 to 6.4.86 and the Seattle Art Museum from 13.5.86 to 13.7.86.
6. 'Fatehpur Sikri and the Age of Akbar' : Asia Society Galleries, New York from 10.10.85 to 5.1.86, Fogg Art Museum, Boston from 10.2.86 to 30.3.86 and at the Museum of Fine Arts, Huston from 2.5.86 to 29.6.86.

Besides the above, there will be two major exhibitions on the rural arts and crafts of India namely Aditi from 4th June to 28th July 1985 at Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C. and an Exhibition on contemporary Indian Terracotta art at the American Craft Museum, New York from September 9 to November 9, 1985. The progress and development of contemporary India will be emphasised in a Science & Technology exhibition which will open in Chicago Science Museum from 12th June to 2nd September, 1985 and will travel to Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Portland (Oregon), and Seattle thereafter. Exhibitions on Wild life, Contemporary Art, Indian Architecture, Textiles, Costumes, and Design using Indian skill and raw materials will be among the highlights. In the performing art the highlights would be the Inaugural Concert at the

Kennedy Centre, Washington D.C. on June 13, 1985, followed by a series of classical dance & music performances at the Lincoln Centre, New York in September, 1985 and a performing arts programme combining classical and folk forms sponsored by the Ford Foundation which would tour 40 universities from September 1985 to May 1986. Seminars and colloquia and a festival of Indian films would also be held during the Festival of India in USA. In France, among the highlights would be the Inaugural Mela on 7 & 8 June in Paris, followed by the Avignon Festival which would feature some of the top exponents of Hindustani & Carnatic classical music and in September-October 1985 the Autumn Festival which would be a series of about 67 concerts of classical and Music dance. Besides this a year long programme of performing arts sponsored by the House of Cultures of the World will present in Paris and many other cities in France, most of the folk forms, like chhau, the martial arts, Nega dances, Ballads and folk songs, puppetry and shadow theatre, Ras Lila and Percussion concerts. An exhibition of Classical art at the Grand Palais, Paris, in March-June 1986, and exhibition of Indian architecture in the Ecole des Beaux arts Paris in November 1985, a Textile Exhibition in the Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Paris in October 1985, an Exhibition of Contemporary Indian art and a festival of Indian films at the Pompidou Centre as well as a series of seminars will also be among the highlights of the Festival of India in France.

Restriction on Construction of Buildings Near Airport

*758. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any restriction stipulated by Civil Aviation or International Airport Authority of India regarding the construction of buildings near International Airports;

(b) if so, the minimum distance regulation for the construction of buildings;

(c) whether there is any restriction on the height of the buildings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):**

(a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have, in exercise of the powers vested in it under Section 9 A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, through Gazette notification No. GSR-516 dated March 15, 1970 imposed certain restrictions on the construction or erection of a building or a structure within a radius of 20 Kilometres of aerodromes including international airport.

(b) The maximum distance of 20 Kilometres from the Aerodrome Reference Point within which construction is regulated has been specified. The minimum distance, however, will vary from aerodrome to aerodrome based on the direction of the building site etc. in relation to the runway and location of the associated radio navigational aids.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The height restriction will vary from aerodrome to aerodrome based on the provisions of GSY-516 and the operational requirements of radio navigational aids.

[*Translation*]

Upliftment of Nomadic Tribes of U.P.

*759. SHRI KALYAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have taken any concrete steps for the upliftment of nomadic tribes of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, Government's policy in regard to the future of these tribes;

(c) the social educational and political level of these nomadic tribes of Uttar Pradesh and whether Government propose to develop these tribes; and

(d) whether Government are considering any proposal to include these tribes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI S.B. CHAVAN):** (a) to (c). Some of these communities who satisfy the criteria

adopted for inclusion in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes already stand included in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and they are entitled to all benefits, as are admissible to other Scheduled Castes in the State under the Special Component Plan and also under Centrally Sponsored Schemes. There are, of course, other communities of nomadic/denotified tribes which are not in the lists of SCs and STs but the State Government treats some of them as other backward classes and takes up schemes for their development in the State sectors.

(d) There is a well-laid procedure for the inclusion of any community in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The proposal of the State Government along with similar other proposals are being considered in the context of the proposed comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

[English]

Visa for Pakistan

*760. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that severe problem is faced by the people including VIPs in obtaining visa for short visits to and from Pakistan; and

(b) whether the Pakistan Embassy desires to open an office at Bombay to divert the heavy rush from Delhi but is unable to do so because of non-availability of land/building on rental basis at Bombay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Our Missions in Pakistan have been promptly issuing visas to Pakistani nationals wishing to visit India.

However, Government is aware of the

problems faced by prospective Indian visitors in getting visas for Pakistan. This fact has been brought to the notice of the Pakistan authorities from time to time.

(b) It is the responsibility of the Pakistan Government to locate and rent accommodation for opening their Consulate General in Bombay. Government is willing to extend all possible assistance in the matter. Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi has been operating a temporary visa office from time to time in Bombay.

Deployment of CRPF and BSF Battalions in Bihar

*761. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places in Bihar where CRPF and BSF battalions were deployed during the last three years and whether the incidence of violence has come down with their deployment;

(b) if so, the percentage of decrease in the incidence of violence; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). A statement giving information about the number of coys of CRPF and BSF which were placed at the disposal of State Government of Bihar during the period from 1-3-1982 to 28-2-1985 is laid on the Table of the House. The State Government is primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order. Whenever para-military forces were deployed in Bihar at the request of the State Government, violence has been checked in those places where the forces were deployed. However, Government have no information to say whether the incidence of violence has come down as a whole in Bihar because a few coys of para-military forces were deployed from time to time in some places.

Statement

Deployment of CRPF in Bihar during the period from 1-3-1982 to 28-2-1985

Month and Year	No. of coys deployed	Period for which deployed
March 1982	19	1-3-1982 to 7-3-1982
	9	8-3-82 to 31-3-82
April 1982	21	1-4-82 to 30-4-82
May 1982	21	1-5-82 to 3-5-82
June 1982	21	1-6-82 to 6-6-82
	9	7-6-82 to 30-6-82
July 1982	27	1-7-82 to 31-7-82
August 1982	18	1-8-82 to 31-8-82
September 1982	12	8-9-82 to 17-9-82
	12	19-9-82 to 30-9-82
October 1982	18	1.10-82 to 23-10-82
	13	24-10-82 to 31-10-82
November 1982 to December 1982	7	1-11-82 to 31-12-82
January 1982 to 1983	10	1-1-83 to 31-1983
Feb. 83 to May' 83	5	1-2.83 to 31-5-83
June 1983	10	1-6-83 to 30-6-83
July 83 to Sept. 83	5	1-7-83 to 30-9-83
Oct' 83 to Nov' 83	8	1-10-83 to 30-11-83
December 1983	14	19-12-83 to 31-12-1983
January 1984	3	1-1-84 to 31-1-84
Feb 84	2	1-2-84 to 29-2-84
March 84	2	1-3-84 to 31-3-84
April 84	2	1-4-84 to 30-4-84
May 84 to June 84	4	1-5-84 to 30-6-84
July 84	2	1-7-84 to 31-7-84
Aug 84 to Oct 84	4	1-8-14 to 31-10-94
Nov 84	6	1-11-84 to 30-11-84
Dec 84	12	20-12-84 to 22-12-84
	15	23-12-84 to 24-12-84
	10	25-12-84 to 31-12-84
January 1985	10	1-1-85 to 4-1-85
Feb 85	12	26-2-85 to 28-2-85

Deployment of BSF in Bihar During the Period from 1-3-1982 to 28-2-1985

Month and Year	No. of coys deployed	Period for which deployed
March 1982	3	28-3-82 to 8-4-82
	1	28-3-82 to 11-4-82
	1	28-3-82 to 16-4-82
April 1983	3	20-4-83 to 27-4-83
Dec 1983	9	14-12-83 to 25-12-83
	4	15-12-83 to 26-12-83
	5	16-12-83 to 26-12-83
Dec. 1984	6	10-12.84 to 31-12-84
	5	16-12-84 to 31-12-84
	5	18-12-84 to 31-12-84
	2	22-12-84 to 31-12-84
	14	19-12-84 to 31-12-84
Feb 1985	5	23-2-85 to 10-3-85
	10	25-2-85 to 10-3-85
	5	27-2-85 to 10-3-85
	10	28-2-85 to 10-3-85
	11	28-2-85 to 16-3-85

Concessions to Consumers of Electronics goods

*762. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have observed that tax concessions and relaxations from controls granted by Government to electronics industry have not been passed on by the industry to the consumers;

(b) whether any study has been made to see how far the tax concessions etc. intended to be passed on to the consumers have been retained by the industry and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated to ensure that such concessions are duly passed on to the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIV RAJ V. PATIL) : (a) In his address at the Seminar on Investment opportunities in Electronics

Organised by AIMO in Delhi on February 21, 1985 Hon'ble Prime Minister had pointed out that many of the concessions, given to Industry including reductions in controls, have not been passed on to the consumer in the way that they should have been. As a result of the fiscal package announced in August 1983 for electronics industry, the prices of components and Equipments were reduced by various manufacturers but Government had felt that CTV sets of 51 cms. screen size should be available for around Rs. 5000/- plus local taxes.

(b) While no detailed study has been conducted covering the entire spectrum of Electronics, Government have taken various steps to bring down the price of colour TV sets. These are given in the statement attached.

(c) Government does not have any mechanism to find whether all the concessions granted to a sector of industry have been passed on the consumer or not. Once the concessions are announced, the market forces play an important role in bringing about price reductions. This is

what can be seen from the continuous trend of falling prices of CTV sets.

Statement

Various steps are being taken to bring down the price of Colour TV Sets. These includes :

- (i) Issuing industrial approvals liberally, without any upper limit on capacities so that economically viable level of production could be achieved and competition encouraged.
- (ii) Producing Government levies like customs duty on imported raw materials/components, reduction in excise duty, etc.
- (iii) Department of Electronics has set up a high power TV Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Electronics with representation from Indian TV Manufacturers Association, and Electronic Components Industries Association, to review and monitor the progress of manufacture of TV sets. The question of maximum price to be charged for a CTV set has been discussed in the various meetings of the above committee. In the meeting of this committee held on 16-8-1984, ITMA committed that from 15th October, 1984, cost of the CTV to the customer with all taxes and one year guarantee in Delhi will not be more than Rs. 7500/- with electronic tuner and Rs. 7000/- with turret tuner.

Further in the meeting of this Committee held on 21-12-1984, ITMA was requested to advise all their members to provide the list of their CTV dealers all over India and their all-inclusive customer price inclusive of one year warranty, of various models of CTV sets. ITMA agreed to do so. The lists would be made public.

- (iv) Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET and T), a public sector undertaking

under the Department of Electronics, under their "Material Technology Brand Name" (MTB) programme will provide help to industry to produce quality products at reasonable cost by supplying material procured by them in bulk along with necessary technology. It is expected that CTVs manufactured under this scheme will be available at a price less than the price at which the CTVs being sold in the market.

- (v) ET & T shall supply Colour. Picture Tubes in adequate quantities to the various Colours TV manufacturers.
- (vi) As per announcement made in Parliament on August 18, 1983, Customs duty on—
 - (a) Imported components such as Colours TV Tubes, ICS, Resistances, Capacitors, etc., has been reduced from 158% to 75%.
 - (b) Capital equipment needed for manufacture of Colour TV Receivers has been reduced from 35% to 25%. In addition, excise duty on Colour TV Receiver sets has been reduced from 25% (plus 5% surcharge) to 15% for a Colour TV set with screen size upto 51 cms. This has recently been changed to Rs. 900/- per set.

It is expected that with the above steps and the market forces operating, CTV sets will be become available to the consumers at a reasonable price.

Development of Tribal Districts of Orissa

*763. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Tribal Districts in Orissa;

(b) the amount allocated for the development of these districts during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(c) the amount actually spent and the details of work done for the development of Adivasi people of these districts;

(d) whether these districts are still backward in all respects;

(e) if so, the details of financial assistance being allocated for the development of these areas during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) The districts having substantial tribal population in

Orissa are the entire districts of Koraput, Mayurbhanj and Sundergarh and parts of the districts of (a) Keonjhar, (b) Boudh-Khondmals, (c) Kalahandi, (d) Ganjam, (e) Saembalpur and (f) Balasore.

(b) The Sixth Plan allocation for the development of Scheduled Tribes and tribal areas in the State was Rs. 68607.70 lakhs.

(c) The expenditure during the Sixth Plan was Rs. 66959.55 lakhs. The programmes undertaken included (i) infrastructural, (ii) income generating schemes, (iii) educational development programmes, and (iv) anti-exploitative measures.

(d) Relatively speaking these are backward in several respects.

(e) The amount to be allocated during the Seventh Plan is being finalised by the Planning Commission.

Development of Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station

***764. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether there is any proposal to develop the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station at Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Thubma Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS), and

(b) established in early 1960s, has been serving a large number of national and international scientists in conducting sounding rockets experiments. As a unit of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), it is being adequately maintained to serve these needs and is also being augmented as found necessary from time to time to support the national and international efforts.

Acid Rains

***765. SHRI BEZHAWADA PAPI REDDY :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been incidences of "Acid Rains" in the country and if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(b) the short-term and long-term losses arising from "acid rains"; and

(c) whether the "acid rains" have decreased due to preventive measures taken, and if so, the details for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) There are no confirmed reports of any incidents of acid rain in India during the last three years.

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

System of Hanging by Rope

***766. SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the system of hanging by rope is being followed at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to change the current system of hanging by rope; and

(c) if so, the changes proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Aircraft for Private Parties

*767. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow import of aircraft for private parties to run as third level air services, executive aircraft for use of big business houses and small 6 seater for private air taxi services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). No decision has been taken by Government to permit import of aircraft by private parties for operating third level air transport services or air taxi services. Third level air transport services in the country are being provided by Vayudoot.

It is the Government policy to permit import of executive aircraft by business/industrial houses only in exceptional cases and accordingly no import licence has been issued to any business/industrial house in 1983, 1984 and in the current year.

Implementation of New Administrative System

*768. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked for suggestions on administrative reforms from the State Governments as also various institutions dealing with administration and management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the tentative schedule for implementation or introducing the new administrative system in the country ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE : (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Since administrative reform is a continual process, a fixed schedule for implementing administrative changes cannot be drawn up. Some steps have already been taken. Ministries have been asked to draw up plans of action to bring about qualitative changes in their working pattern within the shortest possible time.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of Gadgil Formula for Development of Desert Area in Rajasthan

*769. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajasthan Government have sent any proposal to the Central Government for the development desert area in the State;

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to formulate any Central scheme for its development;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by Government for implementation of the Gadgil Formula Report sent by the State Government; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.B. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Rajasthan Government have suggested modification of the pattern of Central assistance for the Desert Development Programme.

(b) and (c). The suggestion of the State Government will be looked into in the context of the finalisation of the Seventh Plan.

(d) and (e) The Rajasthan Government have also suggested certain changes in the modified Gadgil Formula of Central assistance to States. Any change in the modified Gadgil Formula will have to be decided by the National Development Council.

[English]

Joint Research by India and U.S.A.

*770. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and U.S.A. have identified several new areas in science and technology for joint research;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the agreements reached in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). Yes Sir, some areas under the following heads have been identified for possible cooperation.

1. Health, Medical & Life Sciences.
2. Physical Sciences.
3. Atmospheric, Earth & Marine Sciences.
4. Energy.
5. Environment & Ecology.
6. Information Science & Technology.

Stone Dust by Stone Crushers in South Delhi

5542. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether over 20,000 residents of South Delhi villages are at risk from a cloud of stone dust that envelops the area day in and day out as a result of crushing of rocks by over 100 stone crushers in that area;

(b) whether over a period of time inhaling of the dust combined with lack of clean water and malnutrition caused by unemployment and poverty led to deadly diseases like T.B. and lung cancer in this area;

(c) whether itching experienced by people around areas like Nehru Place,

Kalkaji and Greater Kailash is the result of this stone dust; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). It is true that dust produced by stone crushers in some South Delhi villages has been creating dust pollution, which is not considered good for human health.

(c) There has been no positive evidence in support of this correlation.

(d) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have augmented medical facilities in areas near the stone crushers. They have also referred the matter of dust pollution to experts for advice with a view to contain/mitigate the problem.

Working of Social Organisations of Foreign Countries in SC/ST Areas

5543. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of social organisations of foreign countries working in the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe areas all over the country;

(b) the particulars of those organisations, and their activities;

(c) their financial resources and how much they have spent in cash and kind during the last five years;

(d) whether their activities and expenditures have been scrutinised by Government; if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of Indian organisations who are related to those foreign organisations; and

(f) details thereof ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (a) to (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

[Translation]

Deaths in Five Star Hotels in Delhi

5544. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of deaths occurred in five-star hotels in Delhi during the last two years as per the official statistics; and

(b) the security arrangements proposed to be made in future by Government in the five-star hotels for the tourists staying therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The Department of Tourism does not receive or maintain statistics relating to deaths in Hotels. However, as per information collected from the hotels/their Corporate Offices, 6 cases of deaths occurred in 5-Star hotels in Delhi in the last two years.

(b) All Five Star hotels have their own elaborate security arrangements for the safety of tourists staying therein. The Hotel and Restaurant Approval and Classification Committee of the Department during its initial and subsequent inspections, looks into the adequacy of these arrangements.

[English]

SCs/STs Employees in National Sample Survey of India

5545 SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees in the National Sample Survey of India and also in its office at Bhubaneswar as on 1st March, 1982 and as on the 1st March, 1985 category-wise;

(b) the number of SCs and STs employees on these dates category-wise in these offices;

(c) whether reservation rules in favour of SCs and STs employees are being followed and rosters maintained;

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, and the steps taken to fill the quota reserved for SC and ST employees; and

(e) the number of reserved posts lapsed during the last three years and whether carried forward rules were applied in these cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected from the field offices of National Sample Survey Organisation located through out the country and will be laid on the table of the House.

Unresolved Issues Between India and Bangladesh

5546. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has expressed its desire to sort out the unresolved issues between India and Bangladesh through negotiations;

(b) if so, the nature of unresolved issues;

(c) the response of the Bangladesh Government towards this suggestion of India; and

(d) when the negotiation is likely to take place to sort out the unresolved issues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The more important unresolved issues are: The Question of augmentation and sharing of the Ganga waters; the large scale and continuing illegal immigration from Bangladesh; and, the vesting of properties in Bangladesh of Indian Nationals and their Bangladeshi cosharers.

On Tin Bigha, Government remains committee to handing over the corridor on lease to Bangladesh.

There are in addition, a few subjects such as: the delimitation of the Maritime

Boundary, problems involving common/ border rivers and the sharing of Teesta waters etc which the two sides continue to discuss.

(c) The Bangladeshi leaders, including President Ershad, have welcomed Government's initiative to resolve the outstanding issues through negotiation.

(d) Talks to resolve some of the more important and pressing issues would be held shortly.

Impact of Mining Operation on Forest Land

5547. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the impact of mining operation on forest land;

(b) if so, the extent to which the forest wealth has been utilised in the States as a result of mining operation; and

(c) the details regarding the steps Government have taken for the protection of forests from destruction by mining operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (c). An in-depth assessment of the impact of mining operations on forest lands, for the whole country, is not available, with the enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, with effect from 25th October, 1980, diversion of forest land for any non-forest use requires prior approval, of the Central Government. Before giving such approval, each proposal is examined carefully and necessary safeguards are prescribed to minimise, if not prevent, damage to forests. In the case of mining projects, it is laid down that the area should be restored and replanted after the mining operation is over. In addition, compensatory afforestation is prescribed by debit to the mining project.

Paintings of Ladakh Monasteries

5548. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ladakh monasteries have rich well paintings, and if so full details thereof;

(b) whether Government have in possession colour films of these paintings and if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the staff of National Museum and other institutions have visited Ladakh and seen these paintings and if so details thereof; and

(d) whether the Museum in Cologne in West Germany and other western countries have a far better and complete collection of photographs than those available in India and if so corrective steps proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir. There are a large number of Buddhist Monastries including the important ones at Hemis, Alchi and Shoy. These have beautiful murals depicting themes based on Buddhism including scenes from the life of Buddha and Bodhisatvas.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India has documented the paintings and possesses colour transparencies, colour negatives and black and white photographs of these paintings.

(c) Staff of the National Museum have not visited Ladakh. Officers of the Archaeological Survey of India have visited Ladakh and documented the paintings at Hemis, Alohi, Shey and other monastries.

(d) According to the published references, the Archives of the Cologno Musuem have photographic collection of the paintings at Alchi. Archacological Survey of India has already taken up documentation of the murals and monuments in Ladakh.

Land Development Board

5549. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Waste Lands Development Board in the country;

(b) if so, the details regarding the composition and constitution of this Board alongwith its functions;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The Board has been set up with the object of bringing five million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations. Statement-I giving details of composition and functions of the Board is attached.

(c) and (d). Various land-use surveys have given estimates of the extent of land subject to soil erosion, degradation and other forms of inadequate use. The statement-II giving details is attached.

Statement*National Wastelands Development Board.***Composition**

The composition of the Board will be as follows :

—Dr. (Mrs.) Kamla Chowdhry	...	Chairperson
—Chairman, Advisory Board on Energy	...	Member
—Three Members of Parliament	...	Members
—Secretaries to the Government of India in the Departments of :		
—Agriculture and Cooperation.		
—Rural Development		
—Environment		
—Secretary, Finance (Expenditure)	...	Member (Finance)
—Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.	...	Member
—Special Secretary (Forests and Wildlife) and Inspector General of Forests.	...	Member
—Representatives of Voluntary Agencies, Cooperative Institutions etc. (not exceeding six) to be nominated by the Chairperson of the Board in consultation with the concerned agency.		
—Secretary, Department of Forests and Wildlife.	...	Member-Secretary

The Board may coopt experts as may be necessary.

Role and Functions

The principal aim of the Board shall be to bring under productive use, wastelands in the country through a massive programme of afforestation and tree planting. To this end, it will undertake the following main functions :

- (i) Formulate within the overall National Policy, Perspective Plan and Programmes for the management and development of wastelands in the country.
- (ii) Identify the wastelands in the country to be covered under the programme of the Board.
- (iii) Review the progress of implementation of programmes and schemes for the development of wastelands by different agencies within and outside the Government.
- (iv) Approve projects and schemes for the development of wastelands through Government and other agencies.
- (v) Consider and fund projects and schemes of appropriate agencies for wastelands development.
- (vi) Promote, encourage and finance development of wastelands in the country through the active involvement of non-Government organisations, voluntary agencies and the public at large, including the landless.
- (vii) Collaborate with the Central and State Government departments, agencies, local bodies and voluntary agencies with a view to mobilising manpower, funds and other inputs required for wastelands development programmes.
- (viii) Sponsor development of appropriate technology and management practices for wastelands development.
- (ix) Create a reliable data base and documentation centre on related aspects of wastelands development.
- (x) Promote a net work of nurseries and "Seed Banks" to supply quality certified planting material and seeds.
- (xi) Promote training programmes and training materials for workers at various levels for optimal development and utilisation of wastelands.
- (xii) Prepare budgetary requirements for the Board and its wastelands development schemes.
- (xiii) Interact with financial institutions for funding wastelands development programmes.
- (xiv) Create general awareness in favour of wastelands development, specially through the education system.
- (xv) Take up studies or set up expert groups for the purpose of preparing projects/schemes/papers, reports etc. on specified schemes.
- (xvi) Act in collaboration with the National Land Use and conservation Board in regard to matters of common concern.
- (xvii) Consider and undertake all other measures necessary for promoting the development of wastelands

Statement-II

The details of land use (as per Soil and Water Conservation division of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation as given below (1980-81)

	Million hectares	Remarks
1. Geographical area	328.778	
2. Reporting area for land utilisation statistics.	304.167	
2.1 Forests	67.421	Figure under reconciliation 75.062 as on 31.12.83 according to Deptt. of Forests and Wildlife.
2.2 Not available for cultivation		
2.2.1 Land put to non-agricultural uses	19.452	
2.2.2 Barren and uncultivable land	20.167	
3. Other uncultivable land excluding fallow land		
3.1 Permanent pastures	12.008	
3.2 Land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves not included in net area sown.	3.494	
3.3 Culturable wasteland	16.728	
4. Fallow land		
4.1 Fallows other than current fallows.	9.817	
4.2 Current fallows	14.810	
5. Net area sown	140.270	

The estimated land subject to various factors of degradation is as under :

Sl. No.	Factor of degradation	Area (million hectares)
1.	Water and wind erosion (includes 38.74 million hectares affected by wind erosion and aridity, of which 7.00 million hectares are also affected by sand-dunes).	150.00
2.	Water-logging	6.00
3.	Alkalinity	2.50
4.	Salinity (includes coastal sandy areas)	5.50
5.	Ravines and gullies	4.00
6.	Shifting cultivation	4.33
7.	Riverine and torrents	2.73
	Total	175.06

These estimates are being updated.

Collection of Funds by M.N.F. Under-ground and T.N.Us.

5550. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as reported in the press, the MNF underground and the Tribal National Volunteers on the North-East region have forcibly collected the so called taxes to the tune of Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 21 lakhs respectively since the peace talks started between Laldenga and the Centre;

(b) whether Government would still like to continue the talks with Laldenga; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter of escape of TN Volunteers into Bangladesh with the Government of that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) As per available information, MNF have collected 'donations' (not taxes) to the tune of about Rs. 11 lakhs since the talks started in November, 1984. The TNV, has collected about Rs. 1 lakh as 'taxes' since the peace talks started with MNF.

(b) Talks with Shri Laldenga are still continuing.

(c) The matter has been taken up with Bangladesh Government through diplomatic channels.

[*Translation*]

Stringent Law for Publishing Obscene Literature

5551. SHRI KAMAL PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that criminals engaged in purchasing, selling and publishing of obscene literature including rapists are let off easily in court cases in the absence of stringent law as a result of which this evil is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, whether Government propose

to make the said law stringent by amending the Constitution so that such criminals are punished; and

(c) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). It is not correct to say that persons prosecuted for these offences are let off due to the absence of stringent laws. The conviction of an offender by a court would depend on the evidence led by the prosecution in each case. The question of amending the Constitution does not arise.

[*English*]

Steps to Popularise Bio-Gas in Orissa

5552. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to popularise the bio-gas in the State of Orissa;

(b) whether there has been apoor response from the consumer under the biogas supply programme in Orissa;

(c) whether any assessment has been made regarding the gas going waste every day; and

(d) if so, steps being taken to utilise the potential fully ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). A Central Sector Scheme 'National Project for Biogas Development' (NPBD) is under implementation in different States and Union Territories including Orissa. The project provides for Central subsidy, turn-key job fee, promotional cash incentives, Staff support, training courses, repair charges etc. Similarly, a Central programme for setting up community and institutional biogas plants is also under implementation. The State Government of Orissa has recent by set up Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency which is the nodal agency for promotion of biogas

Plants. In view of these measures, the response to the NPBD in Orissa during 1984-85 has been encouraging.

(c) and (d). To assess the operational efficiency of family based biogas plants installed in different States including Orissa, evaluation survey studies have been sanctioned. The evaluation survey study in Orissa is in progress. Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency is responsible for providing post-installation services for biogas plants and ensuring full utilisation.

Antarctica Study Centre

5553 DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2386 on the 10 April 1985 regarding the Antarctica Study Centre for Research Activities and state :

(a) whether some of the equipments required for the Centre are to be imported;

(b) whether more sophisticated and well-equipped ship better than m. v. Fin Polaris has been developed for such purpose by a shipyard in West Germany; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and details of availability of ships for such expenditure, in shipyards located in West Germany and further action taken on the fabrication of an ice-breaker ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The details of equipment for the Antarctica Study Centre are yet to be finalised.

(b) Since the name of the ship or the shipyard in West Germany has not been specified, it is not possible to furnish reply to this part of the Question.

(c) In view of reply to part (b) above, question does not arise.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

5554. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of the HOME AFFAIRS

be pleased to state :

(a) whether two scales of pension Rs. 300/- and Rs. 500/- p.m. are being paid under the 1972 scheme to Freedom Fighters and ex-INA personnel;

(b) if so, the basis for such discrimination;

(c) whether the non-official Advisory Committee of his Ministry, at its meeting of 21 July, 1984, had recommended that a uniform rate of Rs. 500/- p.m. should be sanctioned;

(d) If so, Government's reaction in the matter; and

(e) what other concessions are granted to Freedom Fighters and ex-INA personnel besides pensions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). At present the amount of pension under the Swatantrata Sainak Samman Pension scheme, 1980 in respect of the living freedom fighters (including the ex-INA personnel) is Rs. 300/- p.m. Pension at enhanced rate of Rs. 500/- p.m. is, however, sanctioned under certain conditions to freedom fighter who had been in jail for five years or more.

(c) and (d). The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Non-Official Advisory Committee made in the meeting held on 21.7.84 to raise the quantum of Samman Pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme to Rs. 500/- p.m. with effect from 1.6.1985.

(e) Most of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations are providing free medical facilities to freedom fighters and their dependents, educational facilities to their children in the form of scholarships, books, cash grants and reservation in the medical and technical institutions. Some of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations are also giving priority to freedom fighters in allotment of land, housing boards tenements and fair price shops etc.

**Police Seminar on Case of Rape in
Police Custody**

5555. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a leading article published in the Telegraph (Calcutta) dated 2 April, 1985 with the caption 'with every promotion we lose a little of our spine';

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the contents of the reports about the Police Seminar especially on the cases of rape in police custody; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to streamline the functioning of police and inspire a sense of confidence among the police officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It appears that the article refers to a seminar on Police-Community Relations which was held in Bombay in January 1985 by the Maharashtra Police under the aegis of the Bureau of Police Research and Development, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

(b) Topic on custodial rape of women by policemen did not come up for discussion at the above Seminar.

(c) "Police" being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to take steps in the matter. National Police Commission had made recommendations in this regard and its reports have been sent to the State Governments for taking necessary action. The Governments of India have also been providing Central assistance for modernising the State police forces.

**Clandestine Dealings in Banned Items
Like Furs and Skins**

5556. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have information about unprecedented spurt in the

clandestine dealings in banned items like furs and skins of endangered species including the near extinct snow leopard in Srinagar and other parts of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons why Government have so far not been able to check such dealings; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed against the unscrupulous traders who deal in such illegal items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (d) . Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

**Steps to Check Felling of Trees and
Theft of Wood**

5557. SHRI LALA RAM KEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of felling of trees and theft of wood have been continuously taking place in Rajasthan, particularly in Bharatpur district like other parts of the country due to which the environment has completely changed, rainfall is less than before and the level of water in wells has been going down as a result of which problem of drinking water is becoming acute day by day;

(b) if so, the arrangements made to check the felling of trees and theft of wood; and

(c) the number of saplings in thousands, proposed to be planted every year under the Intensive Forest Development Schemes in this region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected from the State Government of Rajasthan and will be placed on the Table on the Sabha.

[*English*]

Vayudoot Services to Places of Historical and Commercial Interest

5558. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government propose to increase and improve Vayudoot services to far flung areas of historical and commercial interest irrespective of whether these are economically viable or not; and

(b) whether Government will also propose to provide subsidised services to far flung places not connected by road/rail ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b) : No. Sir.

[*Translation*]

Beautification of Mathura and Adjoining Places of Historical Importance

5559. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of tourists from all over the country and abroad visit Mathura, the birth place of Lord Krishna and adjoining places such as Vrindavan and Barsana, etc. in Uttar Pradesh every year;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government during the last three years, keeping in view the religious and historical importance of these places, to ensure progress of the area by encouraging tourist traffic there; and

(c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken by Government in the coming years for the beautification of Mathura and adjoining places of historical importance and for the development and renovation of old historical temples and other worth seeing places there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) A large number of tourists, both foreign and domestic, visit Mathura and

Vrindavan. Reliable statistics of tourists annually visiting these centres are not available.

(b) and (c). The State Government has set-up at the Central Government instance a registered society named Braj Bhumi Samrakshan Aur Vikas Samiti for conservation and development of art culture, literature and traditions of Brajbhoomi. The society is also responsible for identification and coordination of various projects for the development of tourism in this area.

The construction of a Ras Lila stage at a total cost of Rs. 1.15 lakhs in Goverdhan Parikrama was sanctioned by the Central Government during 1984-85 and a sum of Rs. 1.00 lakh was released to the State Government as advance.

A master plan for the development of Brajbhoomi Parikrama has been prepared and proposals within the framework of the development plan would be taken up during the Seventh Plan Period with the consultation of the State Government.

[*English*]

Facilities for Training in Hotel Management

5560. SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are adequate facilities for training personnel in hotel management; and

(b) if so, how many such Government and private recognised institutions are there, names thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). Apart from the existing facilities for training in hotel management by some hotel chains for their own personnel, the Central Government has set up 11 Institutes of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition and 12 Foodcraft Institutes at the following places :

Institutes of Hotel Management

(1) New Delhi, (2) Bombay, (3) Madras, (4) Calcutta, (5) Srinagar, (6) Ahmedabad, (7) Hyderabad, (8) Bhubaneswar, (9) Bangalore, (10) Lucknow and (11) Goa.

Foodcraft Institutes

(1) Kalamassery, (2) Pune, (3) Chandigarh, (4) Bhopal, (5) Tiruchirapalli, (6) Jaipur, (7) Patna, (8) Delhi, (9) Aligarh, (10) Shimla, (11) Visakhapatnam and (12) Guwahati.

Having regard to the rising future demand for hotel accommodation of various categories, there is need for increasing the number of such institutes and for strengthening the existing ones. In the 7th Plan it is proposed to set up five more institutes of hotel management and ten more craft institutes. The Central Government has not accorded recognition to any private institution offering courses in Hotel Management.

Forest Development

5561. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) details of grow more tree policy of Government;

(b) whether Government have launched Forest Development programme in the country;

(c) whether most of the rural population and particularly adivasi population depends only on forest and they earn their livelihood from forest;

(d) whether forest are being cleared in the country to increase the cultivable land in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken for the protection of forest and for the development of forest in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) It is part of the forest policy of the Government

to grow more trees in and outside areas declared as forests. The afforestation effort is being stepped up substantially. It is proposed to bring 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantation. A people's movement is to be developed for afforestation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A considerable section of the rural population including Adivasis living in or near forests depend on the forests for their livelihood.

(d) and (e). It is not the Government's policy to clear forests for increasing cultivable land. Some forest lands are being encroached upon for cultivation. All possible steps are being taken for the protection of forests under the various laws. A number of afforestation programmes are being taken up as part of the Seventh Plan. A major afforestation programme is being undertaken, including the planting of 5 million hectares per year for fuel wood and fodder plantation.

Promotion to key Punch Operators in Delhi Police

5562. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2464 on 8 August, 1984 regarding recruitment rules for promotion to key punch operators in Delhi Police and state;

(a) whether the recruitment rules as promised as far back as 2nd May, 1984 have been framed for giving promotion to the key-punch operators in Delhi Police who have been working in that post for a long time;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). The draft recruitment rules have been framed by Delhi Police and sent to Delhi Administration for further processing and obtaining approval of the Administrator, Delhi.

Promotion of key Punch Operators can be considered only after recruitment rules are finalized, and in accordance with the approved recruitment rules.

[*Translation*]

Registration of a Case of Fake Certificate in Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan, New Delhi by CBI

5563. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation have recently registered a case of the Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan, New Delhi in connection with a fake certificate; and

(b) if so, the time by which the C.B.I. is likely to complete investigations of the case and submit it for further action ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Subject to availability of documents, the investigation may be completed within six months.

[*English*]

Flats, Hotels and Stadia Constructed for Asian Games

5564. SHRI V. SOBHANAREESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Stadia constructed for Ninth Asian Games and the amount spent on each of them;

(b) the number of hotels constructed to meet the demand that was expected during Asian Games and the amount invested on those Hotels; and

(c) the number of flats constructed by the Delhi Development Authority in connection with Asian Games and the amount spent for it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R. K. JAICHADRA SINGH) : (a) A statement showing the cost incurred on construction of new stadia is attached.

(b) and (c). Construction of hotels, complex of residential flats used as Asian Games Village etc. were part of the normal development works of the concerned agencies, some of which were advanced with a view to be useful during Asian Games 1982.

Statement

S. No.	Item	Anticipated Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Construction of Stadium at Lodhi Road, Lawn Tennis Stadium at Hauz Khas and renovation of National Stadium.	23.95
2.	Government share towards Indoor Stadium at Rajghat Sports Complex.	9.82
3.	Construction of Cycle Velodrome at Rajghat Sports Complex.	1.43
4.	Construction of Shooting Ranges.	1.61
5.	Government contribution towards Swimming Pool at Talkatora Garden.	6.27
		43 08

[*Translation*]

**Construction of a Sports Stadium in
Banswara**

5565. SHRI PRABHU LAL RAWAT : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to build a sports stadium in Banswara;

(b) whether it is under consideration of Government to start any special programme for encouraging such youth to take part in games as are lagging behind in areas predominantly inhabited by tribal people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No proposal for constructing a sports stadium at Banswara has been received from the State Government so far.

(b) and (c). Under the Scheme of grants to State Sports Councils, State Governments/Union Territories Administrations have been already requested to ensure that as far as possible, percentage of sports facilities allocated in tribal areas should not be less than tribal population of the State/Union Territory. Tribal population is also covered under the schemes of All India Rural Sport Tournaments and Sports Talent Search Scholarships. A new scheme of promotion of sports in outlying areas is also proposed.

[*English*]

**Promotion Prospects of all India Service
Cadres**

5566. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are imbalances in the promotion prospects between different cadres of the All India Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to correct the imbalances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c). The Government are aware of the existence of imbalances in the promotion prospects of different All India Services Cadres. The Estimates Committee (1983-84) of the Seventh Lok Sabha had looked into this problem. The Committee in Chapter V of its 77th Report, has recommended that this Department should study the problem of imbalances in promotion prospects of All India Services Cadres in depth and find effective ways and means to correct the imbalances. In pursuance of this recommendations, this Department have decided to set up a high-power Committee consisting of some Secretaries to the Government of India and some Chief Secretaries to the State Governments to study *inter-alia* the problem of imbalances in promotion prospects of different All India Services Cadres and to recommend the steps to be taken to correct these imbalances.

**News-Item Captioned "Cartridges Haul
from Illegal Unit"**

5567. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Governments has been drawn to the news item "Cartridge haul from illegal unit" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" of 19 April, 1985 highlighting the running clandestinely of an ammunition manufacturing factor in Alipore area of North Delhi, seizure of large quantity of material used in the manufacture of live ammunition, getting unauthorised power connection etc;

(b) if so, steps proposed to be taken to check the existence of such type of other clandestine factories, the supply of raw materials, outlet sources and the people connected with it in the electricity department; and

(c) action taken against the gun house in Filmistan area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments have been requested from time to time to take sustained and effective measures to unearth unlicensed weapons and to prevent illicit manufacture. Arms Act, 1985 was also amended vide Arms (Amendment) Act, 1983. Under the amended provision of the Act, punishment for offences involving manufacture, sale and possession of illicit arms has been enhanced.

(c) Information is being collected.

**Contract of a Restaurant of Ashok Hotel
to a Private Party**

5568. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
Will the Minister of TOURISM AND
CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether one of the restaurant in Ashok Hotel, New Delhi has been given on contract to a private party;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the contract signed between the management and the contractor;

(c) the total sale of the restaurant after the same had been given on contract;

(d) the total number of employees employed by the contractor and the service conditions applicable to the employees; and

(e) the reasons for contracting out the restaurant to a private party ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT):

(a) to (e) Keeping in view the business interests of the Ashok Hotel, ITDC has given one of the restaurants serving Chinese food to a firm of Indian nationals on profit-sharing basis for 5 years commencing from 15-1-84. The contractors will take 65% of the sales and bear the cost of raw-materials/gas used in the kitchen and meet salaries and wages of the staff. 35% of the sales will go to Ashok Hotel.

The sales of the said restaurant since

its inception upto 31.3.85 are of the order of Rs. 27 lakhs.

The contractors have employed 35 persons in the restaurant. Since the restaurant is operated by a private party, the service conditions of the employees are regulated by the contractor.

Deployment of C.I.S.F. in State

5569. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present strength of the Central Industrial Security Force;

(b) the crime prone areas in which large deployment of C.I.S.F. has been made; and

(c) state-wise break-up of the present deployment of C.I.S.F. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) 42,077 as on 1.4.1985.

(b) The deployment of CISF in public sector undertakings is made after a survey, which includes, *inter-alia*, the criminal activities of the area. The CISF is inducted for ensuring better protection and security of the undertakings, in accordance with the provisions of the CISF Act. The CISF is deployed in each undertaking on the need based pattern.

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

Statement

*State-wise Break-up of present Deployment of
CISF*

State	Present Deployment
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2462
Assam	924
Bihar	8933
Delhi	673
Gujarat	984

1	2
Haryana	631
J & K	271
Rerala	1733
Karnataka	578
Maharashtra	1071
Goa	255
Madhya Pradesh	5570
Nagaland	132
Orissa	2785
Punjab	421
Rajasthan	1467
Tamil Nadu	1768
Uttar Pradesh	3678
West Bengal	7741
Total	42077

Note : The above figures include personnel posted in the CISF Headquarters, Zonal Headquarters, Group Headquarters, Training Institutes, and Reserves.

Violation of Immigration Rules in Gulf Countries by Indians

5570. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Office

(i) Cochin (including Liaison

Office, Trivandrum)

(ii) Calicut

	Year		
	1982	1983	1984
(i) Cochin (including Liaison Office, Trivandrum)	1,49,043	1,49,789	1,20,668
(ii) Calicut	96,754	91,829	65,340

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that a number of Indians in the gulf countries are violating immigration and labour rules of these countries; and

(b) if so, the number of such instances reported to Government during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information is being collected.

Issue of Passports and Demand of more Posts in Regional Passport Offices

5571. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of passports issued by the Regional Passport Offices at Trivandrum, Cochin and Calicut since 1982 year-wise;

(b) sanctioned strength of personnel in these offices and number of vacancies unfilled; and

(c) whether there has been demand for sanctioning more posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(b) Categories of posts	Cochin (including Liaison Office, Trivandrum)		Calicut (Kozhikode)	
	Sanctioned	Vacant/ Excess	Sanctioned	Vacant/ Excess
1. Passport Officer/Assistant Passport Officer	4	2	1	—
2. Public Relations Officer/ Superintendent	6	1	4	1
3. Asstt./ DC/LDC	97	Excess 9	49	Excess 26
4. Peons, etc.	11	1	6	Nil

NOTE : As a result of recent examination of the staff requirement of various Passport Offices all over India on the basis of prescribed norms vis-a-vis statistics of work for 1984, it has been observed that our Passport Office at Cochin and Kozhikode (Calicut) have got an excess of 9 and 26 respectively in the category of clerical staff. Necessary Government orders posting personnel to fill up most of these vacancies and transferring extra staff to other offices where there is shortage of clerical staff are under issue.

(c) No, Sir.

break up is as follows :

**Persons Killed/Murdered in Chandigarh
and Punjab**

5572. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHER-
JEE :
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS
be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons killed/
murdered in Chandigarh and State of
Punjab during four months i.e. November,
1984 to February, 1985 (figures district-
wise); and

(b) in how many incidents of murders/
killings those responsible have been
arrested and their number ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) and (b). Four persons were killed
in the Union Territory of Chandigarh
during the period and three accused
persons have been arrested in three cases.
The Government of Punjab have informed
that 192 persons were killed during this
period in the state. The district wise

Name of district	No. of persons killed/murdered
1. Jalandhar	21
2. Amritsar	27
3. Gurdaspur	14
4. Hoshiarpur	12
5. Kapurthala	5
6. Patiala	19
7. Sangrur	20
8. Ludhiana	10
9. Ropar	7
10. Ferozepur	21
11. Bhatinda	26
12. Faridkot	10
Total	192

In 156 cases registered in connection
with incidents of murders/killings in the
State, 342 accused have been arrested.

Participation in the Conference of South Asian Foreign Ministers

5573. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are participating in the Conference of South Asian Foreign Ministers at Thimpu in May, 1985;

(b) if so, the agenda of the meeting; and

(c) the special points which India propose to mention to persuade the other countries to accept better economic and social cooperation among the nations in South Asia ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) Yes Sir. The Government of India are participating in the Third meeting of Foreign Ministers of South Asian Countries to be held at Thimphu in May 1985.

(b) The main items in the agenda of the meeting include a review of the progress in the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Action, preparations for the First SARC Summit and a review of the world economic situation.

(c) India has been playing an active part in promoting South Asian Regional Cooperation. It hosted the first meeting of Foreign Ministers in New Delhi in August 1983 when the SARC Declaration was signed and the Integrated Programme of Action was launched. It held the Chairmanship during the crucial first year and also hosted the First Meeting of the SARC Standing Committee. India is the Chairman of the Technical Committees on Meteorology and Sports, Arts and Culture. It has participated in the meetings of all Technical Committees and has made an active contribution towards the formulation and implementation of programmes of cooperation in various fields. We propose to continue our active participation in all SARC activities. We are laying special emphasis on the need for formulating concrete regional projects in the agreed areas of cooperation. Among the specific

initiatives we propose to take in the future, are the convening of a South Asian Archaeological Congress in October 1985 and organisation of a South Asian Cultural Festival in November 1985 on the occasion of the India International Trade Fair.

Maintenance of Centrally Protected Monuments in Karnataka

5574. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the maintenance of the Centrally Protected monuments in Karnataka during Sixth Plan period; and

(b) which are those monuments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The amount spent on the maintenance of protected monuments in Karnataka during the Sixth Plan period is Rs. 1,00,06,531.

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

[Placed in Library. See. No. LT-1106/85]

Cyclone Radar at Coastal Areas of Andhra Pradesh

5575. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to install cyclone radar warning stations at Chirala and coastal area of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) how many such radar stations have already been set-up since 1983; and

(c) the total number of such stations along the coast of the entire country including Andaman and Nicobar Islands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) (a) No Sir.

there is no proposal to install Cyclone radar station at Chirala. Coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, including the Chirala area, have already been provided with adequate radar coverage for cyclone detection.

(b) Nil. The entire network of cyclone detection radars covering east coast was completed before 1983.

(c) There are 8 numbers of such stations at Calcutta, Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Machilipatnam, Madras and Karaikal on the East Coast and Goa and Bombay on the West Coast. There is no cyclone detection radar in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Most of the cyclones originate between Andamans and the east coast of India and travel away from Andamans and Nicobar Islands. The Andaman Islands and the Bay of Bengal surrounding are well covered by INSAT weather surveillance.

Computerised Reservation System at Airports

5576. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Airports where computerised Reservation system has been commissioned;

(b) whether there have been frequent break downs in the computerised Reservation system in some airports;

(c) if so, the name of the airports where such system has suffered a set back; and

(d) the steps taken to remove the bottleneck ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Indian Airlines has commissioned the computerised reservation system at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras airports.

(b) to (d). No, Sir. However, there was one isolated case of breakdown at Bombay airport on 15.4.1985 when the two data circuits between Bombay and Computer Centre at Palam had broken down between 0025 hrs, and 1345 hrs. In order to overcome such situations in future one more data circuit is being procured from P and T Department which would

minimise the occurrence of total communication link failure.

[Translation]

Problem of Forest Fires

5577. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are giving very serious thought to the problem of forest fires;

(b) if so, whether Government are formulating any joint project to check it; and

(c) if so, the time by which this project will be ready and annual expenditure involved therein ?

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

(b) A project entitled 'Modern Forest Fire Control' has been formulated for the States of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra at an estimated cost of Rs. 127 crores inclusive of UNDP assistance of US\$4.11 millions.

(c) The project has come into operation and for 1985-86 the total outlay is Rs. 163.58 lakhs.

[English]

Sanction of Extra Battalion of BSF for West Bengal

5578. SHRIMATI INDUMATI BHATTACARYYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to sanction extra battalion of Border Security Force for West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the present position and what progress has been made so far in the matter; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to implement the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) to (d). Anti-infiltration measures and strength of BSF are reviewed by Government from time to time, 5 additional battalions of BSF were sanctioned by the Government in 1983 and they are now in operation on West Bengal-Bangladesh border. Constant vigil is maintained by the BSF at the border. More border outposts have been established with the induction of additional battalions. More watch towers have been erected and patrolling over land and riverine routes has been intensified. There is no proposal at present to sanction extra battalion of BSF for West Bengal.

**Threat to Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
Delhi**

5579. **SHRI SHANTARAM POTOUKHE :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi trying Smt. Indira Gandhi case has been threatened, if so, the nature of such a threat; and

(b) what action Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. An anonymous letter threatening his life and the life of his family members was received by Shri S.L. Khanna, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi.

(b) An armed guard has been posted at the residence of Shri S.L. Khanna. In addition, two armed personal security officers have also been provided to him.

**Train Dacoity in Amritsar Tata Express
Near Kanpur**

5580. **SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
SHRI DHARMPAL SINGH
MALIK :**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing

in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 29 March, 1985 wherein it has been stated that three persons including a police constable were seriously injured and cash and valuables worth about several thousands were looted in a train dacoity in Amritsar Tata Express near Kanpur;

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

(c) whether any compensation has since been paid to the sufferers; and if not the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are responsible for enforcing law relating to offences. As per the available information, on 28-3-1985 one Shri B. Mohsis was travelling in 1st Class from Delhi to Dhanbad by 162 Dn. Tata Express. He had got down to get himself some tea etc. at Itava Railway Station, on his return to the compartment, 3-4 youngsters also boarded the same compartment. There was no attendant or conductor in the compartment. The youngsters tried to occupy the same compartment in which Shri Mohsis was travelling to which he objected. With the result that he was attacked by them with a knife. They also took away Rs. 1000/- and a mini transistor belonging to Shri Mohsis. The train stopped near Ekdil due to chain pulling when the youngsters escaped. A case under Section 394/397 of the I.P.C. and 108 of Indian Railways Act was registered at GRP Itava. One culprit was arrested and efforts are being made to apprehend the others.

(c) No compensation is paid to the victim passengers for theft of their personal property and baggages.

Opening of new Uranium Mines

5581. **SHRI K. PRADHANI :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Atomic Energy has drawn up programmes for opening of new uranium mines;

(b) if so, when these new uranium mines are going to be opened;

(c) whether any long-term plan has been drawn up for this purpose; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the above programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (d). Uranium Corporation of India Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy has drawn up plans for opening up two new uranium mines at Narwapahar and Turamdih both in the Singhbhum District of Bihar. Detailed Project Report for this has been prepared and the same is being processed for issue of administrative/financial approval. Work on these mines is expected to commence during 1985-86. Atomic Minerals Division of this Department has identified a number of new uranium deposits in various parts of the country and exploitation of these deposits by opening up new mines will be taken up in a phased manner after completion of feasibility studies.

Allocation of Funds for Development Schemes

5582. SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the formulation of welfare schemes and allocation of funds for development schemes is population based;

(b) whether, as a result of the above formula, the areas leading in population control get lower developmental allocation; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to remove this anomaly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c). Central assistance for State Plans is allocated in the form of block loans and grants and not

for individual development schemes. However, in determining the overall allocation of Central assistance to the States other than North Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh, the existing formula gives 60 per cent weightage to population. The 1971 population figures are being used for computation purpose. Hence, the States enforcing population control measures cannot be said to be at a disadvantage.

Rescue of Women Forced into Prostitution

5583. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 'Statesman' dated 12 March, 1985 regarding police rescue of three women forced into prostitution;

(b) number of rescue cases during the years, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1983-84 and 1984-85 year wise details;

(c) how many arrests took place during such operations, year-wise details;

(d) punitive action resulting in imprisonment against such arrests, year-wise details;

(e) if no punishment awarded, the reasons therefor;

(f) punitive action taken against those persons for dereliction of duty; and

(g) the incumbent Station House Officers of the Kamla Market Police station during these years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The Total number of girls rescued are as under :

1980-81	7
1981-82	16
1982-83	8
1983-84	6
1984-85	17

(c) and (d). The total number of persons arrested and convicted are as under :

Year	Arrested	Convicted
1980-81	13	—
1981-82	19	2
1982-83	8	—
1983-84	11	—
1984-85	18	—

(e) and (f). Some of the reasons on account of which the accused are not punished by the Courts, are as under :

- (i) The prosecutrix often do not come forward to narrate the events factually in the court during trial.
- (ii) The witnesses either on account of pressures from the accused or for some consideration either do not appear at all in the court during trial to support the prosecution version or turn hostile.

(g) The following Inspectors remained posted as Station House Officers at Police Station Kamla Market during the period mentioned against each :

1. Shri Darshan Singh
Inspector 16-2-1980 to 30-6-82
2. Shri Virender Singh
Inspector 1-7-1982 to 18-2-85
3. Shri Kawal Krishan
Inspector 18.2.1985 to date

Resources of Metropolitan Cities

5584. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the local corporations to which the administration of Metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras is entrusted to find their resources too inadequate to meet the growing demands of those cities;

(b) the effective steps the Planning Commission propose to take to meet the

longstanding demands of these Metropolitan cities; and

(c) if so, the details; thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Urban development is a State subject and it is the State Governments concerned that formulate schemes and programmes for urban development including those for metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Centre, however, provides block grants and loans to the States in the way of Central assistance under the Gadgil formula.

Dacoities in Banks

5585. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of dacoities in banks which could be solved upto 31-3-1985 in Delhi;

(b) the number of persons arrested for bank dacoities;

(c) the total amount involved in bank dacoities so far and the amount recovered so far from the persons so arrested;

(d) the reason of the failure on the part of Delhi Police in solving bank dacoities and apprehend the robbers;

(e) what special security measures have been taken to avoid bank dacoities in future; and

(f) whether it is proposed to set up a special cell of honest and efficient persons in Delhi Police to deal with bank dacoities and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). The number of bank dacoities which could be solved and persons arrested

as on 31-3-1985 are as follows :

Year	Cases reported	Cases worked out	Persons arrested
1984	4	1	3
1985	2	—	—

(upto 31-3-85)

(c) The total amount involved in bank dacoities and the amount recovered is as follows :

Year	Amount involved	Amount recovered
1984	Rs. 987413/-	—
1985	Rs. 476250/-	—

(upto 31-3-85)

(d) By the very nature of such offences, their investigation takes time. All possible efforts are being made for early completion of the investigation of these cases.

(e) and (f). The following steps have been taken to avoid bank dacoities :

- (i) A Special Cell has been created in the Delhi Police, manned by specially selected officers who are not experienced but also known for their investigative abilities.
- (ii) A contingency plan is being prepared to reduce the response time of the police.
- (iii) Banks have been advised to have an alarm system outside the branches to alert the neighbours and passers by about the Commission of any crime so that police could be informed well in time.
- (iv) A system has been adopted under which borders are sealed and all fleeing vehicles checked in case a report of commission of any such crime is received from any part of the city.
- (v) Banks have been advised to make special arrangements in case of

branches which remain open after the sun-set.

(vi) Static pickets equipped with arms and wireless sets have been posted at strategic points. Day and night patrolling has been intensified and the staff put is being properly briefed.

(vii) Attempts are being made to have better coordination with the neighbouring Districts by exchange of intelligence pertaining to the activities of criminals.

India's Role in Promoting Sports in Nepal

5586. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE
Will the Minister of SPORTS AND YOUTH AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has agreed to help Nepal in promoting sports in that country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA (SINGH)) : (a) While there is no sports agreement with the Government of Nepal, Government of India has been helping Nepal in the promotion of sports.

(b) The main fields in which India has assisted Nepal are :

- (i) provision of training facilities to Nepali coaches to attend Diploma Courses in Coaching at the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports;
- (ii) deputation of coaches to Nepal for assistance in organising National/International Competitions, seminars and clinics etc;
- (iii) conducted a coaching camp at Patiala for selected Nepalese gymnasts;
- (iv) supplied equipment for conducting South Asian Federations Games on returnable basis;
- (v) offering facilities for conducting coaching camps/clinics to Nepal

and other countries, who are members of South Asian Regional Co-operation (SARC);

- (vi) rendering financial assistance for the construction of a sports complex at Pokhra.

Election of Maulvi Mohammed Farooq as a Member of the Rabita Alam-I-Islami

5587. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has seen the reports in the section of the press about Maulvi Mohammed Farooq's election as a member of the Rabita-I-Alami-I-Islami whose headquarters is in Jedah Saudi Arabia; and

(b) whether his name was proposed by Sardar Mohamed Ibrahim Khan former President of the so called Azad Kashmir Government (Pakistan Occupied area of J and K State) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). According to Government's present information, Maulvi Mohammed Farooq is not a member of the Rabita-I-Alami-I-Islami whose headquarters is in Jaddah Saudi Arabia. According to reports, however, his name is under consideration. We have no information as to who has proposed his name ?

Exploitation by Computer Manufacturing Companies

5588. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some computer manufacturing companies are using restrictive clause which amounts to exploitation of the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir, Government is aware that computer manufacturing companies in the part have taken advantage of Indian computers.

(b) Such restrictions have been removed by allowing import of certain computers on OGL basis. However, the interests of indigenous manufacturers have been protected through 200% import duty. Indian manufacturers will be encouraged to improve their quality and reduce prices further by progressive reduction in import duties in future.

Manufacturing of 3-D TV Sets

5589. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT
SHRI RADHA KANTA DIGAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether 3-D (Three Dimensional) Television sets will soon be manufactured in the country and if so, the time by which these sets are likely to come in the market and the price of thereof;

(b) the names of the companies given licences for manufacturing 3-D television sets;

(c) if so, whether they have entered into technical collaboration with any foreign country for transfer of technical know-how; and

(d) whether such T.V. sets will be given to some selected schools to add to the knowledge of children ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) It has come to notice of the Government that one private company has already introduced 3-D Colour TV. The price of this set is approximately Rs. 9300/-

(b) There is no need to have separate licence to manufacture 3-D Colour TV set. The party can manufacture this item within the industrial approval obtained for the manufacture of CTV.

(c) As per existing Colour TV policy foreign collaboration is not permitted.

(d) The usefulness of 3-D Colour TV as now produced has to be ascertained. There is no proposal at present with the Government to give 3-D Colour TV sets to Schools.

Production of Lac

5590. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Union Government to increase the acreage and number of trees on which Lac grown in the tribal belt of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh as the production of lac has gone down considerably in recent years; and

(b) whether Government propose to lease out forest plots to different lac factories so that they can take suitable measures for increasing the production of lac in their own interest as well as for increasing country's export earnings.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) The Directorate of Lac Development has been established at Ranchi. A central sector scheme for lac development in under implementation in the major growing States. Under the scheme the following activities are being undertaken :—

- (i) lac growers have been induced to adopt improved methods of lac cultivation.
- (ii) technical guidance and assistance has been rendered to lac growers in correct method of pruning, harvesting, inoculation, broodlac preservation etc. through demonstration and incentives.
- (iii) idle host trees are being brought under lac cultivation to increase the production of superior variety

of lac.

(iv) Brood lac is made available to lac growers from forms maintained for this purpose.

(b) No, Sir.

Arrest of Workers in Punjab

5591. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of workers agitating for their demands have been arrested and prosecuted in Punjab during the past two months;

(b) if so, the number of workers arrested and the reasons for their arrest;

(c) whether these arrested workers are being prosecuted under the provisions of Section 506 IPC which is under the purview of Special Courts Act; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). According to the information furnished by the Government of Punjab, 1275 workers were arrested under section 188 IPC for violating the prohibitory orders imposed u/s 144 Cr. PC in various districts in the State.

In addition, a case FIR No. 20 dated 22nd February, 1985 was registered at PS Mohali (Ropar) against 11 workers of Punjab Display and Devices Limited, Mohali. U/S 452/323/148/149/506 IPC for causing damage to some material and causing grievous injuries to the Production Manager and for assaulting the General Manager of the factory. The case falls within the purview of the Act as it involves offences mentioned in the Schedule annexed to it.

Theft of Ancient Idols

5592. SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the police has been able to arrest culprits responsible for

stealing the 1500 years old ancient idols worth crores of rupees in the last week of January, 1985;

(b) the number of culprits arrested and the action taken against them; and

(c) whether under the Indian Archaeological Act 1972, police experiences difficulties in taking action in such case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) No specific place of occurrence/incident in respect of the crime has been indicated. As per available information, it appears that the theft referred to in the Question relates to crime reported at Police Station Rikab Ganj, Agra on 22nd January, 1985. FIR Nos. 38 to 40 under section 379/411 of I.P.C. were lodged at Police Station Rikabganj District Agra on 22nd January, 1985. Some persons were arrested at Police Station Rikabganj, Agra, during the investigation of the above case.

(b) Two accused persons have arrested in connection with the above theft and the matter is under enquiry.

(c) The police is experiencing some difficulties in taking action under the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972. The difficulties have been brought to the notice of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Warranty Charges for E.C. T.V.

5593. **SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for increase in prices of EC TV sold by ECIL w.e.f. 1-1-85 when excise and customs duty on imported components have been reduced;

(b) the free warranty period for a black and white colour TV sold by ECIL;

(c) reasons for charging Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 per year as warranty charging for purchase of TVs for after sales service during warranty period; and

(d) how the company proposes to deal

with several complaints received by consumer associations like VOICE alleging compulsory payment of warranty/service charges on purchase of TVs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The reasons for increase in price of EC TV sets with effect from 1-1-85 are increase in cost of inputs occasioned by general escalation and increase in exchange rate of the dollar. An increase in excise duty of Rs. 112.50 on EC Colour TV sets as a result of recent budget has not been passed to the consumer but absorbed by ECIL. There has been no reduction in the cost of components of colour TV sets.

(b) The free warranty period for Black and White and Colour TV Sets sold by ECIL is 3 months.

(c) An amount of Rs. 400 is charged as warranty charges to cover a period of 9 months beyond the free warranty duration of 3 months.

(d) Complaints received from Consumer Associations are being examined by the Company.

Probe into Issue of Passport to Shri Rajendru Sethia

5594. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that when Shri Rajendra Sethia was arrested he was found in possession of 7 passports, one in the name of Shri Duggar and a confirmed air ticket;

(b) if so, whether investigations have been made as to how he had managed to get passports in a false name; and

(c) if so, the findings of these investigations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) Shri Rajendra Singh Sethia was arrested

by the Central Bureau of Investigation on 1st March, 1985. At that time, he was found to be in possession of only one passport-No. W-900509 issued at Calcutta on 13-2-85 in the name of Raj Kumar Dugar. The passport had the photograph of Shri Setha affixed on it. Passport No. U-553383 issued at London on 12-8-83 and another one No. U-716884 issued at New York on 17-2-34 valid up to 11-8-88 were later recovered by Central Bureau of Investigation while searching the office of Shri Bhagat Ram Thapar, Director, M/S R.K. Agencies Ltd., 23-A, N.S. Road, Calcutta on 2-3-85 of the two, passport No. U-553384 was cancelled and a fresh passport No. U-716884 was issued due to change in appearance of the passport holder.

Entries in passport No. U-553384 showed that Shri Rajendra Singh Setha had earlier travelled on five passports in the past. These had been cancelled and returned to him.

Shri Sethia was also in possession of an open international air ticket for sectors Calcutta-Delhi-Bombay-Cairo-Geneva-Bombay-Calcutta, with RQ (Request) status for Sector Bombay-Cairo for Journey on 3-3-85.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Investigations have revealed that Shri Rajendra Singh Sethia had managed to obtain the passport in the assumed name of Raj Kumar Dugar with the help of two other persons of Calcutta namely, Shri Bhagat Ram Thapar and Shri C.L. Sharma, who were well known to Shri Sethia. Furnishing of false information is an offence under Section 12(1) (b) of the Passports Act, 1967. Consequentially, CBI have registered a case against Shri Rajendra Singh Sethia on 12-3-85 for impersonation and misrepresentation of facts to the passport issuing authorities. All the three persons have been charge-sheeted in the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Calcutta for the offences punishable u/s 120-B/419/420/468/471 of IPC and Section 12 of the Passport Act, 1967.

Dispute about Land Owned by Archaeological Survey of India

5595. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the sites and area where Archaeological Survey of India has disputes regarding land ownership;

(b) in how many of such sites Government registered cases of encroachments; and

(c) out of these in how many cases eviction has been effected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

Details of Officials/Non-Officials who visited abroad for Wild Life Training and Meeting

5596. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names and designations of officials and non-officials who have gone abroad for wild life training and meetings since 1 January, 1981;

(b) the dates, period and purpose of the visits and countries visited by each official/non-official separately; and

(c) whether the officials who visit foreign countries are required to submit reports and if so, follow-up action taken on such reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See. No. LT-1107/85].

(c) Officers who are deputed for foreign

visits are required to submit reports on return and wherever necessary, follow-up action is taken.

Requirement of Exit Visas

5597. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the departing diplomats or foreign travellers do not require exit visas in India;

(b) whether this has created any problem for the Government; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) No, Sir. Accredited foreign diplomats leaving India at the end of their tenure do not require an exit visa. However, diplomats of only one country are required to seek permission before leaving the country.

As regards foreign travellers, they are required to register themselves with the Foreigners Registration Office only if they stay in India beyond a certain period of time. Every person so registered has to report his departure to the same Foreigners Registration Office where he is registered.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Acquiring of Land by Archaeological Survey of India

5598. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of

India acquired 9 acres of land 25 years ago at Vaishali in and around the Mound known as 'Raja Vishal Ka Garh' which contained Lord Buddha's ashes in a casket; and

(b) what schemes, if any, department has for using this 9 acres plot of land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). An area measuring 6.85 acres of land around the excavated stupa was acquired by the Archaeological Survey of India in 1964, for its proper preservation and development.

A scheme to landscape the area is under implementation.

Crimes in Running Trains Due to Darkness

5599. SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of crime cases due to darkness in trains, division-wise between February, 1984 and February, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are responsible for enforcing laws relating to offences. No data regarding crimes in running trains, railway division-wise, is compiled. The available information relating to crime cases during the period of darkness i.e. 7 P.M. to 6 A.M. in trains state-wise between February, 1984 and February, 1985 is given in statement attached.

Statement

Data Relating to Crime cases during the Period of Darkness i.e. from 7 P.M. to 6 A.M. in Trains Statewise between February 1984 and February 1985

Sl. No.	Name of states/UTs.	Number of Crime cases			
		Robbery in running train	Dacoity in running train	Murder in running train	Professional poisoning in running train
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	8	—	—	—
2.	Bihar	3	—	—	—
3.	Gujarat	1	—	—	—
4.	Kerala	1	—	—	—
5.	Karnataka	—	2	—	—
6.	Maharashtra	28	3	—	3
7.	Orissa	10	3	—	1
8.	Rajasthan	2	3	—	—
9.	Uttar Pradesh	2	2	1	—
Total :		55	13	1	4

Submerged Harappa Town

5600. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether remains of Harappa town have been discovered submerged in Beyt Dwarka Island of Gujarat coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far it will go in filling up the gap in the history ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Investigation in Bet Dwarika region of Gujarat coast provided evidence of archaeological remains reportedly of late and post Harappan period.

(b) Reported objects of late Harappan period found in Bet Dwarika are :

1. SEAL—A three headed animal motif representing the Bull, Unicorn and Goat; and

2. Pottery ware, bangles, chank shell etc. These suggest a date close to 15th Century BC.

Submergence of the area is indicated by a massive stone wall built on the bench in intertidal zone.

(c) These investigations may provide information about the Harappan and Indus Valley civilization. It is possible that further studies on these findings may help in reconstruction of the past maritime history of India. These studies could also provide information about variations in sea level and climate of the region.

Conference of Astrologers and Scientists for Deciding Dates and Festivals

5601. SHRIMATI USHA CHOWDHARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently few leading

astrologers and Sanskrit scholars urged Government to call a Conference of astrologers and scientists for bringing about uniformity in the dates of festivals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

House Tax Rebate in Delhi

5602. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to give rebate in the house tax in Delhi and other places in those cases in which it is deposited within the stipulated time;

(b) if so, the amount of rebate offered and the period during which the rebate will be available; and

(c) the date by which this facility will be extended to the house owners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have taken a decision to allow rebate on property tax payments made within the time prescribed in the property tax bills for the year 1985-86, provided no arrears are outstanding for period ending 31-3-1985.

(b) The rebate will be allowed @ 1% on the amount payable for the current year. The rebate will be available till the last date for payment mentioned in the property tax bill.

(c) The rebate has already come into force w.e.f. 1-4-1985.

Change in Central Aid Pattern to States

5603. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided

to change the Central aid pattern to States;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission have expressed their view that giant projects in the States should be financed out of the Central Assistance;

(c) if so, the other changes that are likely to be considered; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : a) No, Sir.

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

Telephone Instrument and Teleprinters in Private Sector

5604. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have imposed restrictions on increasing capacity in the areas like telephone instruments and teleprinters in private sector;

(b) if so, the reasons for imposing such restrictions;

(c) the other telecommunication materials on which restriction has been imposed for creating new capacity; and

(d) the details thereof ?

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

(b) The total manufacturing capacity already recommended is more than three times, the anticipated demand by 1989-90 for telephone instruments.

In respect of Teleprinters, the manufacturing capacity already recommended is appreciably higher than the anticipated demand during 7th Plan. Teleprinter utilisation is also linked to a considerable degree to provision of teleprinter (Telex)

exchange equipment. It is therefore not considered necessary to further increase the manufacturing capacity at this point of time.

(c) The other item on which capacity restriction has been imposed is EPABX/EPAX, an item of telecommunication equipment for installation at the subscribers' premises which is permitted for manufacture by private sector.

In respect of remaining items falling in the category of terminal equipment, proposals are considered on merit.

(d) The total manufacturing capacity already recommended for EPABX/EPAX is more than three times the anticipated demand by 1989-90.

In the area of transmission, radio and rural automatic exchange equipment, manufacture at present is allowed by private sector companies jointly with the Central/State Sector units holding Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent subject to the condition that at least 51% share will be held by the Central/State Government. However, for the third Electronic Switching System factory the investment of the Government would be restricted to 26% and technology to be used will be the one being developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics.

Economic Assistance to Tribal Families in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

5605. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for 1984-85 in Andaman and Nicobar Islands for giving economic assistance to tribal families;

(b) the nature of assistance given and the total amount spent by way of assistance;

(c) whether the target has been achieved; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) 675 tribal families were targeted to

be economically assisted during 1984-85 in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(b) Assistance to these families were given under programmes included in the sectors of horticulture, animal husbandry, agricultural inputs, village and small industries, forestry, soil conservation and fisheries. The total amount spent including expenditure in social services is estimated at Rs. 289.35 lakhs during 1984-85.

(c) The actual number of families economically assisted during the year was 896.

(d) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Refugees in Assam

5606. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of refugees are residing on the railway land at Pandu and Maligoang in Assam since the partition of India;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to rehabilitate them near Pandu College;

(c) if so, how many refugees have been given land there; and

(d) the time by which all of them will be rehabilitated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) The railway land has been encroached upon both by locals and displaced persons.

(b) to (d). The Railway had offered their land at Pandu at cost price to the State Government for resettlement of encroachers but the State Government did not respond.

Population Ratio of Females and Males

5607. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to latest census report, child and infant mortality rates of females are higher than males;

(b) whether according to the report, population ratio of females is less than males; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) The child and infant mortality rates have not been worked out from 1981 Census data. However, according to the Sample Registration System, child and infant mortality rates of females are higher than those of males for the year 1981.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no sex bias in the implementation of health care delivery to the community under Family Welfare programme. The Government views with serious concern various social evils like dowry system, child marriage, sati pratha, atrocities against women etc. A multimedia campaign has been launched. Radio spots and other publicity measures are being carried out to create awareness in the minds of the people for a favourable attitude towards women and their problems. A number of films on various issues like dowry, child marriage, atrocities against women, changes in role of women etc. have been produced or are at their different stages of production.

Price of Colour T.V.

5608. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether prices of colour TVs are not likely to come down as there is acute shortfall in production owing to dependency on imported kits;

(b) whether the public have to make a deposit of Rs. 1000 for registration of a colour TV and have to wait for over 9 months;

(c) whether there is any plan with Government to put up a colour TV glass shell plant; and

(d) what steps are being contemplated

by Government to improve the above situation of dependency and monopoly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Prices of colour TV Sets have already started coming down. Most of the brands of colour TV Sets are readily available in the market. However, for one or two particular brands, there is a waiting list; and in such cases deposit is also required.

(c) There is no plan as yet by Government to put up colour TV Glass Shell plant.

(d) In order to reduce import content of colour TV sets being presently assembled in the country, the Government has issued three Letters of Intent for the manufacture of colour picture tubes and has approved several parties to manufacture a range of critical colour TV components like tuners, EHT, Deflection yokes etc.

Allotment of Land to Refugee Families of Bihar

5609. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had allotted about 865 acres of land to nearly 300 refugee families and rehabilitated them thereon at Srikrishtapur and other colonies of Bihar in 1951-52;

(b) if so, whether after transfer of some territory from Bihar to West Bengal in 1955, agriculture land of the said rehabilitated persons remained in Bihar and a small portion of homestead land, where they are still living went to West Bengal in the district of West Dinajpur ;

(c) whether some tribals and other persons of Bihar have forcibly occupies their land and uprooted them, and the dispute arising out of deprivation of their rights over the land is still alive; and

(d) if so, steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) 580 families (2772 persons) were settled on 2110 acres of land in Islampur Sub-division.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The Bihar Government had informed the Government of India in 1981 that encroachment on these land had been removed and possession of land restored to the displaced persons.

Vayudoot service to link Bombay and Shirdi

5610. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Shirdi in Maharashtra attracts large number of devotees throughout the year because of the places of worship there;

(b) whether great inconvenience is being experienced by the devotees as the rail links are not adequate;

(c) whether requests have been received by Government to start a Vayudoot service to link Bombay and Shirdi; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Shirdi is at a distance of 20 Kms from Nasik which is well connected by road, rail and air.

BSF and CRPF Battalions in States

5611. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the deployment of BSF and CRPF battalions in different States and Union Territories at present;

(b) what is the requisition of demand of the State Governments with regard to making BSF and CRPF battalions available; and

(c) to what extent the demands have been fulfilled and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) to (c). The CRPF is primarily meant for assisting the State Governments in maintenance of law and order. The State Governments make requests from time to time for deployment of CRPF when the State Armed Police units are found inadequate. As and when such requests are received, the Central Government analysis the quantum of force required the seriousness and urgency of the situation, the duration for which the force is required etc. and sends CRPF to States taking into account the demand received and the reserves available at hand. The BSF is primarily meant for guarding the border and only when CRPF is not available, the reserve coys of BSF are utilized for law and order duties. A statement showing deployment of CRPF and BSF in connection with law and order duties in States/UTs as on 30th April 1985 is attached.

Statement

Deployment of CRPF and BSF in connection with law and order duties in States and UTs as on 30-4-1985

State/UT	No. of coys deployed	
	Regular	Auxiliary
1	2	3
CRPF :		
Andhra Pradesh	—	10
A and N Islands	2	—

1	2	3
Arunachal Pradesh	25	—
Assam	60	6
Chandigarh	15	—
Delhi	29	2
Gujarat	8	4
J and K	22	6
Manipur	22+1 Pl	6
Meghalaya	6	—
Mizoram	36	—
Nagaland	12+2 Pls	—
Punjab	129	—
Pondicherry	2	—
Rajasthan	6	—
Sikkim	4	—
Tripura	36	—
Uttar Pradesh	1	—
West Bengal	10	—
BSF :		
Punjab	57	—
Chandigarh UT	4	—
Gujarat	4	—
Tripura	5	—

**Sound and Light Programme in Agra Fort
and Tajmahal**

5612. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to introduce sound and light programme at Agra Fort and Tajmahal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (c). For the year 1985-86 the Department of Tourism have made a provision

of Rs. 30 lakhs for floodlighting of historical monuments and also for starting of Sound and Light shows at place of historical interest. The locations to be taken up during the current year are still to be identified in consultation with the State Governments.

[Translation]

Expenditure on N.Y. Kendras

5613. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state the expenditure borne by Government every year for running Nehru Yuvak Kendras in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : The expenditure borne by the Government for running the Nehru Yuvak Kendras in the country was Rs. 2.16 crores, Rs. 2.31 crores and Rs. 2.75 crores in the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 respectively.

[English]

“Steps to Make Tourist Resorts Pollution Free”

5614. **PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether tourists resorts deserve to be pollution-free on priority basis; and

(b) if so, measures Government propose to take to make Srinagar, Gulmarg and Pahalgam in the J and K State pollution free ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). While tourists resorts, as other areas need to be free from pollution, there are no specific proposals with the Union Government to make Srinagar, Gulmarg and Pahalgam pollution free.

Development of Sinkhedraja as a Tourist Centre

5615. **SPRI MUKUL WASNIK :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is and proposal to develop Sinkhedraja, in District Buldana which is the birth place of Jijamata, the mother of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, as a centre of tourist attraction; and

(b) if so, the steps taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). Sinkhedraja in District Buldana is not one of the centres identified by the Department in consultation with the State Government for phased development in the Centre, State or the private sector.

The State Government however had appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Balkrishna Ramachandra Wasnik for the development of Sinkhedraja in District Buldana. The recommendations of the Committee are presently under examination with the State Government.

Environmental Pollution in Doon-Valley

5616. **SHRI GANGA RAM :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that because of many factories springing up in the Doon Valley especially in the suburbs of Dehra Dun and Rajpur township, there is alarming environmental pollution which has adversely affected the vegetation and animals and human beings of the area, many of whom have developed Bronchitis and Tuberculosis of lungs;

(b) whether according to the experts the quantum of water will be reduced so much that by 1995 even two hours supply will not be possible;

(c) whether due to environmental pollution and indiscriminate felling of trees and mining, the annual rainfall has come down to 30"—40" from 90" and maximum temperature has gone up from 25 degree celcius (recorded in early sixties) to 32.5 degree celcius (recorded in early eighties) in the Doon Valley; and

(d) what measures Government propose to undertake to check environmental pollution in the Doon Valley ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) The environmental pollution caused by a large number of lime kilns and other polluting units like cement plants, in and around Dehra Dun, has caused air pollution adversely affecting the vegetation and the living beings. The incidence of the occurrence of Bronchitis and Tuberculosis of lungs has, however, not been studied in details so far.

(b) The question is hypothetical and in cannot be said with certainty what will happen 10 years hence.

(c) While it is true that micro climatic changes have taken place thereby resulting

in increase in temperature and decrease in annual rainfall, it is difficult to quantify these changes until a detailed time series analysis of the data is carried out.

(d) Being fully conscious of the adverse environmental impact due to deforestation and mining operations in the Valley, the following remedial measures are being undertaken :—

(1) Mining operations in the Valley have been controlled to a great extent;

(2) The polluting industries in and around Dehra Dun are being dispersed to reduce the particulate concentration. A ban has been imposed on setting up of major air polluting industries.

(3) U.P. Pollution Control Board is carrying out monitoring of ambient air quality in Doon Valley to assess pollution load;

(4) A Regional Master Plan is under preparation to ensure that the natural resources in the Valley are optimally utilised.

Activities of Foreigners in Bastar (Madhya Pradesh)

5617. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the activities of foreigners in the tribal majority district of Bastar in Madhya Pradesh have again become intensified;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the purpose behind their visits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Artificial Rains

5618 SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how far artificial rains have been found successful in the country;

(b) the names of places where experiments have been conducted for the artificial rains during the last three years;

(c) the future programme chalked out in this regard; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose for the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS
OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS
(SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Artificial rain making experiments conducted so far have indicated a trend of success.

(b) During the last three years experiments have conducted at :—

(i) Sirur and Baramati (Semi Arid) regions of Maharashtra State;

(ii) Around Madras City;

(iii) Linganamakki catchments area (Karnataka)

(c) In addition to the ongoing experiments in Maharashtra using salt seeding technique, new experiments employing silver Iodide technique are being planned for South India.

(d) Rupees Fourteen Lakhs.

Plan for Scrapping Certain Nuclear Power Plants

5619. SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to scrap the difficult and erring nuclear power plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. All the five nuclear power units are currently operating satisfactorily.

(b) Does not arise.

Inter State Boundary Disputes

5620. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases regarding inter-state boundary disputes pending with the Centre;

(b) the reasons for these disputes; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to settle them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). Boundary disputes between the following States involving territorial claims/counter-claims are pending :

(i) Assam and Nagaland;

(ii) Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(iii) Karnataka and Kerala; and

(iv) Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

These disputes can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned and towards this end the Central Government will be glad to extend all assistance to the State Governments. It is not possible to lay down any time limit for resolving these matters.

[Translation]

Expenditure Likely to be Incurred for Afforestation in U.P.

5622. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure likely to be

incurred under the State and Central Heads during the Seventh Five Year Plan for afforestation in hill areas in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to start some schemes in this area with the assistance from international organisations and with foreign aid also; and

(c) if so, the details of such schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

(b) There is no proposal to seek assistance from international organisations for afforestation in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Nagpur-Akola-Chandrapur Vayudoot Service

5623. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to start Vayudoot service from Nagpur-Akola-Chandrapur (Maharashtra) ;

(b) if so, whether Maharashtra Government has requested the Union Government to start Nagpur-Akola-Chandrapur Vayudoot service;

(c) if so, whether any final decision has been taken by the authorities in this regard; and

(d) if so, when the said Vayudoot service will start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal to operate on this route was not considered feasible.

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

Centrally Protected Monuments in Orissa

5624. SHRI SOMNATA RATH : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have prepared master plans for the proper preservation protection and conservation of the centrally protected monuments located in Orissa;

(b) if so, the name of the Centrally protected monuments for which master plans have been prepared; and

(c) the funds earmarked in 1985-86 for implementation of those Master Plans ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). So far a master plan for Konark has been prepared by the Government of Orissa which is under examination by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) Funds to the extent of Rs. 10 lakhs have been tentatively allocated for the Bhubaneshwar Archaeological Circle in 1985-86 for the upkeep of various protected monuments including Konark.

[Translation]

C.B.I. Proble against I.A.S. Officers

5625. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of I.A.S. Officers against whom Central Bureau of Investigation conducted inquiry during the last three years, State-wise and the number of those officers who have been found guilty;

(b) whether Central Bureau of investigation is also conducting inquiry against some I.A.S. Officers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The State-wise and year-wise break-up of the IAS officers against whom CBI conducted inquiry during the last three years is as follows :

Name of the State	1982	1983	1984
Haryana	2	—	—
Manipur	1	—	—
Maharashtra	1	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	2	—	—
Bihar	—	—	2
Punjab	—	—	1
West Bengal	1	—	—
Union Territories	4	1	—
Total :	11	1	3

Investigation has been completed in cases. Seven cases, namely, 2 of Haryana, 1 of Madhya Pradesh, 3 of Union Territories and 1 of West Bengal have been closed for want of sufficient evidence. 1 officer of Manipur is facing trial as well as departmental proceedings. The CBI has recommended prosecution against 1 officer each of Madhya Pradesh and Union Territories; departmental action against 1 officer of Maharashtra; and suitable action as deemed fit against 1 officer each of Bihar and Union Territories.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Exemption from Central Excise Duty of Certain TI-68 Items

5626. DR. C.S. VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the department of Electronics has received representation from the

Indian T.V. Manufacturers' Association, New Delhi to exempt certain TI-68 items from the Central Excise duty;

(b) if so, whether his department has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance;

(c) if so, whether Ministry of Finance has given their consent; and

(d) if so, details thereof and by when a final decision to exempt the Central Excise duty on certain TI-68 items is likely to be taken ?

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

(b) to (d). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Organisations Receiving Foreign Contributions in Tamil Nadu

5627. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of institutions/organisations receiving foreign contributions in Tamil Nadu particularly in Tirunelveli District; and

(b) whether these contributions received from abroad are utilised for the purpose for which they are intended ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) In 1982 for which computerised data is available, in Tamil Nadu 592 institutions/organisations (not being organisations of political nature not being political parties) having a definite cultural, economic, educational religious or social programme sent intimations about receipt of foreign contributions. Forty such institutions/organisations belong to Tirunelveli District.

(b) Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 requires the recipient organisations to furnish the intimation of receipt

of foreign contribution on half yearly basis and to maintain separate sets of accounts and records exclusively for foreign contribution received and utilised calendar year basis and to submit such yearly accounts duly certified by a Chartered Accountant to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[*Translation*]

Dacoity in Running Train

5628. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item appearing on the front page of 'Janasata' dated 14th February, 1985 under the caption 'Dakaiton ne mahila ko chalti train se fenka' (dacoits threw a woman out of a running train);

(b) if so, the time when Delhi Police came to know about this accident and the steps taken to apprehend the culprits; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any effective steps to check increasing incidents of crime in Delhi and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information about the incident was received by the Delhi Police Control Room through Police at 10.58 PM on 10-2-85. On receipt of information, the SHO, New Delhi Railway Station and his staff rushed to the place of occurrence. A case u/s 395/397 IPC has been registered, which is under investigation.

(c) Delhi Railway Police is providing protection to the passengers by way of patrolling at the platforms and in the running trains by sending escorts.

[*English*]

New Method to Collect Information for Progress of Projects

5629. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Government

Agencies/Departments incharge of implementing various projects are making inordinate delay in supplying necessary information to the National Information Centre and Planning Commission on the progress of various projects;

(b) if so, the action taken against such Agencies/Departments;

(c) whetner centre proposes to adopt any new method to collect latest information regarding the progress of various projects; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No, Sir. There is no inordinate delay in the supply of necessary information to the Planning Commission by the various Government agencies/Departments incharge of implementation of projects.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A new monitoring system for Central sector projects costing over Rs. 100 crores each has been introduced recently. Under this system, a brief Flash Report is sent by the project authorities concerned through telex/telegrams within 3 days of the close of the month. After analysis in the Planning Commission, an Output Flash Report is generated on the computer of the National Informatic Centre. The Output Report can be accessed on the terminals of NIC computer located, among other places, in the Planning Commission.

Excessive fare charged by Air India

5630 SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the profits of Air India during the last three years, year-wise break-up thereof;

(b) sector-wise profit in each year;

(c) whether there is any proposal to rationalise fare of Air India; if not, reasons therefor;

(d) whether any complaint has been received in the past about excessive fare charged by Air India in any sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the complaint ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The net profit of Air India during the last three years, i.e. 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 was Rs. 38.04 crores, Rs. 57.39 crores and Rs. 34.00 crores (provisional) respectively.

(b) Sector-wise profit is not worked out in Air India. Route-wise results are maintained. A statement showing the route-wise operating profit/(loss) for the last three years, i.e. 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 is attached.

(c) Fares are fixed as under :

- (i) Worldwide, in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) forum, for fares to be applied by all I.A.T.A. Member airlines.
- (ii) Bilaterally in regard to Government directed/bilateral fares which are based on agreement between the two countries concerned. For example, YE120 USA/INDIA/USA.

In both these categories, rationalisation is done keeping various factors in mind such as—

- (i) The need to protect Air India's revenue and market share.
- (ii) The need to obtain adequately high yields, to cover All India's costs.
- (iii) The need to cater for special requirements such as high/low season, distinct categories of traffic, such as students, genuine tourists, businessmen, etc.
- (iv) The need to ensure that fares are so structured that they are not undercut by other combinations.
- (v) The need to generally gear the fare to the distance flown.

There is no specific proposal under consideration to rationalise fares on Air India, since the process of rationalisation is continuing process in the light of various factors such as economic, competitiveness of the market, operating costs, etc.

(d) and (e). As to representations from Keralites living in India or abroad, in their individual capacity or through

their associations/Unions in regard to fare structure between Gulf and India have been received in the past. These were carefully considered. The air fares between India-Gulf sector have been fixed multilaterally at the International Air Transport Association (IATA) forum and ratified by the concerned Governments, are considered reasonable, and it is not open to Air India to charge lower fares unilaterally.

Statement

The route-wise operating profit/(loss) of Air India during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85

Route	Profit/(loss) in crores of Rupees		
	1982-83 Actual	1983-84 Actual	1984-85 Estimated
India-U.S.A.	(0.52)	0.67	(4.43)
India-Canada	(5.50)	(9.67)	(6.02)
India-U.K.	(4.03)	(4.92)	(7.00)
India-Continent	(9.09)	(10.08)	(11.83)
India-Japan	(5.92)	(0.68)	(4.37)
India-Australia	(7.59)	(7.28)	(6.11)
India-Gulf	94.96	119.68	96.86
India-U.S.S.R.	0.37	0.62	2.17
India-Singapore	(4.34)	(1.71)	2.47
India-East Africa	(0.52)	(2.11)	(2.31)
India-West Africa	(0.38)	(1.32)	(2.31)
India-Mauritius	(0.50)	(0.73)	(0.60)
India-Zimbabwe	(1.69)	(0.82)	(1.36)
India-Zambia	0.84	(0.98)	(0.87)
India-Bangladesh	(0.62)	(0.97)	(0.62)
FREIGHTER			
India-Japan	1.11	1.73	3.36
India-U.S.A.	0.23	1.48	(0.29)
India-Europe	(0.88)	(0.42)	(0.45)
India-U.K.	(1.32)	0.06	(0.54)
India-Zurich	0.36	0.42	1.33
Total :	55.73	82.97	57.08

Vayudoot Services to Tourist Places

5631. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the places of foreigners tourist interest in India where Vayudoot service has been started;

(b) the places among those which are not so connected;

(c) the time by which this is likely to be done; and

(d) whether he is aware that by losing time in the matter Government are losing valuable foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) to (d). Vayudoot was conceived with the objective of connecting inaccessible areas of the North-Eastern region and to link the stations not served by Indian Airlines which are important as centres of trade and commerce or from the point of view of tourism. The Company has so far air-linked 31 stations all over the country including stations which are important from the point of view of tourism. In addition, Vayudoot also offers facilities of charters within India for tourist groups to places where landing strips are available.

Restoration of Air Services between Belgam and Bangalore and vice-versa

5632. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the air service between Belgam and Bangalore and vice-versa was cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether Government propose to restore the air-service between Belgam and Bangalore and vice-versa; and

(d) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The airlink between Belgam and

Bangalore was withdrawn due to low passenger demand.

(c) and (d). Indian Airlines do not propose to reintroduce the service as the existing traffic does not justify such a service for the present.

Traffic Violations Cases in Delhi Courts

5633. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases regarding police challans for traffic violation by motorists are pending settlement in lower courts of Delhi;

(b) if so, the present position in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to appoint honorary Magistrates as in the past to clear the mounting number of these cases; and

(d) if not, steps proposed to be taken by Government to expedite settlement of these cases in lower courts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 15-4-85, a total number of 1,72,707 challans for traffic violations were pending in various courts in Delhi.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration.

(d) Delhi Police have taken up the matter with the judicial authorities for expeditious disposal of such cases.

Procedure for Disposal of Passport Applications

5634. SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 652 on 20 March, 1985 regarding procedure for disposal of passport applications and to state :

(a) the number of passport applications received by the Regional Passport Officer

Ahmedabad during January to March, 1985;

(b) out of the total number of passport applications received by him, the number of applicant who were granted passports within 7 days, 15 days, one month and over one month from the date of receipt of the applications;

(c) the number of passport applications found incomplete and how many of them were informed to comply with the requirements and within what period; and

(d) whether passport applicants are given guidance at the Passport Office counter before receipt of applications so that all formalities are completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) Number of passport applications received by R.P.O. Ahmedabad is as follows :

January	1985	7481
February	1985	7580
March	1985	4709

(b) During January to March, 1985, Passports granted :

(i) within 7 days	45
(ii) within 1 month	160
(iii) over 1 month	149
(iv) over 1 month	811

(c) 124 cases :

- (i) on the same day if the application was submitted personally;
- (ii) within 7 days if received by post.
- (d) Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Manufacturing of Janata Model Colour T.V. Sets

5635. SHRI SATYANARAYAN PAWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had formulated a scheme for manufacturing Janata Model colour television sets; and

(b) if so the time by which these television sets will be made available to the public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) ET and T, a public sector undertaking under the Department of Electronics formulated a scheme to provide Material Technology and Brand Name under their MTB plan so as to make low cost TV Sets available without compromising on the quality.

(b) ET and T has commenced test marketing of these sets and they will be progressively made available to the public.

[*English*]

Social Forestry in the Country

5636. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state : how far the social forestry in the country for which a large amount of money is invested, has benefited the rural people in terms of fuel and fodder ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : Fuel wood and fodder availability has increased in areas where Social Forestry has been taken up; however the demand is still very much higher than availability.

[*Translation*]

Investigation in sea water around Dwarika

5637. SHRI NARASINH MAKWANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the finding of investigations undertaken by the Archaeological Department and Institute of Oceanography in sea waters around Dwarika;

(b) when were these operations started and by what time they are likely to be completed and estimated amount of work yet to be completed; and

(c) the amount of expenditure incurred

and likely to be incurred in future and whether Government have received full report in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Archaeological Department has not undertaken any under sea water survey work. Dr. S.R. Rao, Retired Superintendent Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India undertook investigation with logistic support provided by the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa. Work carried out in Bet Dwarika region off Gujarat coast revealed archaeological evidence. These have been reported to be of Late and Post Harappan period.

(b) The investigation in the Dwarika region was started in June, 1981. It is not possible, at this stage, to provide the likely time of completion of this work. According to Dr. S.R. Rao, 3/4th of the work proposed is yet to be completed.

(c) Indian National Science Academy (INSA) sanctioned an amount of Rs. 20.95 lakhs for this comprehensive project in July, 1981. The Department of Science and Technology has sanctioned Rs. 11.27 lakhs for a period of three years in October, 1984 for the comprehensive project on Marine Archaeological studies in Indian waters. The National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 5.30 lakhs on this project till date. The details of likely expenditure to complete the activities at Dwarika are not available. A report on the progress achieved upto 1982 has been submitted to INSA by Dr. S.R. Rao.

[English]

Money Spent of Atomic Power Stations

5638. SHRI E.S.M. PAKKER MOHAMED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total money spent construction of atomic power stations in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : Total capital expenditure incurred upto March 1985 is about Rs. 390 crores on the five nuclear power units in operation and about Rs. 559 crores on the units under construction.

India Newzealand Cooperation

5639. SHRI C.P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the recent visit of Prime Minister of Newzealand to India any new grounds have been broken for further cooperation between India and Newzealand in the fields of trade, commerce and political relations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes.

(b) Following the recent visit to India of the Newzealand Prime Minister, it has been decided to strengthen cooperation in various fields such as trade, economic and technical co-operation, culture etc. Newzealand Prime Minister expressed his desire to import Indian machinery, textiles etc. While India has interest in importing items like paper, wool etc. The Newzealand Government has recently re-opened its resident Diplomatic Mission in New Delhi with an eminent person as its High Commissioner and other supporting staff including a Trade commissioner.

During the visit, both the Prime Ministers had an exchange of views on bilateral, regional and international issues leading to a better understanding between the two countries. Our High Commission in Newzealand which was being headed by an Acting High Commissioner is being upgraded and new High Commissioner is expected to join shortly.

With the stated desire of the New-

zealand Government to foster a closer relationship with India, we may look forward to a betterment of our relations with New Zealand.

Airport at Pondicherry

5640. Dr. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Union Territory of Pondicherry is without an Airport;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to construct one Airport there; and

(c) if so, when it will be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are no immediate plans to construct an airport in Pondicherry.

(d) Does not arise.

Maintenance of CRs of Government Servants

5641. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to review the instructions in respect of maintenance of Character Rolls or Confidential Reports of the Government servants; and

(b) whether any instances of misuse of power by higher officers, in writing Confidential Reports of their subordinate officers have come to the notice of Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K P. SINGH DEO) : (a) A review of the Performance Appraisal System has been taken on hand by Government.

(b) With a view to minimising the operation of subjective human element and of conscious bias, the instructions relating to preparation and

evaluation of Confidential Reports provide for assessment at two levels. Further, adverse remarks if any, have also to be communicated to the Government servant concerned to afford him an opportunity of representing against them. In view of these built-in safeguards in the procedures, there is little scope for misuse of power in writing Confidential Reports.

Settlement of Cases of Freedom Fighters from Tamil Nadu

5612. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether applications for freedom fighters' pension are pending with the Freedom Fighters' Division of the Ministry for a long time and in some cases, for several years;

(b) whether such pending cases include cases where the State Government concerned has sanctioned State Government pension and has recommended grant of Central Government Freedom Fighters' pension;

(c) the number of applications/cases from the State of Tamil Nadu falling under (a) and (b) above; and

(d) whether Government propose to fix a time-limit for passing final orders in each pending case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Out of a total of 430,415 applications received so far both under the 1972 and 1980 Schemes, pension has been sanctioned to 132,859 freedom fighters and their dependents as on 31-3-1985. 191,187 cases have been rejected and 106,368 cases are pending mainly for want of verification reports from the State Governments.

(b) The grant of pension under the State Scheme does not automatically constitute eligibility for Central Pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme as the criteria of eligibility under the State Scheme and the Central Scheme are quite different. However, a few of the cases recommended by various State Governments are under consideration.

(c) 374 cases are pending for want of verification reports from the Government of Tamil Nadu, out of which 17 cases in which reports of the State Government have been received are under consideration of the Governments.

(d) As the cases are finalised on the basis of the verification reports of the concerned State Governments, it is not possible to fix a deadline for settlement of all the applications. Every effort is, however, being made for speedy disposal of the pending applications. The following steps have been taken for their expeditious settlement :

- (i) On instructions from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the State Governments have set up Special Cells to deal with the applications.
- (ii) The State Governments on advice of the Central Government have also set up Committee at District/ State level to advise for verification and scrutiny of claims.
- (iii) The Government have also set up a Non-Official Advisory Committee at Central level to consider major problems in implementation of Samman Pension Scheme and to tender advice to Government.

**Provision in SGPC Budget for Training
in Arms at Sikh Shrines**

5643. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :
SHRI SHANTARAM
POTDUKHE :
SHRI LAKSHMAN
MALLICK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have information about the provisions made in the 1985-86 budget of Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC) for special arrangements for training in arms at some sikh shrines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount earmarked for such training during 1984-85;

(d) the nature of training proposed to be imparted in the Sikh shrines;

(e) the names of shrines proposed to be used for such training; and

(f) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (f) According to the available information, the SGPC has provided Rs. 2.50 lakhs in the budget estimate for 1985-86 and had provided Rs. 35,000/- for 1984-85 for imparting 'Shashtar Vidya' to be organised in the following Sikh Shrines :

1. Sri Darbar Sahib, Amritsar.
2. Gurdwara Dukh Niwaran Sahib, Patiala.
3. Sri Darbar Sahib, Taran Tarn.
4. Gurdwara Sri Fatehgarh Sahib, Sirhind
5. Gurdwara Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Sahib, Jind.
6. Sri Darbar Sahib, Muktsar.
7. Gurdwara Sri Ber Sahib Sultanpur Lodhi, Kapurthala.
8. Gurdwara Baba Gandha Singh, Barnala.
9. Gurdwara Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Sahib, Dhamtan Sahib.
10. Takhat Sri Dam Dama Sahib, Talwandi.
11. Takhat Sri Keshgarh Sahib Anandpur Sahib

(2) The authorities are vigilant and are keeping a close watch in the matter. Suitable action will be taken against these found indulging in unlawful activities.

**Funds for SC/ST Programmes During
1985-86**

5644. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Plan for the year 1985-86 provides Rs. 207 crores for various programmes benefiting the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and programmes;

(c) whether these funds will be released by the concerned Ministries to the States for SC and ST programmes; and

(d) if so, the funds proposed to be distributed to the States, State-wise and the funds provided for SCs and STs out of the said Central Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Out of Rs. 207 crores during 1985-86, Rs. 42 crores have been provided for the Centrally Sponsored Schemes as detailed below and Rs. 165 crores as Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes -

(Rs. in crores)

1. Post Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	10.00
2. Pre-matric Scholarships to children of those engaged in unclean occupations.	2.50
3. Construction of Girls Hostels for Scheduled Castes and Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	5.00
4. Book Banks for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' students in Medical and Engineering Colleges.	0.55
5. Pre-examination Training Centres for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	0.70
6. Implementation of PCR Act including liberation of scavengers.	5.50
7. Scheduled Castes Development Corporations.	15.00
8. Research and Training for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	1.00
9. Aid to Voluntary organisations engaged in the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	1.75
Total	42.00

In addition, a provision of Rs. 140 crores has been made for providing Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan.

(c) and (d) Necessary funds for these schemes are released by the Ministry of Home Affairs to the State Governments on the basis of the proposals received from them showing matching provisions made in the State budget. Information regarding expenditure incurred out of the grant released to them during the previous years and physical targets achieved are also taken into account while releasing funds to different States. No State-wise allocation is made in the beginning of the year.

Poor Condition of Forests

5645. **SHRI M RAGHUMA REDDY :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether our forests are in poor shape;

(b) if so, full details of actual drop in forest cover as revealed by Satellite Photography;

(c) whether the data of Satellite forestry available with the Union Government authorities at Dehradun has not been furnished to M Ps although they have been

asking for it during last three years and if so, corrective steps proposed;

(d) the concrete and positive plans to achieve real 30 per cent for cover as per National Forest Plan; and

(e) how much time and funds are needed for this and actual funds provided in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Owing to biotic pressures many of our forest areas are in a state of degradation.

(b) National Remote Sensing Agency has on the basis of Satellite imagery estimated that between 1972-75 and 1980-82, the forest cover has reduced as under :

Year	Extent under forest cover in million hectares	Percentage of forest cover to the geographical area
1972-75	55.52	16.89
1980-82	46.35	14.10
Estimated reduction	9.17	2.79

This estimate may need some revision due to the following :

- (i) Some of the imagery relates to periods during autumn when the trees are leafless, which impaired reflectance of the vegetation.
- (ii) Some of the forest areas were not registered in the imagery owing to shadow and obstruction by cloud cover.
- (iii) Young and immature plantations, the canopy of which was not fully developed, cannot be identified as forest areas by satellite imagery.
- (iv) The scale of the imagery being for too small, small patches of forest areas were not registered which resulted in cumulative error.

The figures arrived at by the National Remote Sensing Agency through imagery are being verified with ground truth.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). The outlay for forestry under the Seventh Five Year Plan is being finalised. A National Wastelands Development Board is being set up with the object of bringing 5 million hectare of land annually under fuelwood and fodder plantations. The funds required for this work would depend on the area to be covered, the phasing of the programme and the extent of people's participation. Details are being worked out.

“Details of Pollution by Industries in Orissa”

5646. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has asked Government of Orissa to collect detailed information regarding the air and water pollution due to establishment of medium and major industries in that State;

(b) if so, the total villages, population and rivers affected by these industries, industrywise there; and

(c) if it has not yet been collected by that State so far, the reasons for such delay though there were guidelines from Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) The Central Pollution Control Board had asked the State Pollution Control Boards, including Orissa Board to prepare an inventory of industries (Large and Medium sector) with reference to their pollution control status

(b) Total population and villages affected by Air and Water Pollution have not been surveyed by the State Board.

(c) No guidelines were issued for collecting data on affected villages and population in the above industrial survey. However, State Government of Orissa and State Pollution Control Board have taken

up programmes to assess significant pollution in rivers and population and villages affected.

**Manpower Engaged in Projects Undertaken
by I.A.A.I Foreign Countries**

5647. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :
Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the projects undertaken by the International Airport Authority of India in the foreign countries;

(b) the Indian manpower engaged in each project;

(c) the total number of employees in the offices of International Airport Authority of India and whether reservation policy for appointment of SCs and STs is being implemented by the Authority or not; and

(d) the number of SC and ST employees in the office of International Airport Authority of India and the number of SC and ST labourers sent abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) The International Airport Authority of India have undertaken the following projects in foreign countries :

1. Construction Projects

(i) New Ghat Airport Project in Libya including Terminal Building, Airport lighting and Air Force Camp. (Completed).

(ii) Brak Airport Project in Libya (Phase I of the project has been completed and Phase II is in progress).

(iii) Riyan Airport in Republic of Yemen (Completed).

(iv) Al-ghaidha Airport in Republic of Yemen (in progress)

(v) Airport in Maldives (Completed).

2. Consultancy Projects

(i) Evaluation of airport at Attutaki Cooks Island. (Completed)

(ii) Development of airport at Narau. (Completed)

(iii) Development of airport at Mafia in Tanzania (Completed).

(iv) Development of airports at Batna and Setif in Algeria. (in progress).

(b) The number of Indians employed in the ongoing foreign projects as on date is :

Brak airport project in Libya	124
Al-ghaidha airport project in South Yemen	40
Datna and Setif airport projects in Algeria	8
Total :	172

(c) The International Airports Authority of India have 4981 Employees as on 1-1-1985.

The International Airports Authority of India is strictly following Government's extent policy disectives on reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

(d) The number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in the International Airports Authority of India as on 1-1-1985 are 1255 and 162 respectively. The details of SC/ST employees/labourers in the ongoing projects are :

Sl. No.	Project	Regular employees		Contract employees		Total	
		SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST
1.	Project in Libya	13	—	8	1	21	1
2.	Al-ghaidha project in South Yemen	4	—	2	—	6	—
3.	Batna and Setif projects in Algeria	1	—	—	—	1	—
Total :		18	—	10	1	28	1

[Translation]

Computer Maintenance Corporation

5648. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Computer Maintenance Corporation was set up in 1975;

(b) if so, the functions thereof ; and

(c) the details regarding the progress made by the above mentioned Corporation since 1975 to date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The name of the Corporation was changed to CMC Limited in August, 1984.

(b) The functions cover total computer support services including maintenance, system engineering, equipment supply, software development, systems consultancy services, computer site preparation, education and training, R and D etc. and providing technical services abroad and export of software.

(c) The progress achieved is stated below :

1. In the beginning emphasis was on providing maintenance services. In June, 1978 when IBM phased out of India, CMC undertook services for users of IBM equipment in India regardless of the type, age, size or location of the machines. CMC is now providing maintenance at 80 locations in India to 386 mainframe computers (large systems) of 30 leading foreign manufacturers apart from punches/verifiers and unit record equipment. CMC also gives site preparation support to users organisations. CMC is also executing a number of software and system engineering projects such as :

(a) Project INTERACT, through

UN assistance, for promoting real-time computer applications in developing countries;

(b) Giving engineering support to Project CLASS (Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools) ;

(c) Developing an all-India Computer Network called INDONET for commercial applications whose installation will begin in 1985-86 ;

(d) Special Software Development like message Switching System Software, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Software for Power System management, portable relational data base software, etc.

(e) Development of LIPI, a multi-lingual word processor ;

(f) Development of GRAPHICS, an invaluable tool for graphics application developers ; and data Base Management 'ADMIN' based on the Network.

2. Other activities of CMC include :

(a) Organising Education and Training programmes ;

(b) Functioning as canalising agency (now decanalised) for peripherals floppy drives, Matrix and Line Printers and Winchester Drives;

(c) CMC has also undertaken a turnkey job for on-line Passenger Reservation System for Northern Railway.

3. CMC's turnover has been steadily increasing. As against Rs. 5.5 crores turnover in 1978-79 the estimated turnover in 1984-85 is Rs. 22 crores.

Allocation of Money for Advancement of Electronics

5649. SHRI KAMLA PRATAD RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of money earmarked by Government for the advancement of electronics for the year 1985-86 ;

(b) the items on which the said amount is likely to be spent under the annual

plan ; and

(c) the details of amount spent on various items during 1984-85 item-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). The details are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Plan Projects of the Department of Electronics

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	Amount Earmarked for 1985-86	Amount Spent During 1984-85
1	2	3

A. CORPORATIONS :

1. Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET and T)	100.00	150.00
2. Computer Maintenance Corporation (CMC) Limited	500.00	175.00
3. Semiconductor Complex Ltd. (SCL)	960.00	743.00

B. SOCIETIES :

4. Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engg. and Research (SAMEER)	230.00	96.89
5. Centre for Development of Telematics (CDOT)	720.00	50.00

C. DEPARTMENTAL PROJECTS :

Continuing Schemes

6. System Engineering and Consultancy in the Area of Radar and C 31 Systems.	50.00	—
7. Centre for Advanced Studies in Electronics	200.00	132.69
8. Electromagnetic Interference/Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMI/EMC) Studies Programme	120.00	80.10
9. Reliability Studies Programme	80.00	30.68

	1	2	3
10. Headquarters		150.00	29.57
11. Special Components and Materials Programme		80.00	36.54
12. National Silicon Facility		545.00	136.42
13. Standardisation, Testing and Quality Control (STQC)		450.00	385.19
14. Manpower Development and Social Electronics		33.80	473.22
15. Centre for Excellence, Regional Dev. etc.		166.20	7.54
16. Centre for Electronic Design Technology (CEDT)		200.00	47.00
17. Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS)		400.00	*
18. Development of Amateur Radio Activity		5.00	25.00
New Schemes			
19. Electronics Components Development Fund		10.00	—
20. Centre for R and D Production of Power Semiconductor Devices		10.00	—
D. SCHEMES UNDER CCI-WING			
Continuing Schemes			
21. National Centre for Software Development and Computing Technology (NCSDDCT)		250.00	267.00
22. National Informatics Centre (NIC)		1800.00	2542.25
23. Computer Centres Programme		200.00	35.00
24. Software Development Programme (CAD, CAM, CAI, etc.)		200.00	173.32
25. Centre for Dev. and Production of Computer Mainframes		1000.00	18.63
26. Fibre-Optics Systems Application Promotion Programmes (FOSAPP)		100.00	—
27. Generation of Special Manpower for Computers.		350.00	*
28. Appropriate Automation Promotion Centre	}	400.00	102.12
29. Microprocessor Application Dev. Programme			
30. Mining Electronics Equipment Development			

*Expenditure on these project during 1984-85 is included in scheme No. 14 under manpower development.

1	2	3
31. National HVDC Experimental Line Project	250.00	87.73
32. Centre for Flexible Manufacturing Technology	100.00	—
New Schemes		
33. Telematics Development and Promotion Programme	100.00	—
34. Fifth Generation Super-Mini Computer Design Programme	30.00	—
35. Advanced Technology Programme in Computer Networking	50.00	—
36. Software Export Promotion Programme	10.00	—
37. Instruments Maintenance Programme	10.00	—
E. S and T PROGRAMMES :		
38. Technology Development Council Projects	300.00	223.70
39. National Radar Council Projects	200.00	258.57
40. National Micro-Electronics Council	200.00	—
Total :	10560.00	6307.16

Foreign Trade with E.T. and T.D.C.

as indicated below :—

5650. SHRI KAMAL PRASAD RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which foreign trade has increased as a result of setting up the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation, since 1974 to date; and

(b) the number of persons to whom testing and measurement machines have been made available at cheaper rates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) ET and T's operations have contributed to the growth of foreign trade in electronics, both import and export, as can be seen from its turnover growth since its inception in 1974,

Year	Total turnover (Rs. in lakhs)	Exports (Rs. in lakhs)
1974-75	87.63	—
1975-76	179.10	3.84
1976-77	649.12	50.99
1977-78	1154.49	128.19
1978-79	1218.65	86.77
1979-80	1086.05	80.94
1980-81	1451.79	151.25
1981-82	2160.66	111.80
1982-83	6362.24	108.85
1983-84	3123.98	125.92
1984-85	7396.99 (Prov.)	154.90 (Prov.)

(b) ET and T has been importing and supplying testing and measuring equipment to various organisations and users. So far, ET and T has supplied these equipment to more than 350 parties at competitive prices by bulk buying of these equipment from various international sources.

[English]

Foreign Investment to Develop Various Tourist Resorts in the Country

5651. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether many foreign countries are being asked to invest in India to develop various tourist resorts of the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the details of the facilities being given to the foreign investors;

(d) whether Government of Japan has shown its willingness to invest for the development of Bodhgaya and other places of Buddhist pilgrimage;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government intend to permit foreign investors to invest on hotels etc. in India; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (d). No, Sir.

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

(e), (f) and (g). For the development of hotel a commodation of international standards for foreign tourists, Government has been permitting foreign investment and collaboration with renowned international chains in certain specialised technical services like planning, designing and equipping of hotels and their international marketing. Foreign collaborators can invest in equity in foreign exchange upto 30% of the total equity capital and can repatriate dividend or any payments due to them after payment of Indian taxes.

Construction of a Stadium at Alipurduar

5652. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether to encourage rural athletes, the Government propose to construct a stadium at Alipurduar in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, by what time it will be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). No proposal for constructing a stadium at Alipurduar in Jalpaiguri District has been received from the Government of West Bengal.

Facilities to Handicapped Persons/Children by the Department of Tourism

5653. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the hotel facilities which have been provided by the Department of Tourism at various places in the States;

(b) whether there are any special facilities or concessions made available to the handicapped persons/children; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to provide such facilities and concessions to the Handicapped persons/children also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) The Department of Tourism does not by itself provide any hotel facilities.

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

Inclusion of Kuduma Community in the List of Scheduled Castes

5654. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Orissa

and some MPs from that State have suggested to the Union Government to include "Kuduma" community in the State of Orissa in the list of Scheduled Castes; if so, the action taken by Government thereon;

(b) whether Government are aware that the "Kuduma" Caste is a fraction of "Kandapa" caste which is included in the list of Scheduled Caste; if so, the reasons for not including the "Kuduma" Caste in the list of Scheduled Castes; and

(c) whether Government propose to include this community in the list of Scheduled Castes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). Proposal has been received regarding treating of 'Kuduma' community as synonym of *Kandra*. *Kandara* which has been specified as Scheduled Caste in relation to the State of Orissa, and not 'Kandapa' which has not been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in Orissa. The comments received from the Government of Orissa cannot be disclosed in the public interest.

(c) The above proposal along with other such proposals are being considered in the context of the proposed comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as any amendment in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be done only through an Act of Parliament in view of Articles 341(2) and 342(2) of the Constitution.

Publication of Census Data

5655. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inordinate delay in the publication of census data by the Registrar General of Census Operation in relation to speakers of various dialects, languages, religious groups and other categories of people; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this delay and the likely date by which the data would be published?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) There has been no inordinate delay in the publication of census data by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India who has already published the figures relating to religious groups based on data collected in the household schedules in 1981 Census and the figures of general population, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The tabulation of data relating to language/mother tongue is in process and there is no inordinate delay in this case also taking into account the volume of work involved.

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

Setting up of Atomic Power Station in Himachal Pradesh

5656. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the request of the Himachal Pradesh Government for the location of an Atomic Power Plant in the State;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider and take an early decision about the location of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). In the immediate future, expansion of the existing station at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan which forms a part of Northern Electricity Region has been approved. A final decision with regard to various other sites for location of future atomic power plants in the Northern Electricity Region of which Himachal Pradesh forms a constituent part, is yet to be taken.

Zonal Councils for Promoting Regional Culture

5657. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up zonal councils to promote and integrate regional cultures;

(b) the details of the steps taken/proposed by Government in the matter; and

(c) the salient features of the proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to set up zonal cultural centres in the country.

(b) and (c). The Zonal Cultural Centres will lay special emphasis on people's participation in cultural activities and would emphasize separate identities as well as similarities by the Zone in a sense that it would be a symbol of unity in diversity. These would be suitably illustrated in terms of various artistic manifestations like music, folk dances, folk crafts and tribal arts. A Zonal Centre for Northern Zone is being set up at Patiala covering the States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan. The details are being worked out. Another such centre for the Eastern Zone will be set up shortly at Shantiniketan.

Development of Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh

5658. SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are good prospects of tourism in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the annual budgetary allocation—Plan and non-plan, for Arunachal Pradesh year-wise for the last three years;

(c) the Centre's annual budgetary

allocation—plan and non-plan, for the other States and Union Territories for the last three years; and

(d) the contribution/share of the State Governments and Union Territory Governments for the same period year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State annual budget for the last three years is as follows :

(Rupees in lakhs)		
Year	Non-Plan	Plan
1982-83	8.80	0.53
1983-84	8.73	0.58
1984-85	9.00	0.66

(c) and (d). The Department does not have state-wise budget allocations. Instead the Department provides financial assistance whenever the State Governments/ Union Territories propose suitable tourism projects. Such projects are entertained by the Department subject to availability of funds and inter-se priorities. Presently, there is no proposal from Arunachal Pradesh pending with the Department.

Revision of Ceiling Line for Identifying Persons below Poverty Line

5659. SHRI S.L. MURMU : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (c) of Unstarred question No. 4308 on 22 August, 1984 regarding revision of ceiling line for identifying person below poverty line and state :

(a) whether the deliberations of Study Group have since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c). The Study Group on Concepts and Estimation of

poverty line. constituted by the Planning Commission in connection with the Seventh Five Year Plan, has submitted its report which is being examined by the Planning Commission.

Filling up Post of Commissioner for SCs/STs.

5660. SHRI S.L. MURMU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4280 on 22 August, 1984 regarding filling up of post of Commissioner for SCs/STs and state :

(a) whether the post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has since been filled;

(b) if so, the particulars of the incumbent; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not filling the post so far and the time by which it is likely to be filled by a competent person ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) The offer of appointment has been sent to the officer selected for the post. He has accepted the offer. He has been asked to join immediately.

Establishment of Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Museum in Delhi

5661. SHRI S.L. MURMU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4306 on 22-8-1984 regarding establishment of Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Museum in Delhi and state :

(a) whether final decision has since been taken in the matter by Government;

(b) if so, when the same is going to be established in Delhi; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) to (c). The reference in the Question to an earlier Unstarred Question (No.4306, answered on 22-8-84) relates to a representation from "Voluntary Social Organisations including individuals and Delhi Scheduled Castes and Welfare Association, (Regd.), Ambedkar Bhavan, New Delhi", for establishment of Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Museum in Delhi at 26, Alipur Road. Further information had been solicited in this question regarding Government's reaction to the representation and the proposed Government action. In the reply given on 22-8-1984 the House had been informed that the representation has been forwarded to Delhi Administration and the matter was under their consideration.

According to the latest information received from Delhi Administration, the building in question, which is a private property, has since been demolished and the site converted into a modern commercial complex. Delhi Administration has informed there is no proposal to set up the Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Museum at present.

Proposal to Open More Tourist Offices Abroad

5662. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tourist offices functioning abroad;

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to open more tourist offices abroad; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries in which these are likely to be opened and by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) The required information is given in the statement attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) U.S.A.

1. New York
2. Chicago
3. Los Angeles

ONE MAN OFFICES

1. Washington
2. San Francisco
3. Miami
4. Dellas

} These one man offices
have been closed with
effect from 31-3-85.

CANADA

4. Toronto

U.K.

5. London

SWITZERLAND

6. Geneva

FRANCE

7. Paris

WEST GERMANY

8. Frankfurt

BELGIUM

9. Brussels

SWEDEN

10. Stockholm

ITALY

11. Milan

AUSTRIA

12. Vienna

AUSTRALYA

13. Sydney
14. Singapore

JAPAN

15. Tokyo
16. Kuwait

THILAND

17. Bangkok

MALAYSIA

18. Kuala Lumpur

CEYLON

19. Colombo—The office will start functioning as soon as officer is posted.

5. Melbourne
6. Osaka
7. Dubai
8. Katamandu (Nepal)

} These one-man
offices are
also in the
process of being
wound up.

20-Point Programme in West Bengal

5663. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has monitored progress and or conducted studies about the implementation of the Centre's 20-Point Programme in West Bengal during the Sixth Plan period 1980-85 ;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken and the result thereof;

(c) the progress in West Bengal as compared to the progress in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Assam Madhya Pradesh in the matter of implementation of the 20-Point Programme;

(d) whether the guidelines issued by the Centre have been followed by the West Bengal Government while implementing this programme;

(e) the total outlay approved by the Centre for expenditure on 20 Point Programme in West Bengal and the actual expenditure incurred thereon during 1980-84; and

(f) the programmes in which West Bengal is lagging behind ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Planning Commission has been regularly monitoring the progress of implementation of the 20-Point Programme in all States including West Bengal from 1982-83 onwards, when the implementation of the Programme was undertaken. No separate studies about the implementation of the Programme in West Bengal have been conducted.

(b) The West Bengal Government is furnishing Monthly and Quarterly Progress Reports on the implementation of the Programme regularly in the prescribed pro-formae according to the guidelines. A table showing the targets and performance of the State Government in the implementation of the 20-Point Programme for 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1108/85]

(c) The performance in the implementation of 20-Point Programme in West Bengal as compared to Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Assam and Madhya Pradesh is shown in the table below.

State	Bank in Performance		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
West Bengal	16	19	19
Maharashtra	10	2	1
Uttar Pradesh	13	10	6
Orissa	7	8	13
Bihar	17	17	15
Assam	22	13	14
Madhya Pradesh	6	4	16

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The 20-Point Programme was announced on 14th January, 1982 and its implementation was taken up under the Annual Plan 1982-83. The outlays for the 20-Point Programme are not fixed specifically. These are derived from the outlays for the various developmental sectors, as the 20-Point Programme forms integral part of the Annual Plans. The derived outlays and expenditure on the 20-Point Programme in West Bengal from 1982-83 onwards are given in the table below.

Year	(Rs. crores)	
	Outlay	Expenditure
1982-83	299.40	294.10
1983-84	289.45	269.97
1984-85	235.25	364.57
		(Likely)

(f) The attached table gives details of the performance of West Bengal and the national average in each item. The State may be considered to be lagging behind in those items in which its performance is below the national average.

**Agreements with N.R.D.C. for Setting up
Mini Cement Plants in Haryana**

5664. SHRI LALA RAM KEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some firms entered into agreement with N.R.D.C. to set up mini cement plants in Haryana ;

(b) if so, the names of such firms and details thereof ;

(c) whether these parties have already spent huge amount on the construction of building, machinery, foundation work etc. of the said plants after the agreement with N.R.D.C. ;

(d) whether N.R.D.C. is not taking any initiative to help these parties in getting the loan assistance etc. ;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(f) the steps being contemplated to save the interests of such parties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir, two firms have entered into agreements with National Research Development Corporation of India (NRDC) for setting up mini cement plants in Haryana.

(b) (i) M/s Aravali Cement Pvt. Ltd.

(ii) M/s Swarajya (Narnaul Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd., Sona.

(c) M/s Aravail Cement Pvt. Ltd. have placed order for the machinery worth Rs. 9.8 lakhs with the fabricators approved by the N.R.D.C. The project of M/s Swarajya Cement Industries Pvt. Ltd. is under implementation.

(d) to (f). N.R.D.C. has been extending all assistance to these firms in connection with their application to the financial institutions. M/s Aravail Cement has sought financial assistance from Banks and N.R.D.C. has supported their request. M/s Swarajya Cement Industries has been

financed by Haryana State Financial Corporation and the project is progressing.

**Cancellation and Delay of Indian Airlines
Flights**

5665. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines flight 273 was cancelled on 16 June, 1984 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether similar delays were there on flight 184 on 1 and 2 June, 1984 ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Indian Airline flight IC-273 of 16th June, 1984 was operated as scheduled. Flight IC-273 of 15th June, 1984 was, however, postponed for operation on 16th June, 1984 due to late availability of aircraft and subsequent non-availability of the crew.

(c) and (d). Indian Airlines flight IC-184 Delhi-Bombay operates with the crew of IC-402 coming from Calcutta. As the departure of IC-402 from Calcutta was delayed on 1-6-84 due to grounding of one Airbus aircraft, the flight IC-184 from Delhi was also consequently delayed.

Sari Pratha

5666. SHRI AMARSINH RATHWA .
SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Sati Pratha is still continuing in certain parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice of Government during the last five years ; and

(c) the steps being taken to check this system in the country ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):**

(a) to (c). There is no specific information or report with the Government to conclude that Sati Pratha is still continuing in certain parts of the country. No data regarding number of women committing Sati is compiled on All India basis as law and order including crime is a State subject. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are responsible for enforcing law relating to offences.

**Purchase of Colour and Black and White TV
Sets from E.C.I.L.**

5667. SHRI BANWARI LAL
BAIRWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER
be pleased to state :

(a) how many consumers are registered with ECIL for purchase of colour TVs and Black and White TVs at each delivery centre till date and by what time the present waiting list will be exhausted keeping

in view the production of colour TV and Black and White TV sets ;

(b) how many colour and Black and White TV sets have been allotted to consumers out-of-turn during the last year ;

(c) the categories and criteria adopted for allotment of EC TV out-of-turn to consumers ; and

(d) how many applications and pending for out-of-turn allotment with the company as on date ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-
NOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS
OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC
ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS
(SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :** (a) Number of consumers registered with ECIL for purchase of Black and White and Colour TV Sets at each delivery centre as on 31-3-85 is as under :—

Delivery Centre	No. of Consumers Registered for	
	Black and White	Colour
Ahmedabad	600	1,887
Bangalore	52	1,775
Bombay	2,000	7,624
Calcutta	700	3,028
Chandigarh	150	971
Delhi	415	5,874
Hyderabad	Nil	3,049
Indore	Nil	441
Jaipur	Nil	1,855
Kakinada	Nil	102
Lucknow	Nil	1,980
Madras	52	1,679
Nagpur	250	356
Panipat	Nil	324
Pune	1,200	897
Raipur	Nil	394
Tirupathi	Nil	73
Vijayavada	Nil	264
Total :	5,419	32,573

Present waiting list for Black and White sets is expected to be cleared in about 3 months and Colour sets before the end of this year.

(b) Number of sets allotted on out-of-turn basis during the period 1-4-84 to 31-3-85 is as under :

Black and White	:	Nil
Colour	:	976

(c) 5% of the production of CTV sets is earmarked for out-of-turn allotment. Of the total number of sets available for out-of-turn allotment 70% is distributed among the various business groups of ECIL for allotment to their clients in the interest of business promotion and marketing. Remaining 30% is allotted to VIPs, educational institutions and against Government priorities.

(d) About 500 applications are pending for out-of-turn allotment.

[Translation]

Working of Atomic Energy Reactors

5668. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress in regard to the work of the Atomic Energy Reactors in Kota, Tarapur, Kalpakkam and Narora is satisfactory;

(b) whether these stations are working to their installed capacity; and

(c) if not, the time by which these would start working to their full capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. All the five nuclear power units are currently operating satisfactorily. The second unit at Kalpakkam is expected to be commissioned this year and two units at Narora are expected to be commissioned in 1987-88 and 1988-89 respectively.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Expenditure on Rhinos on their Catching and Transportation

5669. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how many rhinos were caught in Assam and brought to Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) how many of these rhinos died, where and why ;

(c) the price paid for each rhino and the other expenses incurred on catching and transport and the mode of transport;

(d) whether Government propose to buy more rhinos from Assam or anywhere else ;

(e) if so, the economics of this operation ;

(f) whether any foreign experts have been engaged for this ; and

(g) if so, the previous experience of these experts about rhinos and any other Indian animals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). In March-April 1984, five rhinos were captured in Assam and translocated to Uttar Pradesh for release in the Dudhwa National Park as part of a reintroduction programme for the species. Of these, two rhinos died, one due to infection after abortion and the other possibly due to damage of the radial nerve.

(c) Rs. 3.18 lakhs were paid to the Government of Assam for each animal. The total expenditure on the capture, crating and transportation of the rhinos was Rs. 3.78 lakhs.

(d) and (e). During March-April 1985, four rhinos were captured in Nepal and taken to the Dudhwa National Park, where they have been released. In exchange, the Government of Uttar Pradesh will be giving captive elephants to Nepal.

(f) and (g). The F.A.O. Chief Technical Advisor at the Wildlife Institute of

India, Dehra Dun, was associated with this project. He has previous experience of capture of rhinos in Assam and Bihar and has captured a total of 20 Indian rhinos. He has also experience on African rhino and of drug immobilisation of African and Asiatic elephants and various ungulates, including deer and antelopes.

Export of Computer Software

5670. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is India's share in export of computer software in the world market; and

(b) the details of software exported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) As compared to world software market of US \$ 11 billion in 1983 India exported computer software worth Rs. 17 crores, during the same year.

(b) The details of the software exported during the last few years is as follows :

1981	—	Rs. 10.2 crores
1982	—	Rs. 13.5 crores
1983	—	Rs. 17.0 crores
1984	—	Rs. 24.0 crores

The software exported from India consist

of-application software in the areas of business, engineering, management, online transaction, banking, consultancy service, feasibility reports, system conversion etc. to the countries in Europe, USA, Middle East and Japan.

Allocation for 20-Point Programme

5671. SHRI SURESH KURUP :

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated by Union Government to each State and Union Territory and their own contribution towards the implementation of 20-Point Programme in 1984-85; and

(b) the break-up of utilisation of funds by each State and Union Territories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). The outlays for the 20-Point Programme are not fixed separately, as the Programme forms an integral part of the plans of States and Union Territories. Outlays for the 20-Point Programme are derived from the Sectoral outlays under the Plan. There is no separate figure of the States' own contribution for implementing the 20-Point Programme. Central Assistance to the State Plans is given in the form of block loans and grants and not for individual schemes/programmes. A Statement showing the derived outlays and likely expenditure during 1984-85 on the 20-Point Programme in States/Union Territories is attached.

Statement

20-Point Programme—Outlay and Expenditure—1984-85

Sl. No.	State/U.Ts	Outlay	(Rs. crores)
			Expenditure Likely
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	659.77	771.52
2.	Assam	233.97	262.88

1	2	3	4
3. Bihar		529.91	552.10
4. Gujarat		626.41	588.26
5. Haryana		281.60	301.52
6. Himachal Pradesh		97.84	98.27
7. Jammu and Kashmir		96.89	99.40
8. Karnataka		439.48	453.81
9. Kerala		210.22	210.22
10. Madhya Pradesh		814.30	811.08
11. Maharashtra		964.43	863.99
12. Manipur		30.66	30.80
13. Meghalaya		24.31	24.31
14. Nagaland		16.99	20.51
15. Orissa		262.02	274.77
16. Punjab		305.85	285.67
17. Rajasthan		270.54	278.23
18. Sikkim		12.59	12.60
19. Tamil Nadu		458.22	479.47
20. Tripura		31.89	45.86
21. Uttar Pradesh		1068.68	1129.57
22. West Bengal		235.25	364.57
1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		7.57	7.57
2. Arunachal Pradesh		25.12	25.12
3. Chandigarh		7.58	7.65
4. Dadar and Nagar Haveli		4.91	4.80
5. Delhi		88.98	88.77
6. Goa, Daman and Diu		25.55	27.59
7. Lakshadweep		1.09	1.10
8. Mizoram		14.53	14.91
9. Pondicherry		9.98	10.37

Cracks in Taj Mahal

5672. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**
SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that serious cracks and CANCER is fast developing in Taj Mahal, Agra since five years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) steps being taken by Government to stop cracks and CANCER so as to preserve the originality of this monument ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No cracks of a serious nature or cancer have developed in Taj Mahal during the last five years. The cracks noticed in Taj Mahal have been in existence for decades. The tell-tales fixed by the Archaeological Survey of India in 1943 have shown no further expansion of the cracks.

(b) and (c). The cracks are mainly due to oxidization of iron dowels and clamps. These are replaced by non-corrosive metallic dowels and clamps. A High Power Expert Committee has also been set up to examine all problems relating to the conservation and preservation of Taj Mahal.

Implementation of Official Language

5673. **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :**
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision with regard to effective implementation of official language;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the country is likely to have one national official language ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement given the requisite information is enclosed.

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement

The Central Government have taken the following important decisions to implement the provisions on Official language as contained in the Constitution, the Official Languages Act, 1963 and the Official Languages, Rules, 1976 :—

1. To ensure the progressive use of Hindi in the Official work of the Central Government and with a view to co-ordinate the work being done by the various Ministries/Department, a Kendriya Hindi Samiti has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. It includes some prominent Central Ministers, Chief Ministers, Members of Parliament and eminent non-officials also as its members.
2. Hindi Salahkar Samitis have been constituted in various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government to advice for the use of Hindi as Official Language.
3. Central Official Language Implementation Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Hindi Adviser to the Government of India and Secretary, Department of Official Language to review the implementation of instructions relating to the Official Language.
4. Official Language Implementation Committees have been set up in the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government. Besides Ministries/Departments, Official Language Implementation Committees have been set up in Attached and Subordinate offices and offices of Corporations and Companies where 25 or more persons are employed.
5. Town official Language Implementation Committees have been set up in 65 cities of the country to review and coordinate the progress in the use of Hindi in local Central Government offices.
6. The Department of Official Language prepares an annual programme each

year which is circulated to all Ministries/ Departments/Offices of the Central Government. Progressive use of Hindi is sought to be ensured through this annual programme.

7. With a view to accelerating the progressive use of Hindi, the Central Government have initiated many incentives scheme which are as follow :—

- (a) Scheme of awarding Rajbhasa Shield, Trophy and medals.
- (b) Grant of incentive allowance to Stenographers and Typists for doing their official work in Hindi in addition to English.
- (c) Incentive Scheme to original Hindi noting/drafting in official work.
- (d) Scheme of monetary incentives on passing Hindi examinations under Hindi Teaching Scheme.
- (e) Scheme of monetary incentives on passing the Hindi Typing/Hindi Stenography examination under Hindi Teaching Scheme.

Amount written off by S.O.C. of IX Asian Games

5674. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS, be pleased to state :

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 512576.11 written off by the SOC of IX Asian Games have been written back and adjusted in the amount of 1983-84; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Special Organising Committee has intimated that this accounting adjustment was necessitated due to the fact that certain consumable items of stores issued to various field agencies and charged as consumption during 1982-83 were subsequently returned by them, after the close

of financial year. These were written back and adjusted in prior period expenses on reconciliation between store records and corresponding financial account.

Arms Haul at Madras Harbour

5675. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated 4 April, 1985 wherein it has been stated that a large quantity of arms and ammunitions was seized at Madras Harbour from a container which was booked from Singapore;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted and if so, outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The vessel M.V. Sea Express which arrived at Madras Harbour on 15-3-85 carried among other items a container said to contain waste paper. When the container was opened in the presence of Officials on 2-4-85, it was found that it contained arms & ammunitions, gas cylinders, transmission sets etc. A detailed list of items found in the container is given in enclosed statement.

(c) The matter is under investigation.

Statement

Inventory of Items found in Container

1. 20 cases each containing 15 sets of stenguns—i.e. a total of 300.
2. 70 Gunny covered bundles each containing 10 pieces of rifles—i.e. a total of 700.
3. 241 packages (cases) containing bullets.
4. High pressure Gas Cylinders—15 Nos.

5. One carton Belt for Cylinders—15 Nos.
6. One bundle Cylinder valves—15 Nos.
7. 51 Nos. bundles of cloth.
8. 2 Cartons—Photo copying machine and one power transformer.
9. 2 Cartons—Trans—Receivers.
10. 3 Cartons containing 4 Nos. Communication Receivers.
11. 2 Cartons—Hammock—120 Nos.
12. One carton—Amplifiers.
13. One carton—Retender Regulator.
14. One bundle white paper.
15. Antenna—5 Nos.
16. 3 Nos. Connectors and 2 pices connection wires.
17. Six bales Kraft waste papers.

Construction of Building by Asiatic Society

5676. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 34 lakh sanctioned by the Planning Board of the Asiatic Society during the year 1984-85 for the construction of its bicentenary building remained unutilised; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Planning Board of the Asiatic Society which is an advisory Board, recommended an allocation of Rs. 53 lakhs during 1984-85 for the construction of two additional floors on the existing building of the Society. The Society, however, earmarked Rs. 12 lakhs for the purpose for the said year.

(b) The amount could not be spent as the plans and estimates of the proposed

construction could not be cleared through the local authorities due to restrictions imposed under the recently altered building bye-laws of the Calcutta Corporation. The possibilities of setting the work executed by the CPWD is being examined.

Checking of Deforestation in Rural and Hill Areas

5677. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether deforestation has become a problem in the rural and hill regions due to shortage of gas, kerosene and cement etc;

(b) the steps taken so far to check deforestation in rural and hill regions; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider regular marketing of these commodities at subsidised rates in such areas in order to protect forests and also ensure regular supply to the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) As consumption of gas and kerosene in the rural and hilly regions is insignificant, their shortage does not create any more deforestation problem. Shortage of cement does not pose a problem to the protection of forests.

(b) The following steps are taken to check deforestation :—

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest lands to non-forest uses.

Guidelines have been issued to States and Union Territories for the preparation of working (management) plans and the working of forests.

The States and Union Territories have been advised to strengthen the enforcement machinery at the field level.

The National Forest Policy is being reviewed to provide the needed thrust in favour of forest conservation and to create a massive people's movement for this purpose.

A massive programme of afforestation is proposed to be undertaken.

An indepth study is being undertaken with a view to work out the modalities for relieving the pressures on forests, specially by encouraging the use of substitute materials.

(c) A regular marketing system exists for commodities like gas and kerosene and the price of kerosene and cooking gas is subsidised by Government. As regards cement, there are two categories viz. levy and non-levy cement available to consumers. Levy cement is sold at controlled rate and is allocated for various uses by the Civil Supplies Department.

Forest-Based Industries to be set up in the Seventh Five Year Plan

5678. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up forest based industries in various States;

(b) if so, the number of such forest based industries which have been set up in different States during the last two years;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the number of forest based industries in the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(d) if so, the number of such forest based industries which are proposed to be set up in Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected from the various States and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in due course.

Joint Commission of India and Argentina

5679. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Argentina concluded an agreement on bilateral economic cooperation and decided to set up a joint commission to institutionalise such cooperation;

(b) if so, what are the agreements that have been signed between India and Argentina in the month of September last; and

(c) to what extent India and Argentina will benefitted and the relations between the countries further improved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Agreed minutes of the Indo-Argentina Joint Committee on Trade were signed in September, 1984.

(c) It is expected that the Agreement will consolidate, develop and diversify the economic relations between the two countries through a larger reciprocal and permanent cooperation in various areas.

Anthropological Survey of India

5680. Dr. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Anthropological Survey of India proposes to set up a centre for advanced study in anthropology during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to come into being ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Government has no such proposal at present.

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

Setting up of Forest Based Industries in Amrawati

5681. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the possibilities to set up forest-based industries in Amrawati district in Maharashtra have been explored;

(b) if so, the possibilities of setting up such industries in Amrawati district in Maharashtra;

(c) the special steps taken by Government to set up forest based industries; in Melghat Division (Mandal) in Amrawati district; and

(d) the details in this regard ?

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

(b) There is no scope for establishing large-scale forest-based industries in Amrawati district in Maharashtra. Other industries such as manufacture of doors and windows, bullock-carts, agricultural implements, tool handles, furniture, toys, picture-frames, etc. and oil-extraction units exist in the small-scale, cottage-scale and artisan sectors.

(c) and (d). A special study group for examining the feasibility of establishing forest-based industries has been appointed by the Maharashtra Government Oct., 1983. Details are awaited.

Output of Computer

5682. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great need to increase the output of computers in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to boost computer output;

(c) the incentive proposed to be provided for this purpose during the year 1985-86; and

(d) the target fixed for the production of computers for 1985-86 ?

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

(b) Government announced new computer policy on 19-11-1984 to enable manufacture of computers based on the latest

technology in the country, at prices near international prices and progressively increase indigenisation consistent with economic viability. The new Computer Policy provides for manufacture of mini-computers/microcomputers including Personal Computers by any Indian Company i.e. wholly owned Indian companies and companies with foreign equity not exceeding 40% in the private or public sector. The new policy has removed restriction on capacity and manufacture of low-cost systems (below Rs. 3 lakhs) even by units in the organised sector.

(c) The Government have announced reduced rate of custom duty for the components/parts required for the manufacture of computer and computer peripherals. The Government have also completely removed excise duty on the indigenously produced components and peripherals.

(d) Production of computers worth Rs. 150 crores has been targetted for the year 1985-86.

Grant and Assistance to Artist

5683. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the year between 1981 to 1984 there was any financial assistance or grant or any other kind of help such as land, building, given to any individual, performing artist, public and private institution from the Ministry of Culture ; and

(b) if so, the names of the artist and the institution, belonging to which State and the criterion for such assistance and grant and its utilisation particulars ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Clearance of Land in Krishna District Under Nagarjuna Sagar Canal System

5684. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Forest has vadam Major in Mylavaram Taluk (i) Kakarla Major in Tiruvuru taluk (ii) Vel vadam Major in Mylavaram Taluk (iii) Marusumalli Minor in Muzvid Taulk, etc. all in Krishna district under Nagarjuna Sagar Canal System ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no forest at the places concerned ; and

(c) if so when the proposal regarding drilling of these canals will be cleared by the Forest Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Two proposals were received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the release of forest lands for the construction of Kakarla Major canal, Velvadam Major canal and Marusumalli Minor canal in Krishna District.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The aforesaid proposals of the State Government lacked certain essential details and hence the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to furnish such additional information to facilitate an early decision in the matter. No reply has been received from the State Government.

Recommendations of Committee on Orientation of Forest Education in India

5685. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the main recommendations of the committee on 'Orientation of Forest Education in India' contained in their final report to Government ;

(b) whether Government have examined

their recommendations and discussed them with the concerned Ministries/Departments to accept them for implementation;

(c) if so, how far the recommendations have been implemented by them;

(d) whether the States and Union Territories were also called for discussion on the Report and if so, the reaction of the States thereto; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) The main recommendations of the Committee on Orientation of Forest Education in India included :

(i) suitable revision of the syllabus for training of forest officials to provide adequate perspective to them on tribal problems;

(ii) Forest Research Institutes and Colleges to monitor tribal development orientation programmes of forest officials and coordinate research programmes connected with shifting cultivation, forest village development etc.;

(iii) training of Planning and Development officers and personnel working in tribal areas in forestry;

(iv) provision of appropriate curriculum at different levels of school and higher education in forestry; and

(v) need for creation of a Council of Forest Research and Education and inclusion of forestry as an optional subject in competitive examinations.

(b) to (e). The recommendations made in the report have been brought to the notice of all State Governments/Union Territories and concerned Central Ministries. The University Grants Commission has already circulated revised guidelines for restructuring of courses in various faculties. The National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development have designed a new course for Bank personnel

keeping in view the recommendations of the Committee. The State Governments/Union Territories have favourably reacted to the recommendations and are taking action on the lines suggested.

Vayudoot Services in Southern Part of the Country

5685. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to start Vayudoot flights in the Southern part of the country has since been finalised;

(b) if so, the names of the cities which are likely to be benefited by this service ; and

(c) the time by which flights will start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) to (c). Vayudoot has commenced operations in the Southern part of the country with effect from 6-4-1985. At present, it is operating to the stations of Hyderabad, Cuddapah, Rajamundry, Tirupathi, Mysore and Bangalore. Warrangal is proposed to be airlinked shortly.

Progress of Talks with Laldenga

5687. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of the talks with the Mizo leader, Laldenga, for the settlement of the Mizo problem;

(b) whether while these talks are going on, his followers in Mizoram have formed a peace panel; and

(c) the objectives of the peace panel and whether Government have assessed the undertones of such a move ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) The talks with Shri Laldenga are still continuing.

(b) and (c). No such peace panel has yet been formed by the followers of Shri Laldenga.

Pattern of Central Aid to States

5688. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Assam has requested for a change in the pattern of central aid ;

(b) the nature of the request ; and

(c) Government's reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of Assam has asked for a change in the pattern of Central assistance for the State's Plan to 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan in place of the existing pattern of 30 per cent grant and 70 per cent loan.

(c) Central assistance to the extent of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan as new requested by Assam Government is already being given for the development Plans of the hill areas in Assam. The present request of the Government of Assam implies extension of this pattern of assistance to the entire State which requires to be examined in the context of the overall pattern of Central assistance applicable to all States.

Alert on BSF in Tripura

5689. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on April 3-4, 1985, Border Security Forces on the Amjadnagar-Belonia of Tripura's international boundary with Bangladesh were alerted ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Tripura had requested the BSF to provide protection to

the civil labour so that the construction of an embankment on the Indian side of the Athai Nallah near Amjadnagar could be completed. BSF troops in the area were alerted to ensure that this work was completed without any obstruction.

Genetic Engineering Centre under UNIDO

5690. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the site for campus for Genetic Engineering Centre under UNIDO has been selected ;

(b) whether the Director for the Centre has been appointed ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir, the site for the New Delhi component of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) has been selected.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The Director for the Centre has not yet been appointed. According to the statutes of the Centre, the Director is to be appointed by the Board of Governors which consists of all member countries of ICGEB. The coming into existence of the Centre and the appointment of the Board of Governors will have to wait till the statutes are ratified by minimum of 24 countries. Ratification is now in progress.

Five Days Week in Indian Space Research Organisation

5691. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the order regarding Restricted Holidays and five days a week implemented in the BARC one year ago are proposed to be implemented in Indian Space Research Organisation ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

Expenditure by SOC on Medals, Uniforms, Kits, etc.

5692. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) how much money was spent by Special Organising Committee for IXth Asian Games on medals, uniforms and press kits ; and

(b) how much of the above material was unused and the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDHRA SINGH) : (a) Details of expenditure incurred by the Special Organising Committee are :

	In lakhs
(i) Medals	Rs. 21.20
(ii) Uniforms	Rs. 66.06*
(iii) Press Kits	Rs. 3.30
	Rs. 90.56

(*In addition, uniform items worth about Rs. 20 lakhs were procured free against official suppliers status).

(b) Value of items still lying unused are :

	In lakhs
(i) Medals	Rs. 2.75
(ii) Uniforms	Rs. 7.83
(iii) Press Kits	Rs. 0.63
	Rs. 11.21

Some of the reasons for surplus stores are :

- (i) Certain number of excess medals had to be got made, as possibility of ties in different games could not be ruled out.
- (ii) Uniforms were stitched on all-India pattern of sizes and some excess was inevitable.

[Translation]

Dacoities Committed in India

5693. SHRI KALYAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of dacoities committed in India during 1985-86 till date and how does this figure compare with the number of such incidents in other prominent countries of the world ;

(b) whether Government have formulated any national level scheme to check this criminal tendency ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are responsible for enforcing laws relating to offences. Number of dacoities for the year 1985-86 is not available for the country. No data regarding total number of dacoities committed in prominent countries of the world is compiled. 'Public order' including crime, being a State subject, there is no specific scheme under consideration at the national level. However, the Planning Commission have set up a Working group for the development of dacoity-prone areas of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. For the deliberations of the working group, the State Governments were asked to give their proposals for the development of the dacoity-prone areas in their States. The details of the development projects received from the States have been submitted to the working group.

[English]

Delay in IAC Flight Nos. 497 and 498

5694. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether IAC flight Nos. 497 and 498 are delayed every day on their forward and return journeys;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether many travelling passengers including some M.P.s have lodged complaints several times in the complaint books of the Indian Airlines about the frequent delays ;

(d) if so, the dates on which such complaints were made ; and

(e) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) During the months of January, February and March, 1985 flights IC-497/498 were delayed on eleven, thirteen and fifteen occasions respectively;

(b) The delays were mostly due to bad weather and consequential delays as the earlier flights operated by the same aircraft had been delayed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) These complaints were made on 17th February, 21st February, 29th February, 9th April, 13th April and 15th April, 1983.

(e) Due to the accident to one B-737 at Calcutta on 8th February, 1985 flight IC-498 had to be operated by the aircraft operating the incoming flight IC-492. The rescheduling caused consequential delays to IC-497. Indian Airlines propose to resolve this problem in the summer schedule.

Re-Enforcement of B.S.F. and C.R.P.F. Battalions in Tripura

5695. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Tripura

asked for re-enforcement of B.S.F. and C.R.P.F. battalions in the State;

(b) if so, to what extent and reasons for the same ; and

(c) what has been the response of Government to such request ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). The Tripura Government had requested for deployment of one BSF battalion for strengthening border and also for deployment of two Assam Rifles battalions for operations against extremists. One BSF battalion was given to Tripura during July 1984 which is still continuing there. As Assam Rifles battalions could not be provided to Tripura, one additional battation of CRPF was inducted into Tripura in April 1985.

Development of Tourism in Digha, Midnapur in West Bengal

5696. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government have taken during the Sixth Plan period to develop tourism at Digha ;

(b) the steps Government propose to take during the Seventh Plan period to develop tourism at Digha, Midnapore, West Bengal ; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (c). In the Sixth Plan, the Department agreed in principle to provide funds for the construction of a tourist lodge and cottages at Digha at an estimated cost of Rs. 40.17 lakhs. This scheme will be executed during the Seventh Plan period.

Development of Sports among Tribals

5697. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far or proposed

to be taken by Government in near future to develop sports activities among the tribal people of our country ; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). With a view to encouraging sports activities in the country including among tribal people, Central Government in concert with the State Governments and U.T. Administrations have a number of schemes in operation, which include (i) All-India Rural Sports Tournaments (ii) Sports Talent Search Scholarships Scheme (iii) Scheme for grants to State Sports Councils, etc. Under the Scheme of grants to State Sports Councils/Other Voluntary Bodies, State Government/U.T's are requested to ensure that as far as possible percentage of sports activities/facilities allocated in tribal areas should not be less than the percentage of tribal population in those States/Union Territories.

The on-going programmes as mentioned above will continue in 1985-86 with increased outlays. A new scheme of promotion of sports in outlying areas is also proposed.

E.T. and T.D.C.'s Office at Los Angles

5698. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) since when the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation is having its office at Los Angles and which are other countries where the said Corporation runs its offices;

(b) the annual expenditure in each country and income during the last three years giving country/year-wise break-up;

(c) the mode of recruitment of staff/officers with year-wise strength during the last three years ;

(d) whether E.T. and T.D.C. charges service charges for exports from the manufacturers ; and

(e) if so, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Los Angeles Foreign Office started functioning from 20-12-1978. It was converted into a trading office from September, 1979. The

Corporation had 2 more offices, one at Warsaw and other at Moscow. However, the executives at these offices were called back during March, 1982/May, 1982 and substitutes have not been posted yet.

(b) Figures regarding annual income and expenditure of these offices are given below :

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Year	L.A. Office		Warsaw Office		Moscow Office	
	Income	Expn.	Income	Expn.	Income	Expn.
1981-82	6.05	6.23	—	3.03	—	1.62
1982-83	8.62	8.56	—	0.76	—	—
1983-84	5.46	8.56	—	—	—	—

NOTE : The Warsaw and Moscow offices are in the nature of liaison offices and hence the income from these offices is accounted for in the income of the company. For 1983-84 the expenditure in respect of these offices was 'NIL' as the executives posted had been recalled early in 1982 and no replacements were posted.

(c) Recruitment of staff is through notification of vacancies to the concerned Employment Exchange in respect of posts falling under the purview of Employment Exchange (CNV) Act, through absorption of trained apprentices under the apprentices Act, and in other cases by press advertisement. Officers of the Corporation are recruited through Press Advertisement, Campus Selections in leading educational/training institutions, besides by promotion of eligible staff as per rules.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Nominal service charges are levied by ET and T for rendering services such as locating markets, interfacing with foreign buyers, participating in exhibitions to display Indian products etc. Being a commercial organisation only reasonable service charges are levied based on expenses.

Inquiry Commission

5699. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Inquiry Commissions constituted by Government during the last three years and for what purpose ;

(b) the number out of them which have submitted their reports ;

(c) how many are still working and how many have become defunct ; and

(d) how much expenditure has been

Year-wise strength of officers and Staff during past three years

Years	Officers	Staff (Non-executive)	Total
1981-82	96	116	212
1982-83	79	128	207
1983-84	90	148	238

incurred on them so far, giving year-wise break-up for the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Capacity utilisation of Air India and Indian Airlines

5700. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fleets owned by Air India and Indian Airlines alongwith the capacity in each case ;

(b) whether both the airlines do not have full utilisation ;

(c) if so, the percentage of unutilisation in each airline with reasons for the same ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to merge both the airlines in respect of manational and international routes for better utilisation of the available capacity ; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) The details of the fleets of Air India and Indian Airlines are as under :

Air India

Type of aircraft	Number	Seat capacity
Boeing 707	5	146
Boeing 747	10	377
A3004 BA	3	238

Indian Airlines

Type of aircraft	Number	Seat capacity
A300B2/B4	10	273/271
B 737	25	126
F 27	8	44
HS 748	11	48

(b) and (c). The aircraft fleet of the two airlines is being used to the optimum extent taking into account the pattern of operations.

(d) and (e). There is no proposal to merge the two airlines. Indian Airlines and Air India are, however, jointly conducting a study to identify spare capacity, if any, and how best to utilise the same.

[Translation]

National Wasteland Development Board

5701. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : DR. A. K. PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased state :

(a) whether he had announced on 5th January, 1985 that every year 50 lakh hectares of land would be utilised for growing grass and planting trees for fire wood purpose and a National Wasteland Development Board would be set up for declaring it as a national programme;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for the implementation of the programme;

(c) the amount of money set apart for this purpose during the current year; and

(d) the State-wise acreage of national wasteland being utilised or proposed to be utilised for planting trees for firewood and growing grass for the animals ?

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

(b) The following steps were taken.

1. A National Wastelands Development Board has been set up.
2. The Governments in the States and Union Territories have been requested to identify suitable areas for afforestation during 1985-86 and initiate preparatory action.

3. Detailed discussions were undertaken with senior officials of all State Governments.
4. Detailed discussions were also undertaken with non-Governmental organisations connected with work relating to afforestation programme.

(c) The Seventh Plan outlays are yet to be finalised.

(d) Extent of total area available is to be determined by the States.

[English]

"Pollution by Badarpur Power Plant"

5702 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of a study undertaken by Kalpaoriksh, an environmental action group on the dangerous health hazards to the population of Moland Band, Badarpur area and to the workers of the power plant due to constant coal dust settling on them from Badarpur Power Plant;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the demands raised by them;

(c) whether Badarpur Power Plant authorities are violating the rules of Central Pollution Control Board; and

(d) if so, the remedial actions taken/proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

"Anti-Pollution Boards"

5703. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up anti-pollution Boards in respect of important river valleys such as Godavari, Narmada, Kaveri, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when these Anti-Pollution Boards are likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

"Emissions of Sulphur Dioxide and Nitrogen Oxide."

5704. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any accurate studies have been made in the country on total quantity of emission of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide;

(b) if so full details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether the quantum of these emissions is comparable area-wise to those in the western countries such as Sweden;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) whether the quantum of emissions has decreased in the country due to the massive efforts of Department of Environment;

(f) the percentage of emission from road traffic cut of the total emissions; and

(g) whether these could be reduced by eliminating lead in petrol and its replacement with alcohol ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). No study has been made on the total emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide in the country. However, studies conducted in 13 cities of the country indicate that the ambient levels of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide are below the prescribed limits and lower than those of western countries.

(c) and (d). No assessment has been made so far.

(e) to (g). Countrywide status on the contribution of road traffic to the total emissions is not available. However, in Delhi the contribution of traffic emissions is of the order of 40%.

By eliminating lead in petrol, the emission of Sulphur Dioxide and nitrogen oxides will not be affected. Replacement with alcohol will affect it.

Return of Persons of Indian Origin Settled Abroad

5705. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons of Indian origin settled in foreign countries (other than Pakistan and Bangladesh) who had to flee to India to settle here during the last 20 years; and

(b) how Government of India propose deal with the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) About 2.17 lakh persons of Indian Origin have come to India from Burma, Uganda, Vietnam and Zaire during the last 20 years.

In the last two years since July, 1983 as a result of ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, a total number of 87,763 persons have come to India upto 1-5-1985.

(b) Persons from Burma who had applied for resettlement assistance within the prescribed time limits were given necessary relief and rehabilitation assistance according to the approved pattern for resettlement in agriculture and small trade/business. Some of these persons were also provided with employment. The residuary work concerning persons from Burma would be completed within the Seventh Plan period.

Regarding persons who came from Uganda, Vietnam and Zaire, they have settled themselves in the different States.

Those Sri Lankan refugees who have sought admission to our relief camps are

being given full relief assistance. Government hopes that conditions in Sri Lanka improve so that the refugees in India can return home in safety and dignity.

Decline in Foreign and National Tourists to Kashmir

5706. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign and national tourists who visited the Kashmir Valley, year-wise for the last three years ending 31st December, 1984;

(b) whether the number of both categories of tourists have dwindled; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) As per the information available from the State Government, the tourist arrivals in Kashmir Valley, during the last three years were as given below :

	Foreign	Indian	Total
1982	42,851	560,987	603,838
1983	41,101	398,428	439,529
1984	35,575	189,157	224,732

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The set-back to tourism in Kashmir Valley was mainly due to internal disturbances in J and K. and Punjab and the adverse media publicity abroad.

Tribal Welfare Programmes in Orissa

5707. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the Centrally Sponsored Tribal Welfare Programmes under implementation in Orissa at present;

(b) since when those programmes had been launched in Phulbani district;

(c) the amount spent in implementing those programmes Phulbani and other districts in the State; and

(d) the details of the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who have been benefited under those programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) to (d). The information called for from the State Government is awaited and will be laid on the Table of the House later.

“Use of Pesticides to Avert Damage to Health and Environment”

5708. **SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state :

(a) whether **IBRD** has issued any guidelines regarding use of pesticides to avert damage both to health and the environment;

(b) the salient features of the guidelines; and

(c) whether Government have taken steps to implement these guidelines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Yes Sir. The World Bank has issued guidelines for the selection, procurement and use of pesticides in Bank-financed projects.

(b) The details of the guidelines are given in the attached statement.

(c) The majority of the guidelines are covered under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and are, therefore, already enforced. The rest of the guidelines are also followed in principle.

Statement

The salient features of the guidelines are given below :—

A. Pest and Pesticide Management Practices

While pesticides will continue to play

an important part in pest management, an integrated approach combining the use of resistant varieties, biological control techniques and modified cultural practices where appropriate, together with judicious use of chemical pesticides, can offer better prospects for long-term control and reduced environmental damage while increasing the margin between benefits and the costs of control measures.

Use of pesticides as well as other control measures should always be the result of a considered evaluation that the benefits to be gained outweigh the direct and indirect costs, in-so-far as these can be assessed.

Every effort should be made to promote the Integrated Pest Management concept. Pesticides should be viewed as a short-term solution. The overall control of pest populations should be attempted by other methods, such as the use of crop varieties which are resistant or tolerant to the pest, biological control, and cultural practices etc.

Where ever possible, narrow-spectrum pesticides materials should be selected which are affective against the pest species but cause minimum harm to other useful insects i.e. natural enemies. Application methods and timing also should be aimed at minimizing the risk of harming these natural enemies.

To reduce the development of pesticide resistance, as few chemical pesticide applications as possible should be resorted to. For the control of agricultural pests, only those chemicals should be used which are not being used for control of human diseases in public health sector.

B. Handling, Storage and Application Safety

It is essential that proper precautions be taken in the packaging, transport, storage and disposal of pesticides and surplus pesticide containers; and the necessary equipment and proper in training in application techniques be provided to the users.

Standards of packaging of pesticides should be specified. Clear and durable

labelling of all packages to depict the hazardous nature of the contents should always be required. The labels should be in an appropriate language. To avoid hazards in the re-use of pesticide containers, manufacturers should be encouraged to design containers which discourage such re-use and to adopt the type of container where a suitable design already exists. For a situation, where accidents may occur, endangering the staff, people nearby and the surrounding environment, an assessment of the following would determine the adequacy of :—

- (a) the warning systems installed which would alert staff and the public to an emergency;
- (b) the established procedures to deal with such an emergency including evacuation of people if it should be necessary;
- (c) the availability and working order of emergency equipment; and
- (d) the training of staff and their regular practice of emergency drills.

To prevent contamination in the process of pesticide distribution, food materials should never be transported simultaneously with pesticides.

Persons handling concentrated materials should have protective face shields or goggles, gog gloves aprons and footwear and should be adequately supervised.

Operators and supervisory staff engaged in regular spraying operations should be trained in the specific first aid procedures for poisoning relating to the material being used.

Where pesticides are being supplied to farmers it is essential that materials are selected which can be applied safely and effectively without close supervision and that the extension services are adequately supported and trained in the use of the materials so that they may demonstrate the correct techniques and give appropriate advice, including advice for on-farm storage of concentrates and eventual disposal of surplus pesticides and empty

containers and calling on specialists in pest control when problems arise. Training should include the storage and handling of concentrates, dilution and mixing, application techniques and suitable application equipment, cleansing and maintaining spray equipment and precautions to avoid environmental damage through spray drift of leaching into streams groundwater.

C. Selection of Pesticide Materials and Pesticide Formulations

This should take account of safety and effectiveness of alternatives under local climatic and environmental conditions, their compatibility with Integrated Pest Management etc.

Chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides have characteristics of excessive persistence in the environment, bioaccumulation in tissues, biomagnification in food chains and in some cases carcinogenicity of cause genetic abnormalities. They should not be used for agricultural purposes but may be considered for use in public health.

When pesticides are to be used on food crops it should be ensured as far as possible that FAO/WHO maximum residue limit recommendations will not be exceeded. Where such materials are to be used on food crops for export, compliance with such accepted residue limits or tolerances established by the importing country must be assured. Selection of pesticides should be based on a careful evaluation of possible hazard to the environment and to important natural resources.

D. Procurement of Pesticides

In procurement of pesticides attention should be given to the efficacy of the material and to the cost per units area.

The specifications of tender should indicate any special features of packaging and labelling which are necessary for product protection during handling and storage and to ensure effective use. Reference may be made to internationally accepted packaging and labelling standards such as those described in FAO Plant Protection Bulletin No. 2, 1983 Vol. 13.

Visit of Foreign Secretary to Neighbouring Countries

5709. SHRI B.V. DESAI :
 SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :
 SHRI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI :
 SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
 SHRI JAGANNATH PATTINAIK :
 SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
 PATIL :
 SHRI ANAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Secretary as Prime Minister's special envoy had undertaken a tour of various neighbouring countries during the month of April 1985 to discuss the bilateral problems;

(b) the countries Foreign Secretary visited;

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussions held; and

(d) whether concrete formula has been evolved to improve the relations with those countries and also to undertake certain steps for achieving the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :
 (a) and (b). Foreign Secretary's visits to neighbouring countries were undertaken in pursuance of Prime Minister's initiative to further improve relations with them and create a climate in which specific issues can be tackled. The countries visited during the month of April, 1985 were Nepal (April 1-2), Pakistan (April 4-6), Afganistan (April 12-13) and Bangladesh (April 15-16).

(c) and (d). The purpose of the visit was to create a proper atmosphere for the further improvement of our relations with our neighbours, and to exchange views on all issues of bilateral and international interest.

Expenditure on Sarkaria Commission

5710. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :
 Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred on Sarkaria Commission so far;

(b) the strength of the staff of Sarkaria Commission; and

(c) the particulars regarding the members of Sarkaria Commission and their respective designations in the Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Total expenditure on the Commission upto 31-3-1985 is Rs. 45.85 lakhs.

(b) Total sanctioned strength of the staff of the Commission is 123.

(c) Particulars about Members of the Commission are as given below :

1. Justice R.S. Sarkaria, Chairman.
a retired Judge of the Supreme Court.
2. Shri B. Sivaraman Member.
formerly Cabinet Secretary to Govt. of India and Member, Planning Commission.
3. Dr. S.R. Sen, formerly Member.
Executive Director representing India in World Bank and presently a Directors, of the Board of Directors, Reserve Bank of India.

Scheduled Castes Development Corporations

5711. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise number of Scheduled Castes Development Corporations set up so far; and

(b) the State-wise number of families

belonging to the Scheduled Castes living below poverty line who have been benefited during the last three years by the Scheduled Castes Development Corporations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) There are 17 Scheduled Castes Development Corporations set up in the States and 2 in the Union Territories.

(b) A statement, based on information received from the States and Union Territories, is annexed.

Statement

Scheduled Castes Benefitted during the last three years

Name of States/UTs who have set up Scheduled Castes Development Corporations	No. of Scheduled Castes families below Poverty line benefited during the last three years
1. Haryana	56,916
2. Himachal Pradesh	28,943 (upto 30-9-84)
3. Punjab	36,320
4. Uttar Pradesh	2,28,665
5. Andhra Pradesh	5,36,450
6. Karnataka	80,507
7. Kerala	15,259 (upto Nov. 84)
8. Rajasthan	4,657 (upto 84)
9. Tamil Nadu	9,151
10. Bihar	44,322
11. Orissa	47,274
12. Tripura	1,680 (1-3-82 to 30-9-84)
13. West Bengal	7,22,611
14. Gujarat	1,23,552
15. Madhya Pradesh	27,732 (upto 84)
16. Maharashtra	1,12,850
17. Assam	2,863 (upto 84)
18. Delhi	2,902
19. Chandigarh	1,705

**Community Fine to Curb Untouchability
Offences**

5712. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any provision under the existng law to award community fine against the utouchability offences;

(b) whether the expenditure incurred on such community fine is borne by the

offenders and given to the sufferers/victims; and

(c) whether is any possibility to take any legal step in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Yes Sir, there is a provision for imposition of collective fine untouchability offences under Section 10A of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.

(b) and (c). The rehabilitation measures for the sufferers/victims untouchability offences are taken by the concerned State Governments/U.T. Administrations irrespective of the fact where the collected amount of such fine is given to the Government or sufferers.

Assistance of Central Reserve Police Force Sought by States

5713. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many times assistance of Central Reserve Police Force was sought by the State Governments during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) the types of incidents for which such assistance was sought; and

(c) in how many cases Government accorded to the requests of State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) to (c). Central Reserve Police Force is primarily meant for assisting the State Governments in the maintenance of Law and order. State Governments made requests from time to time for deployment of CRPF when the State Armed Police units are found inadequate. As and when such requests are received, the Central Government analyses the quantum of force required, the seriousness and urgency of situation, duration for which the force is required etc. and sends the CRPF to States taking into account the demands received and the reserves available at hand. The number of coys of CRPF that were made available to various States/UTs for law and order duties during the period from March 1982 to February 1985 is given in the attached statement laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See, No. LT.1109/85]

Setting up of a National Security Council

5714. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether suggestion for setting up of

a national security council to provide organisational structure to link foreign policy objectives with the other goals in technology, weapons, trade and finance is receiving consideration of Government;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up such a council; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) to (c). The Government of India are aware that suggestions have been made for the setting up of a National Security Council. There is no proposal, at present, for the setting up of such a council. The Government, however, realise the importance of having an intergrated view of India's security, which includes foreign policy, and will continue to review, from time to time, the efficacy of existing institutional mechanisms.

Production of Radio Receivers

5715. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken by Government for increasing the production of radio receivers in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : Government has taken following steps for increasing the production of radio receivers in the country :

1. **Broad banding of industrial licence—** To optimally utilise the investment, broad banding licence will be issued for entertainment electronics covering radio receivers, tape-recorders, two-in-ones, Amplifiers, Record Players, Record Changers TV Sets (Black and White and Colour), CCTV Systems, but excluding those reserved for small scale.

2. **Availability of indigenous components at reasonable Price**—It is proposed to de-reserve some of the components, reserved for small scale so that organised sectors could manufacture them in large volume which will result in reduction of the cost of such components.
3. **Abolition of radio licence fee**—Government has abolished Broadcasting Radio Licence (BRL) and Dealers, Possession Licence (DPL), which will greatly help in opening up newer market channels specially in rural areas.
4. **Radio Receivers manufactured by small scale units upto the cost of Rs. 165/- are exempted from excise duty.**

Import Policy for Electronics

5716 SHRI S.B. RAMAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether free for all imports policy for electronics is likely to affect indigenous interests;

(b) if so, reasons for this shift in policy;

(c) whether the smuggled quartz, digital watches are selling at Rs. 30-40 a piece and if so, whether Government will import such watches in large quantities and market through public distribution system until such time the manufacture thereof is started in the country; and

(d) whether Government will follow similar pragmatic policies in respect of VCRs and Colour TVs and Electronic equipment for Doctors and professionals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). There is no shift in the Policy. However, to take advantage of the advancement in electronics, import of technology will be permitted freely to develop an appropriate

electronic base in the country. However, industries will be encouraged to establish inhouse technology base so that repeated import of technologies does not have to be resorted to.

(c) Yes, Sir. As regards import and marketing of such watches, matter is under consideration.

(d) No, Sir, Government has no plan to import VCRs and Colour TVs, etc.

“Institute for Research and Study on Environment at Bhopal”

5717. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have proposed an institute for research and study on environment at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the foundation stone was laid by late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi in 1982; and

(d) if so, the progress of this project upto now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Recommendations of Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

5718. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) did the 39th United Nations General Assembly consider the recommendations of the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS);

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) the stand taken by U.S. and other Western Group on this subject ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The General Assembly adopted Resolution 39/96 without a vote in which is endorsed the report of COPUOS.

(c) The U.S. and other Western countries are of the view the proper forum for consideration of militarization of outer space is the Committee on Disarmament.

Caracas Programme

5719. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM :
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state :

(a) what is the Caracas Programme of Action and how far did it achieve its objectives;

(b) part played by India to make the 'caracas' programme, a success; and

(c) if not succeeded, the reasons and steps taken to over-come the obstructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) The Caracas Programme of Action (CPA) of the Group of 77 (developing countries) is a comprehensive programme of economic cooperation among developing countries (ECDC) adopted at a High Level Conference on ECDC at Caracas in May 1981. The objectives of the programme are to strengthen solidarity and cooperation among developing countries based on mutual interest and to promote their collective self-reliance as an integral part of the re-structuring of international economic relations and the establishment of a New International Economic Order. The Programme covers cooperation in the fields of trade, technology, food and agriculture, energy, raw materials, finance, industrialisation and technical cooperation. It also provides for effective coordination, monitoring, follow-up and evaluation of the Programme. Considerable progress has been achieved in the implementation of the Programme. A number of meetings have been held covering all sectors of the

Programme as well as on its review, coordination and follow up. Particular mention may be made of progress towards the establishment of a Global System of Trade Preferences among developing countries; establishment of an Action Committee on Fossil Fuels; setting up of a Multi-Sectoral Information Network and technical cooperation among developing countries.

(b) India has played a positive and dynamic role in the formulation of CPA as well as in its implementation. We have participated actively in various technical and inter-Governmental meetings. India hosted sectoral meetings such as the Meeting of the Heads of National Agencies on Science and Technology, held in New Delhi in May 1982 and the G-77 Seminar Electrical Industry in September 1984. We have contributed US \$ 60,000 to the G-77 account, established by the Caracas Programme of Action. As Chairman of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries which has, as a key objective, the attainment of collective self-reliance among developing countries, India has endeavoured to harmonise the Action programme for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries with the activities of the CPA, thereby reinforcing and strengthening the Caracas Programme.

(c) While there has been progress in furthering economic cooperation among developing countries through the CPA, the attainment of its objectives would necessarily require a long-term perspective. Among the constraints which need to be overcome, the chief one is the inadequacy of resources. Various steps are being considered to overcome this constraint, including the feasibility of establishing a Bank of developing countries. India is working closely with other developing countries to ensure the more effective implementation of the Programme.

Programme of Non-Aligned Countries on Economic Cooperation

5720. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM :
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the action programme on the economic cooperation as adopted at

New Delhi Summit of Non-aligned countries; and

(b) the result achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Seventh Summit of Non-aligned countries adopted a wide-ranging Action Programme for Economic Cooperation to promote collective self-reliance among Nonaligned and other developing countries. The Action Programme identified several spheres of cooperation under 23 specific subjects. Coordinating Countries were also identified to coordinate future action among Nonaligned countries in specific areas.

Details of the Action Programme for Economic Cooperation are contained in the Final Documents of the Seventh Summit of Nonaligned Countries available in the Parliament House Library.

(b) The Nonaligned countries have actively sought to promote economic cooperation among themselves in accordance with the guidelines laid down at the Seventh Summit. Several meetings, at expert, official and ministerial levels, have been held to intensify economic cooperation and promote concrete action in such diverse areas as Food and Agriculture, Health, Sports, Role of Women in Development, Housing, Education & Culture, Standardisation, Measurement & Quality Control, etc. Follow-up action in these and other fields is proceeding continuously and is an integral part of the activities of the Non-aligned Movement.

Dialogue between North and South for International Monetary Systems

5721. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made by India to initiate a dialogue between North and South for improving the international monetary and financial systems in the London Summit;

(b) how far did India succeed in achieving the object;

(c) if not succeeded, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to overcome the obstructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) India, in its capacity as Chairman of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, has played a leading role promoting a dialogue between North and South for reforming the international monetary and financial systems. The late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi addressed messages to the Heads of Government of the major industrialised countries participating in the Summit in London in June 1984, in which the need to consider a fresh initiative on the question of money and finance was stressed; the proposal of the Seventh Nonaligned Summit for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development reiterated; and the need to break the prevailing impasse in the North-South dialogue emphasised. Personal emissaries of the Prime Minister also visited the capitals of the countries participating in the London Summit to explain our approach on North-South issues, particularly, in the field of money and finance and to explore the possibility of beginning some dialogue on these issues.

(b) and (c). Suggestions made by us were considered at the London Summit and a personal emissary of the British Prime Minister visited Delhi after the Summit to convey the response. The results of the London Summit were however somewhat disappointing. The Economic Declaration issued by the Summit noted the concerns of the developing countries but reaffirmed the primary role of the existing Bretton Woods institutions for continuing discussions on issues relating to money, finance and development and did not offer much hope of a new impetus to the North-South dialogue. Efforts made so far to reform the monetary and financial system have not met with much success largely due to the reluctance of the major industrialised countries to discuss the relevant issues outside the Bretton Woods institutions where they have a predominant say in the decision-making process.

(d) India, as Chairman of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, is continuing its endeavours to promote a meaningful dialogue on international economic issues. The late Prime Minister had established a high level group of experts on money and finance. The report of the group was transmitted by her to all Heads of State/Government of developed and developing countries. The United Nations will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the General Assembly of the UN this year in pursuance of an initiative taken by the Movement of Nonaligned Countries. Many Heads of State/Government are expected to attend the ceremony. It is hoped that this would provide a significant opportunity for the international community to reaffirm its commitment to the strengthening of multilateral cooperation and the United Nations system.

Setting up of Non-Conventional Energy Project in Uttar Pradesh

5722. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how many non-conventional energy projects are proposed to be set up in Uttar Pradesh under the Integrated Rural Energy Scheme during 1985-86;

(b) how many districts would be benefited by these projects; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on this programme in U.P. in during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has sanctioned and funded projects for setting up integrated energy projects in 14 villages in Uttar Pradesh in 1985-86. The projects comprise various non-conventional energy devices and systems based on solar energy, community biogas plants, energy plantations, etc. These projects are being implemented through the non-conventional

Energy Development Agency of the State Government. These projects are in addition to the extensive programmes for family sized biogas plants, improved chulhas and solar thermal devices in U.P.

An Integrated Rural Energy Planning Programme had also been sponsored by the Planning Commission in Uttar Pradesh, involving all sources of energy, conventional and non-conventional, commercial and non-commercial. The funding for this programme is to be met from the State budget and no additional Central funds are being provided for this programme.

(b) and (c). The integrated energy project sanctioned by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources cover 13 districts of the State and involve an outlay of Rs. 74.36 lakhs from the Centre. Since the Annual Plan for Uttar Pradesh for 1985-86 is yet to be finalised, the amount proposed to be spent from the State budget during 1985-86, is not yet known.

"Formation of Councils on Environment"

5723. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether central guidelines have been sent to various States for the promotion of the council on Environment;

(b) if so, the name of the States where such council has been set up;

(c) whether such State Council on Environment has been set up in Orissa; and

(d) if so, since when and the various measures adopted by the Orissa State Council on Environment for improvement of Environment so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Direct Air link between Bhubaneswar and Port Blair

5724. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide direct air link between Bhubaneswar and Port Blair;

(b) whether the proposal is expected to be implemented during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) No, Sir.

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

Setting up of National Civil Aviation Authority

5725. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Civil Aviation authority to look after the civil airports in the country;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether Government have appointed any committee in this connection; and

(d) if so, the recommendations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) and (b). A proposal to set up a Civil Aviation Authority which will be responsible inter-alia for the development, management and maintenance of domestic airports is under consideration.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Committee has recommended the creation of a statutory Civil Aviation Authority.

Direct flight between Bhubaneswar and Bombay and Vice-versa

5726. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the proposal for the introduction of a direct flight between Bhubaneswar and Bombay and vice-versa;

(b) if so, the decision taken for implementing the above proposal; and

(c) the date from which such proposal is expected to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) to (c). Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce a direct flight between Bhubaneswar and Bombay. Indian Airlines, however, operates four B-737 flights per week on the route Calcutta-Bhubaneswar-Hyderabad. Convenient connections have been provided at Hyderabad in both the directions for the passengers travelling between Bombay and Bhubaneswar.

Turb propelled aircraft for Vayudoot Services

5727. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to use turb-propelled aircraft for Vayudoot services; and

(b) the number of aircraft requisitioned for this purpose, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) and (b). Vayudoot has been operating services with turbo-prop aircraft F-27 and HS 748 leased from Indian Airlines. At present, the company has leased capacity equivalent to 4 turbo/prop aircraft.

Preservation of Quail Bird

5728. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Quail Bird is under extinction in the Himalayas;

(b) if so, the efforts proposed by Government to preserve the same; and

(c) the other birds species are under the threat of extinction and Government efforts to preserve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). There are five species of Quails known in the Himalayas. Of these, the Mountain Quail is reported to be extinct. The other four species are not considered endangered or threatened with extinction. The species are afforded protection under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1971.

(c) There are 38 species and sub-species of birds included under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Of these, the mountain Quail, the Jerdon's Courser, the Pink-headed Duck and Forest Spotted Owlet are reported to be extinct. The rest are rare or endangered. However, as a result of conservation action taken in recent years, they are not under threat of extinction.

Inscription of Word "Under Suspension" on Postal Covers

5729. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether while addressing a communication to a public servant who has been placed under suspension, the word 'under suspension' is to be inscribed on the postal envelope;

(b) if not, whether Government are aware that some offices are putting the word 'under suspension' on the postal covers thereby hurting the feelings of the individual besides spoiling his image amongst the local people; and

(c) if so, steps proposed to be taken to ensure non-recurrence of such events in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c). Government have not

issued any instructions to the effect that the word 'under suspension' should be super-scribed on the postal envelope addressed to a public servant under suspension, nor is the issue of any instructions to this effect under consideration.

Financial Status of Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society

5730. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the financial status of the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Limited, New Delhi as on 1 January, 1985, and on 1 January, 1980;

(b) whether the working of the Society has improved during the last three years, if so, in what way;

(c) steps proposed to be taken to further strengthen it so as to render greater service to Government employees;

(d) whether a special audit has been ordered and if so, the findings thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate the stationery counter into three-four counters under independent charge of persons manning them so as to bring about the desired improvement in its working; and

(f) if so, by when and period of the tenure fixed, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Yes, Sir. By streamlining the various administrative, operational and functional aspects of the Society from 1980 onwards to achieve improved services to the consumers and also the over all economic viability of the Society.

(c) While striving to improve administrative, efficiency the Society envisages to expand its business by opening more

branches, including self-service branches with modern facilities where possible. The question of providing accommodation for opening more branches is engaging the attention of the Government.

(d) Yes, Sir. The report is awaited.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Financial Status of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Sale over	Profit/Loss		Reserves	Accumulated loss
		(+)	(-)		
30-6-80	140.46	—	9.10	5.51	48.53
30-6-84	946.54	31.53	—	25.40	22.42

*The figures have been given for period ending June, 1980 and June, 1984 as the Cooperative Year of the Society is from July to June.

**The figures as on 30-6-1980 are as per the audited accounts of the Society approved by its General Body. Figures for 30-6-1984 are yet to be approved by the General Body.

Cases against Correspondent of Associated Press

5731. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a correspondent of Associated Press was harassed by Government after the military action at the Golden Temple in Amritsar for his frank and objective news reports sent to the international journals;

(b) if so, whether as a result of the harassment the correspondent secured an anticipatory bail from the Supreme Court to prevent his arrest;

(c) whether the correspondent challenged

the constitutionality of the "Terraciat Affected Areas (Special Courts) Act" and the Presidential notification of news censorship in the Supreme Court;

(d) whether Government impounded the correspondent's passport and refused to renew his press accreditation card for 1985; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A case FIR No. 267 dated the 30th July 1984 u/s 153-A IPC, 295-A IPC and the Punjab Special Powers (Press) Act, 1956 was registered at P.S. Civil Lines, Amritsar in connection with the filing of despatch from Amritsar on the 13th June 1984 by Shri Brahma Chellaney, correspondent of the Associated Press. Shri Chellaney filed a petition in the Delhi High Court on the 18th October 1984 that in the event of the petitioner's arrest he be released on bail. Delhi High Court in its interim order on October 19, 1984 directed that the petitioner was not to be arrested; in its final order passed on 7th November 1984 they dismissed his application and stated that the news-item was *prima facie* gravely tendentious. Shri Chellaney also moved the Supreme Court on the 29th October 1984 for anticipatory bail. While the Supreme Court in its orders dated the 30th October, 6th November, 20th November and 20th December 1984 ordered that he shall not be arrested, they also observed in their last order that this facility was granted on the specific condition that he shall offer full co-operation to the investigating officers and that if he fails to offer such co-operation, the interim order is liable to be revoked.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e). The Regional Passport Officer Delhi in his order dated the 27th December 1984 impounded his passport under section 10 (3) (c) of the Passports Act, 1967. The question of renewal of the accreditation card for 1985 is under consideration.

Sale of Taragara Palace of Bundi, Rajasthan

5732. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bundi's 600 year old (Rajasthan) Taragara Palace is being sold to a Hotel Magnate for hotel purposes ignoring the archaeological and cultural significance of the Palace, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether a number of Forts and Palaces of Rajasthan with their historical and archaeological significance are changing hands and are transferred to private people, if so, details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have formulated a Policy directing not to transfer the sites, places and forts of historical and archaeological importance to private hands for commercial or other purposes, if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The reported sale of the Taragarh Fort and Palace, which has not yet been declared as a protected monument has been stayed by a court order.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. However, forts and palaces, which are not statutorily protected, are being inspected by the Archaeological Survey of India. Their protection will be considered as per archaeological norms.

State-wise Details of Forest Wealth

5733. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the state-wise details regarding the forest wealth in the areas predominantly inhabited by Adivasis;

(b) the year-wise details of production of the forest wealth and forest produce of these areas for the last three years;

(c) the forest products that are procured from Adivasi areas and sent to urban areas;

(d) whether forest produce is also exported; and

(e) if so, year-wise details of the income earned from the export of forest produce during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (c). The data on forest wealth, products and commercial production is available on total forest area basis. Areas predominately inhabited by Advasis are neither demarcated nor data on forest wealth and production specifically recorded therefor.

(d) Yes, Sir.

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

Rationalisation of the services of three Air Lines

5734. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the three Airlines have been urged upon to rationalise their services so as to have maximum turnover from each aircraft;

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

(c) how far it will help in increasing their turnover ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (c). A Committee has been appointed to study and recommend route rationalisation of the services of the three Airlines viz. Air India, Indin Airlines and Vayudoot. The report of the Committee is awaited.

Development of Gir Forest

5735. SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question

No. 201 on 27 March, 1985 regarding development of Gir forest and state :

(a) out of Rs. 12.52 lakhs provided for the purpose of developing a Safari Park at Gir during 1984-85 by the Gujarat State Government, how much amount has been spent during the year;

(b) the details of works on which the amount was spent;

(c) whether the State Government proposes to make a further provision for the purpose during 1985-86; and

(d) if so, the amount proposed to be provided by the Centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the State Government of Gujarat and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The State Government has proposed an outlay of Rs. 5.60 lakhs for the Gir Lion Safari Park in 1985-86.

(d) It is not proposed to provide Central financial assistance for the scheme during 1985-86.

Development of SCs/STs in Gujarat

5736. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for the development of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat for the year 1984-85;

(b) whether the amount was fully utilised by the State Government;

(c) if so, the details of work done;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the amount allocated for development of SCs/STs for the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) A sum of Rs. One hundred and fifty

six crores, ninety six lakhs and eleven thousand were allocated for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat for the year 1984-85.

(b) to (d). The information about the actual expenditure incurred during the year on various schemes formulated for the development of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and the details of the work done is not yet available.

(e) The amount to be allocated for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat during the year 1985-86 has not yet been decided by the Planning Commission.

Refusal of Passports to Indians in Kuwait

5737. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Embassy at Kuwait is not issuing passports the Indian citizens at Kuwait who have lost their original passports;

(b) whether it is a fact that these people are detained by the Kuwait police;

(c) if so, the number of persons and the place of detention by the Kuwait police; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government of India to redress the suffering of the Indian citizens at Kuwait ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) The Embassy of India Kuwait issues duplicate passports or emergency certificates, where necessary, in cases of loss of passports. The documents are issued in accordance with prescribed procedure.

(b) No Sir. Only persons who enter Kuwait illegally either on false passport or without a travel document, are detained by the Kuwait police at the deportation centre.

(c) As on 28-4-1985 only two persons whose cases were brought to the notice of the Embassy, were awaiting deportation.

(d) Immediately on receipt of information from the Kuwait police, a representative of the Embassy visits deportation cell to enquire about the welfare of the detainee (s) and to check the particulars of their passports, etc. Where a detainee is unable to produce any details of his travel document, a reference is made to the authorities concerned in India immediately by telex to verify the national status of the individual. An emergency certificate is issued to him immediately on receipt of the confirmation.

Functioning of Tarapur Atomic Power Station

5738. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tarapur Atomic Power Station is commercially oriented or development oriented;

(b) taking into account the overall functioning of the Tarapur Atomic Power Station since its inception what is the profit made as on 31-10-1984;

(c) whether Atomic Power Stations are more commercial than Thermal or Hydro power stations; and

(d) whether the power charges are based on the type of power station or it is charged uniformly irrespective of the mode of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Tarapur Atomic Power Station has completed 15 years of successful commercial operation on 1st November, 1984 and is continuing to operate satisfactorily. The Station has supplied about 13000 million units each to Maharashtra and Gujarat and is the cheapest non-hydro source of electricity in the region.

(b) The net profit earned by the station as on 31-3-85 after meeting Operation and Maintenance expenditure, depreciation and interest on capital is about Rs. 54 crores.

(c) A Committee of technical and financial experts constituted in 1984 have estimated that for units to be commissioned around 1992, nuclear power would cost about 85 paise per Kwh, thermal power would cost about 91 paise per Kwh for pithead units and 109 paise per Kwh for units located at 800 km from the pitheads.

(d) The tariff is worked out separately for each station in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority and the respective State Electricity Boards.

Life of Tarapur Atomic Power Station

5739. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the life of Tarapur Atomic Power Station will end in 1994;

(b) if so, the alternative source planned to replace this Power Station; and

(c) whether alternative source will be ready before the Tarapur Atomic Power Station is closed down in 1994 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Tarapur Atomic Power Station is expected to be decommissioned after 1994.

(b) and (c). The fifteen year nuclear power profile approved by the Government in principle takes into account the decommissioning of Tarapur Atomic Power Station. A final decision on sites for future nuclear power stations in the Western Electricity Region including expansion at existing sites is yet to be taken.

Passenger Traffic Potentialities between Gulf and Trivandrum

5740. SHRI T. BASHEER :
SHRI K. MOHANDAS :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the past any study survey

had been conducted on passenger traffic potentialities between Gulf and Trivandrum by Air India;

(b) the findings/recommendations thereof;

(c) the action since then taken on these recommendation/findings;

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of flights between Gulf and Trivandrum; if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any memorandum has been received by Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir. A market survey was conducted by Air India in 1978 with a view to assessing the passenger traffic potential between Gulf and Trivandrum.

(b) The Survey revealed that Keralite population in the Gulf countries was over 1,12,000. Traffic potential was estimated

at 606 one-way passengers per week between Gulf and Trivandrum.

The survey team had recommended to increase the twice-weekly B-707 services between Dubai and Trivandrum to five B-707 services weekly including services between Trivandrum on one hand and Abu Dhabi/Bahrain/Kuwati/Muscat on the other.

(c) Air India increased its services between selected points in Gulf and Trivandrum progressively since 1979 as per statement attached. Air India's seat capacity increase between 1978 and April 1985 has been of the order of 630%.

(d) No, Sir. There is no specific proposal to increase the number of flights between Trivandrum and Gulf at present. Air India has, however recently deployed an additional B-707 flight between Trivandrum and Dubai effective April, 1985. The capacity presently provided by Air India between Gulf and Trivandrum is considered to be adequate to cater to the needs of this market.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Air India's capacity on Gulf-Trivandrum route

Date	Capacity	Route
1	2	3
April, 1978	2 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
April, 1979	2 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
	1 B-707	Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi.
	1 B-707	Kuwait/Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/Kuwait/Daharan.
April, 1980	2 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
	1 B-707	Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/Kuwati/Bahrain.
	1 B-707	Kuwait/Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi.
April, 1981	1 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai/Kuwati/Bahrain.
	2 B-707	Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi.
	1 B-707	Sharjah/Trivandrum/Sharjah.

1	2	3
	1 B-707	Kuwati/Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
	1 B-707	Abu Dhabi/Ras-al-Khaymah/Trivadrum/ Ras-al-Khaymah/Abu Dhabi.
	1 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
April, 1982	3 B-707	Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi.
	1 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
	1 B-707	Ras-al-Khaymah/Sharjah/Trivandrum/ Sharjah/Ras-al-Khaymah.
	1 B-707	Kuwait/Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.
	1 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai/Kuwait/ Bahrain.
April, 1983	4 Airbus	Dubai/Abu Dhabi/Trivnadrum/Dubai/ Abu Dhabi.
	1 Airbus	Ras-al-Khaymah/Sharjah/Trivandrum/ Sharjah/Ras-al-Khaymah.
	1 Arbus	Abu Dhabi/Sharjah/Trivandrum/Sharjah/ Abu Dhabi.
	1 Airbus	Kuwati/Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai/Abu Dhabi.
April, 1984	3 Airbus	Abu Dhabi/Dubai/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/Dubai.
	1 Airbus	Dahran/Trivandrum/Dahran.
	1 Airbus	Ras-al-Khaymah/Sharjah/Trivandrum/ Sharjah/Abu Dhabi.
	1 Airbus	Abu Dhabi/Sharjah/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/Ras-al-Khaymah.
	1 Airbus	Kuwait/Dubai/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/ Dubai.
April, 1985	2 Airbus	Abu Dhabi/Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai/ Abu Dhabi.
	1 Airbus	Dubai/Abu Dhabi/Trivandrum/Dubai/ Kuwait/Abu Dhabi.
	1 Airbus	Dahran/Trivandrum/Dahran.
	1 Airbus	Ras-al-Khaymah/Sharjah/Trivandrum/ Sharjah/Abu Dhabi.
	1 Airbus	Abu Dhabi/Sharjah/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/Ras-al-Khaymah.
	1 Airbus	Kuwait/Dubai/Trivandrum/Abu Dhabi/ Dubai.
	1 B-707	Dubai/Trivandrum/Dubai.

**Proposal to link Trivandrum and
Lakshadweep by Air**

5741. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Trivandrum with Lakshadweep by air; and

(b) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) and (b). Subject to development of an air field, provision of infrastructural facilities and generation of adequate traffic, Vayudoot will consider providing an air-link to the Union Territory of Lakshadweep during the current plan period.

**Restoration of Air Services between Bodh
Gaya and Patna/Calcutta**

5742. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any demand for the restoration of the Air Services between Bodh Gaya and Patna/Calcutta;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the decision would be taken and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Subject to availability of infrastructural facilities and economic viability of operations, Vayudoot has plans to airtlink Bodh Gaya with Patna and Calcutta during 1986-87.

Promotion of Asian Tourism

5743. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government/ITDC have drawn up any plan for the promotion of Asian Tourism so as to attract tourists from various countries of Asia interested in visiting the places of Scenic beauty and of historical and religious importance sacred to Bhudhists, Hindus, Muslims and Christians in India during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, a brief outline of the plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The development and promotion of tourism is a continuous process. During the Seventh Five Year Plan the Department of Tourism is taking up the development of infrastructural facilities at places of cultural/archaeological/historical and religious interest including Buddhist sites for attracting tourists from all countries including the countries in Asian and South Asian region. In order to promote tourist traffic from Asian countries in general the Government has taken the following steps :

- (1) Stepping up of promotional efforts by our Offices at Kuwait, Dubai, Tokyo, Osaka, Bangkok, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.
- (2) Preparation and distribution of additional tourist publicity material in the languages such as Arabic, Japanese, Thai, Sinhalese, Korean to suit the local requirements.
- (3) Participation in promotional fairs, food festivals and exhibitions.
- (4) Organisation of cultural troupes from India.
- (5) Increased advertising through TV, Radio and Press.

- (6) Joint promotions with Airlines/ Travel Trade.
- (7) Visit of high-level promotional tourism delegation from India in December 1984 to West Asia.
- (8) Efforts to promote India ethnic traffic.
- (9) Organisation of workshops for foreign travel trade and press in the important generating markets in Asia.
- (10) Important journals, travel agents/ tour operators, TV teams and photographers are invited for familiarisation trips to give exposure to India's tourist attraction on their return.

Specific measures adopted for attracting traffic from the Eastern Asia are promotion of Buddhist traffic, honeymoon couples, mounting of photographic exhibitions on the life of Buddha. The Hotel Corporation of India in collaboration with the Hokke Club of Japan are constructing Hotels at Rajgir, Kushinagar for Buddhist-pilgrims from abroad. From West Asia the promotion of special "Family Holiday Concept" is being exploited. Moreover the tourist places associated with Islamic culture and tourist resorts such as Kashmir, Bombay, Lucknow, Ajmer, Agra, etc. which are more popular with the people of that region are given due publicity.

The Ashok Travels & Tours of the India Tourism Development Corporation has given high priority to intra-regional tourism by promoting several itineraries covering this area. The Discovery of India tours which tries to encompass the entire country were drawn up and sent to Mauritius, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and Thailand, etc.

Bilateral arrangements such as protocol of group tourism signed between India and Pakistan has generated group tours handled by the India Tourism Development Corporation and Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation on reciprocal basis.

As a joint promotional venture the World Tourism Organisation Commission for

South Asia has produced a brochure and a poster towards which the Department of Tourism has made a financial contribution.

Freight Equalisation Policy

5744. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether cotton, textile industries and other allied industries are facing crisis in Eastern India for the last two decades for not having freight equalisation;

(b) whether this is increasing discrimination and encouraging imbalances; and

(c) if so, the steps to be taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). It is difficult to attribute the development or decline of an industry in any particular State to freight equalisation.

The Freight Equalisation Policy was reviewed same time back by the National Transport Policy Committee (Pande Committee). The Committee expressed its views against extending the Freight Equalisation Scheme to other Commodities and recommended that even the existing schemes of freight equalisation on industrial commodities like steel and cement be phased out. The Government have already accepted the recommendations made by this Committee, subject to subsidisation of transport to remote, inaccessible and isolated areas.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of Mauritian Prime Minister to India

5745. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the outcome of discussion held on the bilateral and international issues with the Mauritian Prime Minister during his recent visit to India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): The Prime Minister of Mauritius Hon. Anerood Jugnauth Accompanied by his wife and Permanent Secretary, paid an official visit to India from 2nd to 5th April, 1985. During his visit he called on our President and Vice-President, and held discussions with the Prime Minister, as well as several other Ministers of the Government of India. International issues concerning the Indian Ocean, Disarmament, the Middle East and South Asia were touched upon during the talks. On bilateral matters discussions resulted in a decision to give an additional Rs. 10 crores worth of mixed credits to Mauritius, and to give 10,000 tonnes of wheat flour as well as some pulses. India would in future extend 100 scholarships to Mauritius, and would also increase its assistance for certain projects, such as the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, covered under the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission. The third meeting of the Joint Commission is expected to be held in June this year.

Influx of Refugees

5746. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the main causes of the influx of refugees into the country and the number of refugees already entered into the country since 1983; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to check them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) Since 1983 there has been influx of refugees from Sri Lanka only. The refugee influx started as a result of feeling of insecurity and fear among Sri Lankan Tamils in the wake of ethnic violence of July-August, 1983. The security situation in Sri Lanka especially in the North and East continues to be tense. This has led to a further spurt in the influx of refugees since February this year.

According to reports received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu during

the period from July, 1983 to 27-4-85, 87,772 refugees entered India from Sri Lanka.

(b) The Government of India believes that a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka has to be found and they have been in touch with the Sri Lanka Government in this regard. The Government hopes that conditions in Sri Lanka will improve so that the refugees in India can return home in safety and dignity.

[Translation]

Employment to employees working on daily wages in Census Department, Sagar

5747. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether consequent on winding up of Cenus Department of the Sagar Division, Sagar, 62 employees working on daily wages for the last 2-1/2 years in it were rendered unemployed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide them employment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These employees were recruited on a purely casual basis for specific time bound census work.

(c) Does not arise.

The casual employees were recruited on the clear understanding that on completion of the work for which they had been recruited, they would not be retained in service. However, on a purely humanitarian consideration, the Madhya Pradesh Government were requested for special consideration in the matter of their absorption in alternative employment. The Madhya Pradesh Government did not find it feasible to meet the request because they had a very large number of daily wage employees on their rolls for whom no concession or special consideration was available.

[English]

Indian Forest Service Officers working as Joint Secretaries

5748. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Forest Service Officers working as Joint Secretaries in Union Government;

(b) whether a regular panel of IFS Officers like other All India Services is prepared for appointment as Joint Secretary; and

(c) the reasons for not appointing an IFS Officer as Joint Secretary in the Department of Forest and Wildlife ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No Officer of the Indian Forest Service is at present working as Joint Secretary in the Union Government. However, 5 officers of the Service are at present holding posts at the level of Joint Secretary or above under the Central Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Posts of Joint Secretary under the Central Government, including those in the Department of Forests and Wildlife, are filled under the Senior Staffing Scheme. The question of considering appointment of an Officer of the Indian Forest Service as a Joint Secretary in the Department of Forests and Wildlife, would be duly considered as and when an eligible officer of the Service having the requisite experience and qualifications and fulfilling the job requirements, of such posts become available.

Sikh and J and K Extremists Plan Joint Action

5749. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN
MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item in Times of India dated 6 February, 1985 in which it has been alleged that Sikh, Jammu and Kashmir extremists plan joint action;

(b) whether according to these reports Sikhs and some Kashmir extremists are jointly planning to step up acts of terrorism against targets in India and abroad;

(c) if so, whether the Indian intelligence reports have also revealed this fact;

(d) if so, the action Indian Government had taken to deal with the situation; and

(e) if so, whether British Government have been alerted about the increasing activities or proposed activities by these extremists elements in London ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Reports about the undesirable activities of extremists elements have come to the notice of Government. Strict vigilance is being maintained in this regard by the authorities. The matter has also been taken up consistently with the British Government.

Denial of Visas to Countries by India

5750. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the countries denied visas of any nature by India;

(b) whether India asks the tourists to maintain minimum decency in their way of life and dresses while staying in our country;

(c) whether some tourists visiting our beautiful sea beaches do not care for Indian feelings and go, as they like; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to avoid such indecency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Applications for grant of visas from foreigners are considered on the merits of each case, having due regard to the purpose, irrespective of the countries to which they belong.

(b) to (d). Foreign tourists are expected to conduct themselves in a way which does not outrage the customs and traditions in India. The State authorities keep due vigilance and take appropriate action where necessary.

Persons below Poverty Line

5751. SHR RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether number of persons below poverty line has increased and number of large industrial houses have also increased; and

(b) if so, the details of percentage of increase in the assets of large industrial houses during the last three years and the percentage of increase of individual poor people during the same period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). The number of persons below the poverty line in the country and their percentage of the population in 1979-80 and in 1981-82 (as estimated in the Mid-term Appraisal) on the basis of certain assumptions are given in the Table below.

Year	Number of persons below the poverty line	Percentage of population below the poverty line
1979-80	339.0 million	51.1%
1981-82	282.0 million	41.5%

The Table shows that the number of persons below the poverty line has declined. The latest position in this regard will be known when the results of the survey on household consumption expenditure conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation for 1983 are available.

The number of large industrial houses, (i.e. those in whose cases the value of own assets or the value of own assets together with the assets of inter connected undertakings) their assets during 1981, 1982 and 1983 and the percentage increase in 1983 over 1981 are given in the Table below, which shows that the number of large industrial houses and their assets have increased.

Year	No. of large industrial Houses	Assets of large industrial houses (Rs. in crores)
1981	145	17443.72
1982	168	21688.38
1983	185	25962.50
Percentage increase in 1983 over 1981.	27.6%	48.8%

Central Assistance to States

5752. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government provide Central plan assistance to the State Governments;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down by Union Government for providing such assistance and the broad details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have received a suggestion/request from the Rajasthan Government for providing financial assistance to the State equal to that of developing States;

(d) if so, whether Government have considered such suggestion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central assistance for State Plans is allocated on the basis of the 'Modified Gadgil Formula', as approved by the National Development Council in August, 1980. According to this formula, a lumpsum amount is pre-empted to meet the requirements of eight special category States and the balance amount is allocated amongst the remaining fourteen non-special category States on the basis of the following criteria :

- (i) 60% on the basis of population;
- (ii) 10% on the basis of per capita tax effort;
- (iii) 20% to the States having per capita income below the national average; and
- (iv) 10% for special problems.

(c) to (e). The Government of Rajasthan has suggested certain changes in the 'Modified Gadgil Formula'. Changes in the formula can be decided only by the National Development Council.

Killing of Security Personnel by TNV in Tripura

5753. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether seven security forces men were killed and as many injured when Tripura National Volunteers guerillas ambushed a patrol of the State Police and CRP Force near Setroicherra under Mamalpur sub-division in the North Tripura on the 5th April, 1985; and

(b) if so, the details of the incidents and the action taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). On 5-4-85, the TNV ambushed a police patrol party consisting of CRPF and civil police on the Kamalpur-Kailashahar road near Sikarbari PS Kamalpur, North Tripura resulting in the killing of seven persons (3 civil police personnel and 4 CRPF personnel) on the spot and injuries to five others. Out of these five injured, and Constable of CRPF and one Home Guard succumbed to their injuries later bringing the total number of persons killed in the incident to nine. The police forces returned the fire with the result that the extremists could not loot the weapons of the police personnel killed. Senior police officers visited the area of incident. Extensive combing operations in the area have been conducted. Security measures have been tightened and strict vigil is being maintained.

[Translation]

Increase in Passenger Fare by Indian Airlines

5754. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the increase in the prices of petroleum products, Indian Airlines has sent a proposal to increase the existing passenger fare and freight charges for the approval of his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the reaction of his Ministry thereto and the percentage by which the Indian Airlines propose to increase the passenger fare and fare freight charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) and (b). Indian Airlines had proposed an increase of 11.5% of the existing basic fares as fuel surcharge to offset the increase in the prices of petroleum products with effect from March 17, 1985 and an increase in the existing basic fares on the domestic sectors of 7 to 12 percent against an increase of 22.7% in the operating costs (excluding fuel) since the basic fares were last revised in 1981. These proposals have been approved by Government.

[English]

Folk Culture of North Bengal

5755. SHRI PRIYA RAJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government provide assistance to Government of West Bengal to promote, preserve the cultural heritage and folk culture of North Bengal for "Gambhira" Gan, "Chhau" of Purulia and "Baul" songs of Birbhum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to consider a proposal for extensive research work on those rich tradition of culture through awards of scholarships ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Department of Culture operates some schemes for giving scholarship for training and research in various art forms.

Anti-India Groups in U.K.

5756. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsreports that various anti-India groups in U.K. held a convention in London in April, 1985; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An International Sikh Convention was held in London on 6-7 April 1985 under

the aegis of the so-called "Republic of Khalistan" led by Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan. It is understood that a total of 150 delegates, including 35 from outside U.K., participated in the Convention. It was addressed by Dr. Jagjit Singh Chauhan, Shri A H. Phizo, self-styled "President of the Republic of Nagaland", Dr. Amanyar of the Afghan Mujahidin. Mr Gilani of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front and Mr. Sayeed of the Indian Muslim Federation.

The Convention was to conclude with a Rally in London, but permission was denied by the British Government.

Murder of Foreign Diplomats

5757. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of murders/ attempted murders of foreign diplomats in the country during the last three years and the countries which they represented;

(b) in how many cases to assailants/ attackers were identified and arrested stating their nationality;

(c) whether in view of these incidents and the recent assassination of Soviet diplomat, Government have made any efforts to know the activities of the foreign national fleeing from conflicts in Afghanistan and other Middle East countries taking refuge in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in the matter; and

(e) if answer be in the negative, whether Government propose to make such an assessment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULAI SINHA) : (a) During the period January 1982 to March 1985, 3 cases of murder and 2 cases of attempted murder of foreign diplomats have come to the notice of the Government. These diplomats belonged to Kuwait, U.A.E., Jordan, U.K. & U.S.S.R.

(a) The assailants have not been identified and arrested.

(c) to (e). The State authorities and the Intelligence Agencies keep due vigilance against the activities of foreigners in the country. The stay and conduct of the foreigners in the country is also regulated by the Foreigners Act, 1946, Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 and connected Rules.

Airbus Base and Technical Operation Centre at Calcutta

5758. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not having the 757 newly purchased Air Bus Base and technical operation Centre at Calcutta; and

(b) whether it is proposed to be reviewed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINTSTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) and (b). On technical and operational considerations Delhi is considered the best location for the Boeing 757 aircraft base. There is no proposal to review this decision.

Damage to Forest Trees in the Hills

5759. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is widespread damage to forest trees such as pines in the hills through excessive pine needle loss due to air pollution;

(b) if so, the details of any studies conducted so far and corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken;

(c) whether there has been unprcedented and dangerous falls in percentage of forest cover from 30% to 10% as per satellite studies; and

(d) if so, details thereof and remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). No study about the damage to forest trees

in the hills due to air-pollution has been undertaken so far.

(c) and (d). The data gathered by the National Remote Sensing Agency indicate a reduction in the forest area from 55.1709 million hectares in 1972/75 to 46.2873 million hectares in 1980/82. This assessment is being verified with reference to ground truth. Various steps are being taken for the conservation of existing forests and the afforestation of degraded forests and wastelands.

Infrastructural Facilities for Providing Airstrip at Hubli

5760. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have agreed to provide all infrastructural facilities for providing airstrip at Hubli; and

(b) since Hubli is very far from Bangalore and is a Central place for Northern Karnataka, whether Government will sanction airstrip to Hubli and put Hubli in the airmap of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vayudoot plan to operate to Hubli after the airport has been constructed and the requisite infrastructural facilities have been developed.

"Water Pollution Caused by Gwalior Rayons, Mavoor in Kerala"

5761. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gwalior Rayons, Mavoor in Kerala is causing water pollution resulting in serious health hazard to people in that area; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to strictly enforce the anti-pollution measures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). According to the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, the factory has provided adequate waste treatment and disposal facilities. The quality and characteristics of the effluent discharged after treatment are generally within the limits stipulated by the Board.

Introduction of Air Taxes in India

5762. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Air taxes in India;

(b) if so, the details of the strategy, if any, evolved by Government for effective introduction of air taxes in India;

(c) the details of the aircraft which the Government proposes to permit to be used as air taxi;

(d) the prospects of indigenous manufacture of such aircraft in the near future;

(e) whether Government propose to allow Indian companies or International companies having tie up with Indian companies to manufacture such aircraft in the private sector/joint sector in India; and

(f) if no, whether Government propose to allow import of suitable aircraft for the air taxi programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) No, Sir.

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

Indo-Pak Joint Ministerial Commission

5763. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed

to Pakistan for having a meeting of Indo-Pak joint ministerial commission in the very near future; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Pakistan Government to this proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Governments of India and Pakistan have agreed to hold the second meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission in New Delhi from 27th to 29th June, 1985.

Smuggling out Nuclear Explosive Switches from United States to Pakistan

5764. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how United States Government have viewed the incident relating to attempt to smuggle out nuclear explosive switches from the United States to Pakistan; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the recommendations of United States' House Foreign Affairs Committee in the matter and their acceptance otherwise by the President of the United States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Media reports in the United States, highlighting the attempt made by Mr. Nazir Ahmed Vaid, a Pakistani national, to smuggle out of USA sophisticated electronic switches that can trigger a nuclear bomb, suggested that different departments of the U.S. Government sought to underplay Mr. Vaid's connections with the Pakistani Government and the gravity of his offence.

(b) The Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee has recommended the suspension of assistance to countries violating US export laws in order to manufacture a nuclear explosive device. This recommendation has to be processed further by the U.S. Congress, before it can be submitted to the President.

U.S. Air to Air Missiles to Pakistan

5765. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI BRAJ MOHAN
MOHANTY :

SHRI K. RAMAMURTY :

SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :

SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN :

SHRI MOHAMMAD
MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :

Will be Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on 20 March, 1985 the U.S. Defence Department has agreed to sell Pakistan 500 Air to Air fighter borne missiles;

(b) if so, whether 15 Radar System to Pakistan has also been supplied;

(c) whether the reasons for supply of arms to Pakistan given by the United State Government there is increased threat from the Soviet presence in Afghanistan;

(d) if so, whether India has strongly protested over this huge arms supply to Pakistan; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the United State Government; and

(f) the steps being taken by India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) On March 28, 1985, the US Administration formally notified the US Congress of its intention to sell 500 Air to Air Missiles to Pakistan.

(b) and (c). Government has seen reports to this effect.

(d) to (f). Government is concerned at the large-scale acquisition of sophisticated arms by Pakistan from the United States. The matter has been taken up at different levels and on several occasions with the Governments of both Pakistan and the United States. Government is continuing

to monitor with utmost vigil all developments having a bearing on the country's security.

"Food for Work" and "Antyodaya" Schemes5766. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether an evaluation committee of the Planning Commission had in its evaluation observed that the schemes like "Food for Work" and "Antyodaya" had helped 'the poorest among the poor';

(b) if so, whether Government propose to revive and strengthen these schemes; and

(c) if so, what quantity of foodgrains will be made available for "Food for Work" programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). The Programmes Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission evaluated the Food for Work Programme in 1979. According to its report, the Programme did have a favourable impact on the life of the village of community in terms of employment and income. The report also brought out some major weaknesses and shortcomings. Keeping these in view, a new Programme, the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) was launched in the Sixth Plan on a much larger scale. There is provision under this programme to distribute a part of the wages as food grain. The Antyodaya programme was not a central programme and was implemented as a State scheme only in the States of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Rajasthan, Orissa, and Uttar Pradesh. An evaluation of this programme was carried out in 1979-81. The findings varied from State to State. Meanwhile, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) with the aim of providing productive assets in the Sixth Plan to 15 million households from among the poorest of the poor to help them cross the poverty line, was launched throughout the Country in 1980-81.

(c) Does not arise.

**Proposal to connect Rajkot with Delhi
by Air**

5767. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the seven commercial airports in Saurashtra and Kutch having daily connection with Bombay are the only airports from where if one wishes to fly to Delhi one has first to fly in the opposite direction;

(b) whether a recommendation has been made recently to resurvey the prospects of connecting Rajkot with Delhi; and

(c) if so, the progress thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The survey is in progress.

**Special Charter and Return Fare Facility to
the Cities Outside India**

5768. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the cities outside India having facilities for special charter and return fare rates for air travel to destinations in India; and

(b) the reasons why such facilities have not been extended to cities in the far East, Middle East and Africa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) and (b). Tourist Charters can be operated with requisite permission on point to point basis from any point in the world including points in Far East, Middle East and Africa,

**Afforestation during Sixth and Seventh Five
Year Plans**

5769. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1952 National Forest Policy Resolution of Government had recommended aiming at a coverage of one third of the total land area under forests;

(b) if so, whether the aim had been achieved during the Sixth Plan period and if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, reasons for the tardy progress and details of steps taken to achieve the aim speedily; and

(d) whether the aim has been reviewed and a higher aim recommended in the Seventh Plan and if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) to (d). Efforts continue to bring in more area under forests by planting trees both inside and outside notified forest areas. While between 1982 and 1980 a total area of 3.56 million hectare was afforested, during the Sixth Five Year Plan period and, an area of 2.27 million hectare was covered through block plantations. In addition about 377 crore seedlings were distributed during the Sixth Five Year Plan period among people for planting on farmlands, private holdings and homesteads. Government propose to increase the afforestation effort during the Seventh Five Year Plan period and later. National Wastelands Development Board has been set up with the object of bringing five million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations and to develop a people's movement therefor.

Military Aid to Pakistan by U.S.A.

5770. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI MOHAMMAD MAHFOOZ
ALI KHAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that

a substantial part of the military aid promised to Pakistan by the USA in addition to the previous loans of \$ 3.2 billion is to be used for building 23 airfields for the U.S. Air Force in Pakistan;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN):
(a) Government has seen press reports to this effect.

(b) and (c). Government is opposed to the setting up of foreign bases/facilities in any country and this has been conveyed to both the US and Pakistan Governments on different occasions.

Joint Sector Project of ITDC in Kerala

5771. **SHRI T. BASHEER :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the State Governments/Corporations with which ITDC have entered into Joint Sector projects;

(b) the details of each project;

(c) whether there is any proposal for a joint sector project in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) and (b). The information is given in the statement attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

The names of the State Governments/Corporations with which ITDC have entered into Joint Sector projects, details of each project in reply to parts (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5771 for 8-5-1985

Name of the Project and the State in which it is located	2	Capacity (No. of Rooms)	Star Rating	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Gauhati (Assam)	State Government of Assam	50	3	195.00	Project is under implementation
2. Puri (Orissa)	Orissa Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.	44	3	190.00	—do—
3. Ranchi (Bihar)	Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.	30	3	130.00	—do—
4. Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)	Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.	38	3	190.00	—do—
5. Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)	Arunachal Pradesh Industrial Development and Financial Corporation Ltd.	20	1-2	80.00	Site is to be provided by the State Government
6. Pondicherry (U.T.)	Pondicherry Industrial Promotion Development and Investment Corporation Ltd.	20	1-2	92.00	Project is under implementation

Amendment of Section 309 of I.P.C.

5772. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to review the provisions of section 309 of the Indian Penal Code relating to attempt to commit suicide with a view to amending it to make it realistic in consonance with the changing norms and values of our society ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : The Law Commission have recommended repeal of Section 309 of the Indian Penal Code. This recommendation will be kept in mind when comprehensive amendment of that Code is taken up.

Re-Opening of Khokaropar Munabao Rail Route

5773. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1913 dated 3 March, 1983 regarding Munabao Khokaropar Railway route and state :

(a) whether Government of India have taken up with Government of Pakistan the issue of re-opening of Khokaropar-Munabao rail route in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Government have on different occasions, both verbally and in writing, requested the Government of Pakistan to agree to reopen the Khokrapar-Monabao checkpoint as provided for in the Indo-Pakistan Visa Agreement of September, 1974. There has, so far, been no positive response from the Government of Pakistan.

Centralised Technology Import Plan

5774. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have

recently finalised the centralised technology import plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the items identified in this import plan;

(c) whether the indigenous companies will have any effect on this import plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). In certain cases where a number of investors submit proposals to import technology for the same product the Government has encouraged the import on a centralised basis technology to be shared by the investors. Recently the Government has selected technology for manufacture of Electronics PABX and Electronic Telephones on this basis.

(c) and (d) Several Indian Companies having licenses or letters of intent for manufacturing Electronics PABX and Electronic Telephones are expected to benefit by this initiative.

Setting up of Industries on Turnkey and Pay Back Basis in Collaboration with U.S.S.R.

5775. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :

SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to help India to set up industries in public and private sectors on both turnkey and payback basis;

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

(c) whether Government propose to set up these industries in the country's backward areas;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the major projects proposed to be started in the country in collaboration with USSR ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (e). There are several proposals under examination to expand industrial collaboration with the Soviet Union to mutual benefit. The details are still being worked out.

Effect of Eucalyptus Plantation on Soil

5776. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total hectares of land in arid zones brought under eucalyptus plantation during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) whether a recent study has revealed that further plantation of eucalyptus will convert the soil into deserts and spread over the sub-continent;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to stop the plantation of eucalyptus in the arid zones ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No study has been made which reveals that further plantation of Eucalyptus will convert the soil into deserts and spread over the sub-continent.

(c) and (d). The questions do not arise.

Request by Maharashtra Government for More Money to Develop Bombay

5777. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :
SHRI D.B. PATIL :
SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether to develop Bombay and to

meet the needs of thousands of people coming to the city from various parts of the country the Government of Maharashtra have made a request for a sum of Rs. 1,000 crores for the coming five years from the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the request has been considered;

(c) if so, the total amount approved; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). The Seventh Plan of Maharashtra is still to be finalised. It may however be noted that Central assistance for the Plans of States is provided on the basis of the modified Gadgil Formula approved by the National Development Council for the States Plans as a whole in the form of block loans and grants and not for specific project/programmes.

Fake Passport Issued by the Regional Passport Offices

5778. SHRI G.G. SWELL :
SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of workers were sent to Gulf countries by travelling agencies on the strength of fake passports issued by the Regional Passport Offices;

(b) whether the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of External Affairs; and

(c) if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. No cases have come to the notice of the Government, where any worker was sent to Gulf countries by travelling agencies on the strength of fake passports issued by the Regional Passport Offices.

However, whenever cases of forgeries on passports come to the notice of the Government, law enforcing authorities are duly intimated for conducting investigation with a view to take legal and penal action against the offenders.

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

12.00 hrs

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker Sir, it has been reported in the newspaper today also that some police personnel have been killed by the extremists in Punjab. Almost every day we come across such reports of killings of innocent Congress workers, policemen and other officers by the extremists. Such atrocities are being perpetrated. I would like to know from the Government how long all this will continue? The Government want to solve this problem by extending the hand of friendship and in a cordial and congenial manner but in spite of all this, such incidents are happening almost everyday.

MR. SPEAKER: You give it in writing I shall pass it on to the hon. Home Minister who is sitting here.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): To-day, the peace-loving people of the world are observing the 40th anniversary of the defeat of Fascism. This House should take up a resolution to pay homage.

MR. SPEAKER: You should have given it to me earlier. We could have called all the people and done it. It should have come earlier; I would have called a meeting.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You can do it tomorrow.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): There is a serious drought

situation prevailing in Andhra. I have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already taken steps. I have told you it has already been done. It is coming up for discussion tomorrow.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY (Katwa): A very disturbing news item has come in to-day's 'Indian Express'.

MR. SPEAKER: It has already been taken up and answered.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY: The Chief Minister of Maharashtra has supported that.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing. Not allowed; not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chowdhury, you were not in the House. You were not there. It has already been replied to.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY: Has it been done?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes; that is why I told you: it has been done.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): The South Indians in Bombay have to leave. The Shiva Sena has come to power there.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already dealt with this subject. Now Mr. Kurien

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): We are not getting water in the morning in our flats—neither in North Avenue, nor in Bishamber Das Marg. At 7.30 in the morning...

MR. SPEAKER: Do you get it in the evening? You say you don't get water in the morning. I ask you whether you get it in the evening.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: No, Sir; not in evenings also. (Interruptions)

**Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L.
BHAGAT): Government will have no
objection to a Calling Attention being
permitted on this.

MR. SPEAKER: You will have
objection to it, but I will have no objection
if you give water to the Members.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: We will give
that; this Government will give the atten-
tion to that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You Provide water.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. I say
that water should be provided. It is
the Minister's responsibility. I do not gain
anything out of the Calling Attention. I
would like you to provide water.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: I will speak
to the Minister concerned.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY (Buxar): I
have given notice under Rule 222—breach
of privilege and contempt of the House
against Mr. Kuldip Nayyar.

MR. SPEAKER: It is under my con-
sideration.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: He has cast
stated an aspersion on the Chair, and he has
that action has not been taken against me.

MR. SPEAKER: It is under my con-
sideration.

[*Translation*]

Tewaryji, please leave it; in case a
person does not know what he is writing,
then what can I do?

[*English*]

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: Something
should be done about it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will see, I will
consider it.

[*Translation*]

These things are insignificant.

[*English*]

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: I hope you
will consider it. It in a serious matter.

SHRI K.V. SHANKARAGOWDA
(Mandya): That was about those who do
not get water. What about those who have
got no flat altogether? I have no flat.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already done
that.

SHRI K.V. SHANKARAGOWDA: I
have no flat altogether.

MR. SPEAKER: I have all my sympa-
thies for you. But I have you will appre-
ciate that you have been saved of the
difficulties or tribulations of going to the
bath and latrine where there is no water.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Take your seat. You
will always be sitting right here.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.A. DORA: Pakistan has
developed nuclear weapons...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is to be
discussed here. It is not discussed like this.
No discussion here. You come to my
Chamber and we will see to it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I want order in the
House. Hon. Members! Do you think that
this is some place where you can chat like
this standing in the aisle? What are you
supposed to do here? Please take your
seats.

Now, papers to be laid.

12.06 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Air Corporations Act, 1953

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
I beg to lay on the Table :—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 45 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 :—

(i) The Air-India Employees' Passage (Amendment) Regulations, 1984 published in Notification No. HQ/79 in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 1984 together with an explanatory note.

(ii) The Air-India Employees' Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1984 published in Notification No. HQ/66-12 in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1984 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1985 together with an explanatory note.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-870/85]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Airports Authority of India for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (2) of section 25 and sub-section (4) of section 24 of the International Airports Authority Act, 1971.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the International Airports

Authority of India for the year 1983-84.

(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-871/85]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Air India for the year 1983-84 together with Reports of its subsidiaries viz Hotel Corporation of India Limited and Air India Charters Limited, under sub-section (2) of section 37 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(ii) A Copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English Versions) of the Air India for the year 1983-84 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Air India and its subsidiaries viz Hotel Corporation of India Limited and Air India Charters Limited for the year 1983-84.

(5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-872/85]

Resolution Re : Constitution of Ganga Authority

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Resolution No. Q. 14011/4/84-EPC (I) (Hindi and English versions) dated the 16th February, 1985 published in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1985 regarding constitution of Central Ganga Authority.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-873/85]

Review and Annual Reports of the Union Public Service Commission, Indian Museum, Calcutta etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : On behalf of Shri K.P. Singh Deo I beg to lay on the Table :—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under article 323(1) of the Constitution :

(i) Thirty-fourth Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the period from 1st April, 1983 to 31st March, 1984.

(ii) Memorandum explaining the reasons for non-acceptance of the advice of the Union Public Service Commission in cases referred to in the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-874/85]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84.

(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-875/85]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

(5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-876/85]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84.

(7) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-877/85]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National School of Drama, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

(9) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-878/85]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 1983-84.

(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-879/85]

English versions) in regard to the Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-882/85]

Review and Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, Annual Assessment Report for the spread and development of Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : 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 Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1983-84.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- (3) A copy of the Annual Assessment Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Programme and its implementation for accelerating the spread and development of Hindi and its progressive use for the various official purposes of the Union, for the year 1983-84.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-880/85]

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-881/85]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Twenty-Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Deputy Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities in India for the period from July, 1982 to June, 1983.

(ii) An Explanatory Note (Hindi and

12.10 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Reported supply of maps of sensitive and restricted areas in Kerala and Indo-Burma border by some non-official agencies to some foreign agencies without obtaining prior clearance

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

“Reported supply of maps of sensitive and restricted areas in Kerala and Indo-Burma border by some non-official agencies to some foreign agencies without obtaining prior clearance from concerned authorities, thereby violating the Official Secrets Act and Map Restriction Policy and the action taken by the Government in the matter.”

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : Sir, I rise to speak on the subject of reported supply of maps of sensitive and restricted areas by some non-official agencies to some foreign agencies without obtaining prior clearance from the concerned authorities.

2. Sir, according to the information gathered from the Kudal Commission of Inquiry, which is inquiring into the working and activities including publications of the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD), certain allegations had been made that some time in early 1975, AVARD arranged to obtain copies of restricted maps of areas in Nagaland and supplied such copies to a foreign agency as a part of a plan, namely, “the Development Plan of Selected Areas

of Nagaland". The purpose of this plan was to obtain funds to be utilised by particular agencies, namely, Nagaland Peace Centre, Kohima and Nagaland Gandhi Ashram. During the course of the investigations it also came to the notice of the Commission that some maps of restricted areas of Vellanad Panchayat, Kerala, have been published in a book entitled "Education for Development" published by AVARD. In order to determine the nature and importance of the maps published in these publications, the Commission obtained the comments and advice of the Survey of India and Ministry of Defence in the matter. The Survey of India has opined that some of these maps pertain to the restricted areas and as such needed clearance both from the Office of the Surveyor General of India as well as the Ministry of Defence. It is also mentioned that some of the maps published in these publications wrongly depict borders of India. The Ministry of Defence have also informed the Commission that some of these maps were of restricted areas and their publication and open circulation was not permissible without prior approval of the Ministry of Defence.

3. On the completion of the preliminary investigations, the Commission having satisfied itself about the existence of the *prima facie* case of violation of the Official Secrets Act and the Map Restriction Policy has issued a notice under section 8(b) of the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952 to afford opportunity to the AVARD, Nagaland Peace Centre, Nagalang Gandhi Ashram and Mitra Niketan to show cause and produce evidence, if any, in their defence. The show cause notice issued by the Commission requires persons representing these organisations to appear before the Commission on 13th May, 1985.

4. Thus, as would be clear from the facts mentioned above, the allegations against the AVARD and its closely connected organisations regarding the publication of maps of restricted areas without proper authorisation are already being inquired into by the Kudal Commission of Inquiry.

5. I take this opportunity to assure this august House that Government is maintaining utmost vigilance to safeguard the

country's security and integrity. Any individual or organisation which is found engage in activities prejudicial to national security will be dealt with sternly in accordance with the provisions of the law.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : This is a serious matter but from the statement which he has read out just now there is a likelihood of an impression being created that the preparation of these restricted maps and the supply of them to some foreign agencies is something which is of a very recent occurrence, just taking place now and has suddenly come to light.

From the information which I have at my disposal, it is not so at all. This is something which has been going on for several years and I would like to know point blank from the Government whether this is the first time that this has come to the notice of the Government of the basis of some information which they have now gathered from the Kudal Commission and whether it is a fact that it has been going for the last seven or eight years.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Kudal Commission !

MR. SPEAKER : It is in 1975, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It came to the knowledge of the Government.

[*Translation*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is now bringing in the Kudal Commission.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am not interested in Kudal Commission; they can do what they like with it.

I would like to know or pinpoint, what is the attitude and action taken by the Government in this matter because it has been known to the government for many years. For example, from 1958-59 to 1966-67 this organisation known as the AVARD was openly getting funds from the Asia Foundation which later on was disclosed to be a conduit, an agency of the CIA. Later on, in 1968 the Government

asked the Asia Foundation to wind up its establishment in India. And as far as we know that after 1968, direct donations from the Asia Foundation to this AVARD organisation probably ceased. But AVARD is an organisation which has got affiliated to it a large number of other organisations. I am told that their number runs into over nine hundred which are operating in various parts of the country in the name of the various rural development schemes. For example, I would like to know whether the Home Minister can confirm or not that in 1974, that is, after the Government had asked the Asia Foundation to wind up its establishment here in India, in 1974 these number agencies—rather the affiliated agencies—of AVARD such as the Nagaland Peace Centre, Kohima, the Nagaland Gandhi Ashram, Chuchuyimlang, Nagaland and all such organisations in that year 1974 received respectively Rs. 22,34,000 and Rs. 19,55,000 from this organisation in West Germany which is called EZE. The full name I have got with me, but it is very difficult to pronounce, because it is all German. The names of the members of this organisation are known and these maps are being printed here. These maps are prepared, they are published—they must be published by some printing presses, and the Government ought to be able to tell us which are the printing presses where these maps are being printed and published and these maps are being sent to West Germany, to that organisation called EZE.

This has nothing to do with the findings of the Kudal Commission. I want to know, what the great Home Ministry with all its intelligence agencies has been doing all these years because the Ministry of Defence and the Survey of India have not only made submissions before the Commission, which he has referred to just now saying that these maps have been prepared without the necessary permission of these Ministries and the Survey of India. It is an offence—criminal offence—which is punishable. Not only that; these maps have revealed vital information such as for example the state of communications in those areas, the location of telephone exchanges, the national and state highways, other topographical landmarks and other details. What is the purpose of this? It is not a very sinister

thing? Why these types of maps containing all this strategic important information are being prepared, published and sent out for the last several years to these foreign agencies? And the Government is doing nothing about it. I really cannot understand it. The Kudal Commission was set up only in 1982. But what I am referring to has been going on at least 15 years before that. Surely I take it that the Home Ministry and the Defence Ministry and all these intelligence agencies are aware of what is going on. How is it that no action is taken against these people who are responsible? I am told that after the Kudal Commission has started functioning, these people to whom notices are given for appearance and all that, they have frequently been going to courts and getting stay orders, injunctions and all that and refusing to appear before the Commission at all. I do not know what is going to happen. He has mentioned that some fresh notice has been given by the Commission asking them to appear a few days hence of this month. They will not appear. They will go to court and get some stay order or something and on a technical objection they will avoid any real investigation of these allegations against them. After all these so-called spy trials and espionage plot which you discovered and told us about at the beginning of this session and last session and about which nothing is heard now, one does not know how much credibility to give to the work of our intelligence agencies. Here is a thing which is going on more or less openly and which is known to the Government. It is not something which is secretly being done. Why these border areas are being selected—Nagaland, north-eastern border, even one place situated on the Kerala border and West Bengal border? These organisations which are supposed to be some kind of either charitable organisations or organisations of religious missionaries or something, this is not their job to prepare some maps and send them out in return of some money received from abroad. I have nothing against missionaries doing their legitimate work in this country. But this is not their legitimate work or legitimate activity. I want to know from the Government as to what they have been doing all these years. They know all these things. At least 20 such maps have been referred to

before the Kudal Commission, which have been published and sent abroad. Government has not investigated anything on its own through its intelligence agencies to find out who is doing this, why they are doing it, who are the people concerned. Are there some people involved against whom the Government is afraid of taking action? I do not know whether there are some important and big people involved or not against whom the Government does not want to move at the cost of the security of the country. Please tell us something more about this, throw some light about this instead of simply telling that the Kudal Commission has found it out after 1982. They will proceed as a Commission of Inquiry and they will go on for years and years. There are so many ways by which these things can be prolonged and the actual investigation can be avoided. But in the meantime, all this vital strategic information is being leaked out and the Government is doing nothing about it apparently. No measures of any kind have been taken. So, I am accusing the Government of playing ducks and drakes with the security of the country. Here is a concrete evidence of that. I would like to know what they are proposing to do.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Kudal Commission is harassing only the innocent.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : It is correct that the activities of the AVARD and its affiliates have been there since 1958. They have been getting huge contributions from foreign agencies. About the publication of maps of restricted areas, these books were brought to the notice of the Kudal Commission in 1984.

12.20 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*]

Previous to that it was only a general kind of allegation which was being made against the AVARD and the affiliated agencies. But now substantial proof has been produced by some of the agencies...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Who brought it to the notice of the Kudal Commission?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : That will be very difficult to say. I do not think it will be possible for me to give the source from where they got it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Was it any Government investigative agency or some private person?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : At least the information that I have with me only shows that a reference was made by Kudal Commission and thereafter the Surveyor General of India and the Defence Ministry seem to have reacted to some of the information which was cross-checked with them, in which the Defence Ministry did say that those were restricted areas and nobody was supposed to print and enlarge or circulate in the way it had been done in the case of the book which has been printed by AVARD. It is a fact that a large number of stay orders have been brought against the working of the Kudal Commission. But we are now seized of the matter. We are going to discuss again with the Kudal Commission irrespective of the interim report which they might submit later on. Government having come to know of this, have to consult the IB, the CBI and other agencies and will take definite action if it is called for.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : My questions have not been answered. From what the Minister has said now, it seems that it is really an admission that they have done nothing so far. They now propose to take action. He himself says that in 1958 these contributions from the Asia Foundation to AVARD were known and they were stopped by the Government. The Asia Foundation was exposed and the CIA conduit do it and its office here was closed down. After that time to this date, am I to know that the Government and its agencies never bothered to investigate further or to find out what these people were doing or what they were using this money for? They have not done it. Let him admit that they have been lax in this matter completely though the country's security was involved. Only now that the matter has come up, the Kudal Commission has given some information and this matter has come in Parliament, they say that they

have to ask the IB and somebody and somebody else to do something. What kind of attitude it is? It shows the lack of seriousness completely.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : From 1958 to 1976, I think the information that I have at my disposal, clearly shows that it was only a very general kind of allegation which was made against AVARD and their activities, but nothing serious had come to Government's notice. No investigation was done. At least that is the information that I have. Now, since these matters about two definite allegations which are prima facie established in the Kudal Commission, have come to Government's notice, certainly action hereafter will be taken.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the case that has come to light before us today is very sensational. There are many foreign powers which have been sending money to the cultural and social organisations in the country with the intention of creating chaotic conditions in the country. They have selected such institutions as had been named after Gandhiji like 'Gandhi Peace Foundation' 'Gandhi Memorial Fund' and 'Sarva Seva Sangh'. These institutions were asked to spread lawlessness in the border States. Their function was to get secret maps of those areas where the Defence Ministry had imposed certain restriction. They did these jobs, prepared the maps and tried to sell them in foreign countries so that the foreign powers interested in spreading lawlessness in the country and its disintegration could become stronger and supply more money to these organisations to get their work done and harm the country. All this started way back in 1962 through an organisation called the Asia Foundation but it was only in 1968 that Government came to know of its links with CIA, which was trying to instigate subversive activities and the spreading of lawlessness in the country, and a ban was then imposed on that organisation. In spite of the ban the money inflow from the foreign countries did not stop. You would recall that after 1971 when Shrimati Indira Gandhi won the elections with a huge majority, it was

through these organisations that lawlessness and strikes were tried in Bihar and Gujarat right from 1971 to 1975, and the people who were supporting those strikes were directly associated with these organisations. Efforts were made to see that the elected representatives were not allowed to enter the assemblies and they indulged in sabotage. There was a students' revolution at that time and it was these people who helped them. The centre of all these activities has always been the 'Gandhi Peace Foundation' and one of its office-bearers** has been either the President or General Secretary or treasurer or member of the Executive Committee of over 100 organisations out of about 900 such organisations. He had misused the funds against the Government, i.e., Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Government. During the elections they issued pamphlets and posters pleading that people should not support or co-operate with Government. I would like to quote from one of the speeches of Shrimati Indira Gandhi which she had delivered some time prior to her death.

[*English*]

"The allegations against the Gandhian bodies were that money received from the foreign..."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Jai Prakash Agarwal, you put any question if you want to. You need not necessarily read anything from that. You have not taken permission.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : There is no harm.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, he has not taken permission to read from that.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : It is not an allegation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not allegation, but he is mentioning the names.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : I am referring to what was published in the Indian Express.

**Not recorded.

"The allegations against the Gandhian bodies were that money received from foreign and internal sources for digging wells and for the drought-hit States like Orissa were misutilised. The Opposition parties must be patient and should understand the nature of the inquiry by the Kudal Commission and not place hurdles against it."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I am on a point of order. In Calling Attention there can be a point of order.

Firstly I do not object to his raising the issue. But I only want to tell you that sometimes very important persons holding office in this country have some amount in the foreign banks. About them also references were made and it had appeared in Press. And when that was quoted, the Speaker had pointed out that even if it has appeared in the Press, the Press will take responsibility outside, but you should not raise it if there are certain allegations, about which you have not given a proper notice and if you have not authenticated that, you would not be allowed to raise it. I am the last man to be worried about such allegations. About Jayaprakash Narain also allegations have been made in this House, but I want to tell you that this is the precedence.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : But how does that precedent come in this way ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They are exactly identical. There are references to institutions and individuals.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : He is quoting former Prime Minister in relation to her speech. There is nothing wrong about it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is not attentive.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I am attentive. He said that Mr. Radhakrishnan is President, Vice-President, triumvir of hundreds of organisations including the Gandhi Peace Foundation. What is wrong about. It is a statement of fact.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In that statement all the references are there. In the past it was prevented.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Professor, if there is any name mentioned, it would not go in the record.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I should respectfully submit that we should realise the seriousness of this. This organisation is continuously supplying maps outside. The persons who are associated must be exposed in this House. What is wrong about it ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If any name he has to mention he must get prior permission. Otherwise it would not go on record.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have made my position clear. Even if anyone is exposed...

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad wants to say that I am shielding anyone, let me make it clear.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I have not said that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What I am telling you is what the previous procedure has been. Even if anybody is to be exposed in this House, we have to give in writing and if a document is to be quoted that also has to be supplied. Then it can be done. If that is done, I have no objection. I will also join you.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What objectionable thing has he quoted. He is within his right to quote the reference.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What I am objecting to is reference to name in that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Names cannot be allowed.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : It is a statement of facts that are known, there is nothing wrong about it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I expect the Deputy-Speaker to give the Ruling.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Sir, Mr. Madhu Dandavate in all his wisdom wants to dictate to the House. He says that whenever any Member in this House wants to make allegations or wants to read something about the Members present here, he must get the previous permission, but not about the people outside.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That cannot be allowed.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What cannot be allowed? You tell me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Any allegations made, I won't allow.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : ** It is all according to the rules of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are rules. If there are any defamatory remarks...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : We are in Parliament. We are guided by the rules of Parliament. I say, if we do otherwise, it means we are against the interests of the country. Now, he is not doing anything wrong.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Azad, any name mentioned whether it is of inside or outside, without the permission if any allegation is made against him, I won't allow.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I will tell you, before your coming in the Chair, thousands of names have been mentioned in the House, and we will read those names again and again. You can't make just a sweeping remark like that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you want, I can read out the rule. There is a

rule which clearly says, any defamatory allegation cannot be made.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : What is defamatory? This is not defamatory.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That I will go through.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : What will you go through?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.H. RANGANATH : I was in the Karnataka Assembly for two long years. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, a man who quotes takes the responsibility for it. How is it defamatory? It is for you to decide.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He should give prior notice.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : How is it defamatory?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I wish to make it clear because I do not want to hurt others.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : It is not defamatory. It is a statement of facts.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I do not want my colleague to misunderstand me.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : We are not misunderstanding you.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am not objecting to any names to be mentioned. I have also not said that he has made an allegation.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, on a point of order say that** is the President of a hundred organisations, he is the President or Secretary or

Treasurer, is it defamatory? It is a statement of facts. The sweeping remark that you have made is surprising.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Mr. Azad, I want to say this...

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : Why are you saying this to me?

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I am supporting what he said. *(Interruptions)* I again hold, I am not objecting, I am one with Mr. Azad that names can be mentioned, institutions can be mentioned, but I am only pointing out...

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : It is just in the national interest and you are making this remark.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am only pointing out that names and institutions also can be referred. I am not raising that point. I say that if any allegations have to be made about individuals, only they must take in writing permission and take the responsibility.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : I also fully agree with you. But I am only referring to the Deputy-Speakers's remark to say that in this AVARD case if Mr. A is connected with hundred institutions, what is defamatory? I agree with you, that is right. But he is disagreeing now. Unfortunately your point of order has made the Deputy-Speaker disagree. You and I know the rules, we are perfectly right. But Mr. Deputy-Speaker is...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. Don't say that.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. His observation will not go on record.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Sir, I am on a

point of order and it relates to the order and running of the business of this House. We know the rules, we know what the words 'defamatory' and 'incriminatory' mean.

But I am afraid that we are taking these things too far.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : Why are you coming in? He has given a ruling on that. We are not taking about you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Swell is on his legs. Let him continue. Others need not argue.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Allow me to finish my speech.

I seek your guidance whether this House can be treated as a college or a debating society in which one has to say certain things theoretically or certain things academically or is this House to discuss the affairs of the country. Can you divorce the affairs of this country from the individuals involved in it so that we cannot mention any name? So, please give me ruling on that.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : Thousands of names are being mentioned every day.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will go through the record and I will consider it. If it is not defamatory, I will not expunge it.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : I have raised the point of order. I want your ruling.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will go through the record. If there is any defamatory remark against any person, I will expunge it from the record.

SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD : How is it defamatory, I want to know.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That I will go through the proceedings.

**Not recorded.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Going through the record is one thing and giving your ruling on the point of order is another. If you cannot do it now, take your time and come back to the House. I have raised my point of order.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Sir, I was reading out a part of the speech of Shrimati Indira Gandhi :

"The allegations against the Gandhian bodies were that money received from foreign and internal sources for digging wells in drought hit States including Orissa was misutilised.

"The Opposition Parties must be patient and understand the nature of enquiry of Kudal Commission and create hurdles in the course of probe, not she said."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, these are many such bodies and institutions which have received money from abroad to the tune of lakhs of rupees. The "Banvasi Seva Kendra", Abhora recived Rs. 42 lakhs, "Citizens Voluntary Traaining Centre' Kohima Rs. 76 lakhs, Mahatma Gandhi Seva Ashram', Zora Rs. 33 lakhs, 'Tagore Society for Rural Development' West Bengal Rs. 89 laks, 'Shyama Prasad Institute of Culture,' West Bengal Rs. 16 laks, 'T.A. Gramdan Sangh' Assam Rs. 31 lakhs 'Mandara Unayan' West Bengal Rs. 38 lakhs 'Nirpad' U.P. Rs. 200 lakhs and 'AVARD' New Delhi Rs. 306 lakhs.

Mr. Deputy Speakers, Sir, a person who indulges in spreading anarchy, sabotage and harms the interests of the country is called a trator. Who are these traitors? In first category are those people who indulge in spch activities and the others are those who support them. I would like to tell you that what happened between 1971 and 1975 and the enquiry that was instituted later on, the reasons why the enquiry was stopped in the years between 1977-79 and the papers that were confiscated from these Organisations were returned back to them. Does it not indicate that the then Government were also involved in it?

I would like to remind you that a few

years back it appeared in the newspapers that** had links with the CIA.**

The then Government stopped the enquiry. Is it not a proof of the fact that both these things were the same and these people had given protection and they were involved and wanted that activities of sabotage should take place in the country.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Agarwal, mentioned about CIA connection.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : It was in the newspaper. It is an open fact.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That I cannot allow. I would not allow. This is not the way.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : All leaders including the Congress leaders have said that we protest against the allegation made against** Let it be very clear.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : He did not say,** is a CIA agent. Please understand. He did not say that** was a CIA agent. Hs said, it was published in those days. Somebody said so and it had been published and had been on the record of the House. We never call** a CIA agent.

He was the Prime Minister. He was a good public man. We only say 'Some of the persons published in newspapers'. That is all. It is a reference which is being made. It is being said that this Kudal Commission, when the Government came in power certain things happened and all that happened was that the papers of the AVARD were referred back and sent back to the Commission. Why? Anybody may like to ask and to know. He did not say that, we never say that, and none of us say that he is a CIA agent. But when it was published in the newspapers, it is a fact of the time. We are only quoting it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. That is to say...

**Not recorded.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : **

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Even for making an allegation, a news item cannot be mentioned.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : **
You must go by the rules in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not teach me. It is too much you are speaking.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : You have to hear if. You cannot do otherwise. You are** bound by the rules.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If some newspaper says that...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : During Zero Hour, Prof. Madhu Dandavate quotes from the newspaper, not from his personal knowledge. Every day we see him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I never quote anything from the...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : When you shout in the Zero Hour, you say press news has come, not your own news.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is different. I am saying about foreign agency. If it is said that a Chief Minister is reported to have made some statement, that is totally different. But if somebody said that I have read the report that** is a CIA Agent or some other agent...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I know that in Janata Government time, the records of the AVARD were returned to them. But, if the Government does it, what can you do ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You need not cast aspersions on me. I did not do it.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Not at all.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : All that I want to tell you is even if you read a report in the press that "so and so Prime Minister or the present Prime Minister is KGB agent or some other agent it is not my contention, but press has said that such and such Minister or Home Minister is an agent KGB", can I run away with that ? That is all I am saying.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I am happy you come down every time.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Right from the beginning, I said that. You go through that.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is there. I remember I have said it. I have said, I am not objecting to it. I have gone on record. I am not objecting.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : How can you object to it ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I only said that if in the further statement, he makes any allegetion, then only I will object to it. I am on record. I have said that so far I have not objected. I am on record.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : There is no problem between you and me. How can we say we have another problem ?

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGRAWAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the institutions which were receiving funds and whose main function was to propagate a Mahatma Gandhis' achievements, it is surprising how such books were kept in the Library by them. It proved that Gandhiji was an ordinary man and Nathuram Godse a great man. This book shows that the killing of Gandhiji by Nathuram Godse was a justified action. I would like to read out the remarks of Justice S. Mohan of the High Court who has said :

[English]

"If really that library has been established to propagate Mahatma

Gandi's ideals, it passes my comprehension how the library could bring Gopal Godse's book which by no uncertain terms vilifies the Father of the Nation in every possible way. The reader will have a poor opinion about Mahatma Gandhi who had sacrificed his life for the uplift of the down-trodden, worked incessantly for the unity of the country."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know why when these people and institutions were found to be indulging in such activities, they were not arrested and their passports seized? Why was criminal action not initiated against them? If we let such people move freely to indulge in subversive activities in the country, then I fear, we would not be able to protect the freedom of our country, the freedom won by those who had sacrificed their lives to make this country free, those who had faced bullets and lathis and had gone to jails, those who had embraced the hangman's noose and the soldiers who had laid down their lives to protect this freedom; we will not be able to protect such hard-earned freedom if some political parties continue to patronise such elements... (*Interruptions*).

I would like to ask two questions.

[*English*]

These are my questions. Is it a fact that maps and other documents seized from AVARD and its closely connected organisations were returned to the organisations by the then Government in power during 1977-78 and, if why were the culprits who acted treacherously against the security of the State not brought to book?

Secondly, why has the Government not taken any steps to conduct a search and seizure of documents and why have the passports of the office-bearers of these organisations who are involved in such anti-national offence not been seized? And why is the Government not launching criminal proceedings against them?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: About the information which the hon. Member has

given to the House, these are really very serious made against AVARD. But it will be difficult for me to react immediately whether these papers were returned during 1977-78 because the issue which has been brought to our notice is in the shape of Calling Attention Notice and that too, only about publication of certain maps which were for a restricted area and their being circulated outside the country; that is the subject-matter of this Calling Attention Notice. As far as may information goes, these are the very allegations which are the subject-matter of inquiry with the Kudal Commission, and unless they come to a definite conclusion, it will be very difficult for the Government to proceed against any one. But there are some aspects of this inquiry; if Government *suo mo'u* also would like to take up certain inquiries against some individuals if they are found *prima facie* responsible for violating the provisions of the Official Secrets Act and also the restricted policy about maps which the Defence Ministry has been following, certainly we would like to consult all concerned and initiate action if it is called for.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): How is it that Government has not acted at all? It looks as if somebody is sleeping all the time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his statement as also in his answers to the many questions that any person or organisation found indulging in harmful activities against the security of country would be dealt with firmly under the provisions of law. In that very statement the hon. Minister has said that the Commission had asked for an expert opinion of the Survey of India and the Defence Ministry on the importance and nature of the maps published in these publications. The Survey of India has expressed the view that some of the maps were of restricted areas, for which prior approval from the office of the Surveyor General of India and the Defence Ministry was necessary. I would like to know whether this does not violate Sections 3 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act and if so, why action was not taken *suo motu*?

The commission's report was verified from the Defence Ministry and the Survey of India. They were of the definite view that the maps were of the restricted areas and there was need for prior permission before drawing the maps, but this requirement was not complied with why did Government not initiate action *suo motu* and what are the reasons for delay ?

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, this matter did not come to light as a result of issuing of the Notice by the Kudal Commission only. As the preceding speaker hon. Shri Indrajit Gupta has said this case has been going on for many years. It was raised during the Fifth Lok Sabha also. Shri Shashi Bhushan had raised this matter at that time. The matter had been enquired into and later it was handed over to the CBI. Some maps were also seized during the raids. Will the hon. Minister confirm whether my information is correct or not ? This matter was again raised before the Shah Commission in 1977. The Commission Summoned Shri Shashi Bhushan to depose. But the most unfortunate part of it was that instead of initiating action in the larger interests of the security of the country, the Janata Party Government stopped further action on the matter that was raised during the Fifth Lok Sabha and on which action was being taken by way of instituting an enquiry and even maps were seized. They not only stopped further enquiry but even returned back the maps to those institutions. The maps which were prepared were returned by them. Thus a serious lapse was committed in the matter of the security of the country. I have already submitted that things were being enquired into and Government had taken some action in this regard and had seized some maps also. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that later on the Janata Party Government returned those maps ? Subsequently the Commission was appointed which is enquiring into the matter but we have nothing to do with that. I do not want to say anything about the enquiry which is going on. The enquiry is not confined to the maps only; there are many matters which are going to be enquired into. Many people in the country have an apprehension that the AVARD and the Gandhi Peace Foundation

and the institutions connected with it are the agents of CIA. They work as agents of foreign countries which are hostile to India. They do not work directly but through certain international institutions. In this connection, the Asia Foundation and another West German institution has been mentioned. They get money through them. They purchase their publications. The people of our country have been apprehensive in this regard for quite a long time. Funds have been misutilised, big people are involved and an enquiry is going on to look into several aspects of the case. I do not want to say anything in this regard. I would like to say only this much that it is a matter of our country's security. The maps have been prepared of border areas, coastal areas which are restricted areas and where photography or survey is strictly prohibited and these maps have been sent outside the country. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fail to understand one thing why the AVARD and other institutions selected only border areas and coastal areas for rural development ? They did not select the backward rural areas of U.P., Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan. These are many backward rural areas in the country which they could have selected but they selected the coastal areas contiguous to Burma and China. Why had they selected only such areas ? That creates a doubt in our mind that something is wrong at the bottom. Shri Agarwal was right in saying that there are many people who have a doubt that the chaotic atmosphere created in 1974-75 in the country which gave birth to unfortunate conditions was the handiwork of these institutions. At that time, volunteers of the Gandhi Peace Foundation used to spread an atmosphere of chaos and hatred against Government in Gujarat and Bihar. All these activities were being carried on in a well planned manner. After that in 1977 the enquiry against them was dropped and those maps were returned to them. It seems that all this was a reward for their activities in the past. I would go to the extent of saying that in bringing the Janata Party to power, these institutions played the biggest role. I am not saying anything about Shri Jai Prakash Narainji. I also do not doubt his intention. But certain activities were going on behind the curtain. There cannot be two opinions that

these institutions were encasing the name of Shri Jai Prakash Narain. They were also encasing Mahatma Gandhi's name through the Gandhi Peace Foundation. In their museum library they have still Godse's book. Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Nathuram Godse's book has still been kept in their library. If you appreciate it, then I have nothing to say.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I would like to know one thing—we have one hundred per cent difference with Hitler's Fascism but his book is lying in Parliament Library. Does that mean that we support him ?

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Hitler did not shoot Gandhi. We were against the Britishers but they were not so barbaric as to shoot Gandhi. Nathu Ram Godse did shoot Gandhi. The ideology, the principle behind it fired the shot and in spite of all this, that book has been kept there—if you appreciate it, then I have nothing to say. These have been the activities of these institutions and you should be thankful to them that because of them your Party came to power and you became a Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have been elected five times as Member of Lok Sabha. I have not come here because of someone's pity but by serving the people.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : By the grace of God, you may be elected even ten times. We have no objection to that but at that time you came to power because of these people. Otherwise you would never have come to power. Once you could form the Government but in future, you are never going to get such a chance.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That was because of you and the emergency. Otherwise we would not have come to power in our whole life. At that time we came to power because of you.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : If such things are happening as have been mentioned by the hon. Minister today in

the statement they may again come to power. They have again started doing the same thing. What is happening in Gujarat should be enquired into. The same institutions are behind the activities of Shvi Sena in Maharashtra. These institutions have put in their resources and volunteers and these people want to create the same situation. They want to bring back again the atmosphere of 1974-75. You will have to pay attention to that and if you do not do that, Prof. Madhu Dandavate may occupy the seat you are occupying today. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, their activities are very dangerous. The Kudal Commission is enquiring into these activities. If you want for action till the Commission's report is submitted, you will never be able to take action. I do not insist upon action on other things but what prevents the Government from taking action against those activities which relate to the preparation of maps of the prohibited areas ? I want that the hon. Minister should take strict action in this matter. I do not want that the hon. Minister should say that we are just now going to take action but this much I want that he should say that he was going to take action, but I certainly want that strict action much be taken in this regard, keeping in view the interest of the nation and the security of the country.

With these words I conclude and hope that the hon. Minister will reply to the points which I have raised during my speech.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is truth in the assertions made by the hon. Member that certain elements in the country are working to create conditions of destabilisation here. There is no such information available with me at the moment, whether there is any link or not between all these incidents which have occurred but it creates a doubt in the mind that some people at different places seem to be interested in bringing about destabilisation in this country and they are doing their work in their own ways to start these incidents.

It is also true that the enquiry which was going on was dropped by them in 1977 but as to whether the maps which had been seized from them have been returned

or not, I have no authentic information and I shall give special attention towards this aspect. If it is true that the whole material which had come into Government's possession was returned after the closure of the enquiry, then we have to check the matter deeply and find out the persons who are involved in this work and also see what action could be taken against them but regarding instituting cases, it will not be proper to start criminal proceedings unless some incriminating proof is found out. In the beginning I had said that we are looking into the activities of two or three agencies and if we feel that there is a *prima facie* case, we shall do the needful. The Kudal Commission has observed that there seems to be a violation of the Official Secrets Act, we shall have to give them a chance to the person concerned to say what they want to say. They have been served with 'show cause' notices. We will go through their reply and if Government feels that there is a *prima facie* case and a stage has come to take action against them, I assure the House that we shall take action without any laxity in the matter.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): As our Home Minister has stated, the Government also thinks that these various agencies are working in our country in ways which are endangering our whole security. As Basher saheb just now told us, Government has taken a long, long time. It is a case starting from 1975 onwards and now we are in 1985. Shri Basher saheb has a correct grievance. The Janata Party regime did not proceed with the case; they withdrew the case. Our Home Minister does not even know whether the materials (which Government seized for starting the case) were returned to the authorities against whom the cases started but later on they were dropped. Our country is under pressure, no doubt. We have been surrounded. Only yesterday, there was a discussion in the Rajya Sabha that some of our own scientists—they were not scientists in the Janata Government period, but they are the scientists of this Government—in the Defence Department who were working on the radar system, have slipped away and they have left for USA and all our defence materials and

defence maps and other data which we have developed, whatever we have developed and achieved in this field have all been given to the USA. When Mr. Venkataraman was the then Defence Minister, he said on the floor of this House that he would try his best to bring back those scientists. But he had failed. So, what is worrying me is that actually most of the foreign agencies are very much interested in our affairs. This fact has been brought to your notice and the notice of the earlier Government also. I do not hold any brief for the Janata Government's failure and their activities. But the fact remains that they had not withdrawn the cases. They should have proceeded with the cases. The Kudal Commission had been set up in 1982 and now it is 1985 and this Government came into being in 1980, Shrimati Indira Gandhi's Government came into being in 1980 and that Government took two years to set up this Commission and since the Commission was set already three years have passed. So, I would like to know from the Government whether an enquiry would be done very quickly so that immediate action can be taken against them. The Kudal Commission has submitted its report. I would like to know what action the Government has taken on that report. He has not agreed to start *suo motu* cases against them. He has not agreed. I do not know why there is such a delay in such important matters. So far as defence is concerned, everyone has expressed concern. I do not know whether they are concerned or not, but everyone has expressed concern for the country's defence. I submit that very influential, important and resourceful persons must be behind the scene so that they have been able to keep away themselves from the Government's pressure.

Sir, the Government takes drastic action when the question of working class movements comes. The Government takes action when the peasants' movements to get their demands accepted are there. Now, Sir, I would like to know the publishers and the place where the books were printed. I do not want to know the names of the authors. I would only like to know where these materials were printed and whether the Government has any information on

that. What were the number of maps printed and where are those maps now?

AN HON. MEMBER : They are outside.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Yes, they are outside. Now such being the case, I would like to know whether the Government can immediately start cases against the press and such persons who are very influential. I am sure they are not so important when the question of country's security comes.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : One book was printed in India by Bhupinder Sagar Printers and Publishers, Kotla Mubharakpur, New Delhi. Another book which is on rural development plan in selected blocks in Nagaland is printed by Bhupinder Sagar at Sagar Printers and Publishers, 1880, Udai Chand Marg, Kotla Mubharakpur, New Delhi. So, both of them are printed in New Delhi. These are the printers who have published and this came to the notice of the Kudal Commission only in 1984. After it was brought to their notice, they referred it to the Surveyor General of India and the Ministry of Defence and the reply was received in December 1984, January 1985. After the reply was sent to them, the Kudal Commission referred the matter to IB in February 85 and now it is with Government; IB, CBI and other agencies are going to be consulted in the matter. If we come to the conclusion after getting the report and the explanation to show cause notice under Section 8B of the Enquiries Act issued by Kudal Commission, that there is a *prima facie* case to proceed against some of the parties concerned, certainly I can assure you that howsoever influential person may be involved, "Government will definitely take very stringent action if it is established under the law.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I apologise, I was not here when I was called, because I had an appointment with the Prime Minister.

Since many of the questions have already been posed, I would not cover the same ground; I would go to the other points.

Firstly, I would like to know whether the Minister is aware that a number of these people were trying their best not to cooperate with the Kudal Commission. Apart from other things, there was a big debate inside the Indian section of Amnesty International. The Indian section of Amnesty International has now been captured by the AVARD people virtually throwing out the other section from the office bearership, who were not of the same opinion on this question. Is the Minister aware of it? I would also like to know whether it is a fact that the Amnesty International which seems to have close connection also with CIA published unauthorised maps of India in their annual report in 1983 where the Customs had put a stamp indicating that the external boundaries of India as depicted in the map are neither correct nor authentic. Despite that the Amnesty International report of 1984 has the same map again. In this map part of the Indian territory from Kashmir has been gifted to Pakistan and China. Is it not a violation of the established law of the land? Secondly, I would like to know whether the Government are aware that the international connections are not only with the German organisation, which has been referred to, but it has much deeper international connections, and this map has not only all those things referred to in your reply, but various other things. Has the Kudal Commission gone into it? If not, is the Government going into it *suo motu*? Further, are the Government aware that in the name of some Sikh students organisation of UK, there has been an appeal to Amnesty International asking them to help Satwant Singh, who is the alleged killer of our late Prime Minister, so that he can be protected. They also want protection for the person who killed the Nirankari Baba. They are seeking help from this Amnesty International and they want to know whether these people could be protected. Now, these are not, in my opinion, isolated things. The AVARD people have captured the Amnesty International's Indian Section. I would like to know whether Government is aware of this dimension of the problem as well and if so, what steps are being taken by the Government to prevent this kind of CIA-covered organisations doing kinds of things with our maps. What are

Government doing to connect the like and take stern action on this question ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : It will be very difficult for me to immediately react to what the hon. member has said just now regarding one of the maps of India, not authenticated, but still published by some organisation of Amnesty International. Certainly, I will have to look into it. I cannot immediately say as to what action is taken or what inquiries have been conducted in the matter or at what stage the case is.

Regarding the second aspect, it is a fact that some of the people to whom notices were sent by the Kudal Commission to explain their position by appearing before the Commission have not been cooperating. Or the other hand, it has come to Government's notice that in a large number of cases, writ petitions have been filed by some interested parties either in the High Court or in the Supreme Court and in some cases, they have also succeeded in getting in stay order. That is why orders are being delayed and in a large number of cases, we cannot proceed further, merely because there is a stay order either by the Supreme Court or by the High Court. I am not sure as to whether it is the High Court or the Supreme Court, but the court order is there which had stayed the proceedings. That is why it had taken considerable time for the Kudal Commission also. These are the procedures which I do not think we can circumvent and find some kind of a short cut to file cases against people. But, after the whole thing is completed and as I have said earlier, if we find that there is enough evidence available to charge-sheet people who are indulging in this kind of anti-national activities, we will certainly take action.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : What you have stated here makes it probably clear to everybody that some thing has been really established. You said : 'It is *prima facta* established.'

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : I have said about particular maps and not of other cases. What I have said relates only to the Calling Attention Motion in which a

very limited question was raised about publishing and circulation of maps about restricted areas. About the rest of the thing, I cannot possibly at this stage say anything.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will you kindly inquire into it ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : Certainly, I will inquire into it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We now take up matter under rule 377.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Need to constitute a Commission and take other effective steps to grievances of small regional newspapers

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Sir, I would take to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

The condition of small newspapers in our country is continuously becoming miserable. The Central Government's advertisement and newsprint quota allocation policy has not been able to protect the interests of the small newspapers. The existing procedure of D.A.V.P. for getting advertisement and newsprint quota is very complex and cumbersome.

The circulation of small newspapers in our country is many times more than that of the large and medium newspapers and the small newspapers have made special contribution in reflecting particularly the developmental activities in rural areas.

To make the small newspapers self-reliant and help them in playing their special role in the development of the country, it is necessary that :—

1. A separate commission may be constituted for the small newspapers.
2. The small newspapers should be separated from the medium newspapers and the question of allocation

of advertisement and newsprint quota should be considered separately.

3. At the time of considering the advertisement rates, the production cost along with circulation should also be taken into consideration.
4. To make the services of the news agencies available to the small language newspapers at lower rates, Government should provide adequate facilities and proper grants to the language news agencies.

[*English*]

- (ii) Need to initiate necessary measures to stop unauthorised reproduction of books of Indian authors in Bangladesh

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Though the Indian Copyright Act, with the latest amendments in 1983 and 1984 is in operation, it is reported that a number of books written by Bengali writers in India are being reproduced in Bangladesh without any reference to the writers. In fact, this piracy has become a thing of concern for many of the established and newly-emerging Bengali writers, as well as the publishers of their works.

I request the Minister of Education to promptly initiate necessary measures to stop this piracy; and for that, invite suggestions from the Bengali writers and publishers on the subject.

[*Translation*]

- (iii) Need to instal a Radio Transmitter in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI (Faizabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter under Rule 377 :

“Ayodhya besides being a place of pilgrimage, is a centre of the Awadhi language. For quite a long time the need for setting a radio station in Ayodhya is being felt in order to promote the use of Awadhi language and to give it its due place and to enable the religious minded persons living in areas adjacent to Ayodhya to listen

to holy *Ramdhun* sung in the temples of Ayodhya. Except in Ayodhya, Radio Stations are functioning at all other religious places like Kashi, Prayag and Mathura.

I request government to take steps to set up a Radio Station in Ayodhya (U.P.)”

[*English*]

- (iv) Need for a new railway line to link Chamrajnagar Mettupalayam

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD (Chamarajanagar) : A survey made by the experts to link Chamrajnagar with Mettupalayam indicated that there is plain land in the midst of Billigiri and Nilgiri ranges between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, where tunnels need not be constructed, as there is no ghat section in between. There is also a 200-years old road constructed by Tippu Sultan.

The proposed new railway line between Chamarajanagar and Mettupalayam would link North and South, as an alternative to the only existing route *via* Jalarpet. Now, the traffic—both goods and passenger—has increased 1.66 times than the previous capacity. In the event of national calamities, there is a fear that the movement of passengers, food and other necessary commodities would come to a grinding halt.

By the proposed link, the distance to North from South will be reduced by about 250 Kms. The distance to Bombay and upwards will also be reduced by over 200 Kms. From Coimbatore, the distance between Bangalore *via* Mysore-chamarajanagar-Mettupalayam will be reduced from the present 425 Kms. to just 300 Kms.

The Kerala-Delhi Express between Trivandrum and Delhi can be diverted through Coimbatore, Mettupalayam, Chamarajanagar, Mysore, Bangalore and Guntakal (after conversion to broad gauge) when the proposed railway line comes to reality. Of course, the proposed rail route would also facilitate the tourists, to go to enchanting summer resorts of the South, like Ooty.

I hope the Minister will take up the work of this missing link.

(v) Need to upgrade the Khanpur Ahir Flag Station in Rajasthan as full-fledged Railway Station

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Sir, Khanpur Ahir, district Alwar, Rajasthan is a Flag Station on the metre gauge railway line between Rewari and Alwar. At present, only shuttle trains have their stoppages at Khanpur Ahir halt station. Railway is the only means of conveyance and transportation in that area. Passengers boarding in trains at Khanpur Ahir are generally in large numbers. As there are two shuttle trains only, i.e. one in the morning and another in the evening, if a passenger misses the shuttle train in the morning, he has to wait till evening for the arrival of the next shuttle. Passengers have to go to Alwar for their urgent routine works, as Alwar town is a district head-quarter. Passengers have also come to, and go from Delhi which is only 130 Kilometres from Khanpur Ahir.

In view of the above-mentioned difficulties of the general public of that area, I urge upon the Minister of Railways that Khanpur Ahir Flag Station may be upgraded as a full-fledged railway station.

(vi) Need to review the decision to disband the ONGC Regional Office at Madras

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri) : The Regional Office of Oil and Natural Gas Commission at Madras has been incharge of the exploration efforts in Cauvery Basin and Palk Straits. There are nearly 1200 employees and officers in this office at Madras. The Employees Cooperative Society has even acquired land for the construction of houses at Madras. The ONGC is fully aware of the assessment of Russian Oil experts that Cauvery Basin and the Palk Straits are floating on oil and the exploration efforts should be intensified with foreign rigs, so that commercial exploitation can be started.

Like a bolt from the blue, the Regional Office of O.N.G.C. at Madras is being disbanded, causing distress and disturbance

among the employees of the Regional Office. The families of these employees are in great anguish because of the necessity to have their families at two places on account of children's education. This has also created an adverse effect among the people of Tamil Nadu as they apprehend that the exploratory efforts in Cauvery Basin and in Palk Straits are going to be given up. This will give fillip to the fissiparous tendencies in the State, affecting law and order.

It is suggested that the Regional Office of ONGC should continue to be located at Madras in the interest of economic development of Tamilnadu and in the interest of 1200 employeesc.

(vii) Need to publish Gurudev Tagore's works in all regional languages to promote national integration

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Today, the 8th May 1985, is the birth day of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, It is a great moment for every Indian to remember his unfathomable contributions for over all development of human values, ecological balance between nature and man and concept of truth, non-violence and love and affection for the mankind. Gurudev's National Song explains how sincerely he used to think of a united India and he began this song mentioning the revolutionary soil of Punjab—"Punjab Sindh Gujarat Maratha..." His tribute to the Sikh religion, Guru Nanak Dev, Guru Ramdas, Guru Govind Singh and his honour for Panchnad (five rivers) well preserved in his literature and in his correspondence. His condemnation of Jalianwalabagh massacre was the strongest and he returned the title of "SIR" conferred on him by the British.

Tagore honoured Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi as Mahatmaji and he dedicated his "Tasher Des" to Netaji. Tagore's concept of Hindu-Muslim unity and his story of "Kabuliwala" emphasised that religion or caste cannot be barriers to love and affection. A Pathan Muslim can love a Brahmin girl like his own daughter.

His writings against untouchability, his concept of Upanished and Brama religion provided new direction to Indian philosophy in its search for truth.

Tagore was a movement of human soul in every direction for construction, regeneration and revaluation. In this hour of crisis in our country, Tagore's ideals and his teachings based on his literature, songs and other works can provide a new strength to our concept of unity in diversity.

Therefore, the Ministries of Culture and Education both are requested to publish all the works of Tagore in all regional languages at the cheapest possible price to make it available to the younger generation so that they can understand that there was a man who was above all the barriers of caste, community or religion, who took entire India to his soul and dreamt of India of every man, every religion who can coexist through a bond of love, affection and brotherhood.

Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian, Buddhist—all were glorified by Tagore in his writings and ultimately all became one flower that is India.

Today we salute Tagore for his vision, for his contribution and for his work that will be a torch for all of us to illumine our path. If we are disrupted and threatened and nobody responds to our call let us recite with Tagore :—

*“Jadi Tor Dak Shune Kauu Na Ase
Taba Akia Challo Re..”*

The Prime Minister of India, who is trying his best to preserve the unity of the country and to find solution to the Punjab issue, will definitely get further strength from Tagore—we hope.

(viii) Need to take steps for regular supply of improved quality of essential commodities in Car Nicobar

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur) : People from mainland workers, employees and labourers—leaving their native place, relatives and friends go to Andmans in response to the appeal of the Government and settle there under difficult conditions. I have recently received sample packets of rice and wheat supplied by the Supply Department of Andaman and Nicobar Administration. The sample

reveals the substandard quality of these grains which the people of Car Nicobar are fed with. Here the people have no option except to depend upon this substandard grains because in these Islands there is no cultivation of foodgrains other than coconut, etc. The rice and wheat supplied to the people of Car Nicobar is full of stones, soil, sand and worms. If even the meagre quantity of 5 kg. rice supplied is of such a bad quality one can imagine the plight of the people of these Islands.

As far as supply of other essential commodities is concerned people of Car Nicobar have to depend upon the E.H.L.—the sole authorised agency to do the business and this agency very often fails to provide things timely and regularly. Under these circumstances there is always an acute scarcity of almost all items of essential commodities in Car Nicobar. Milk, vegetables, meat, eggs which are essential to keep one's health normal are not at all available in these Islands. Besides these Islands are malaria infested area. Non-availability of nutritious food reduces the resistance of the people to Malaria.

In view of this bad condition nobody wants to come over to Car Nicobar to work. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to improve the quality and supply of essential foodgrains, vegetables, milk, etc. in Car Nicobar so that people are enthused to go over there for settlement.

[*Translation*]

(ix) Need to exempt marble from the levy of excise duty which has resulted in closure of small marble units of Rajasthan

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Under Rule 377, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the closure of all small scale marble units in Rajasthan due to increase in excise duty on marble and the rendering of 1.5 lakh workers as jobless as a result thereof.

Rajasthan caters to 90 per cent. of the demand for marble in the country. These

are about 2,200 small-scale marble units. White, black, yellow, chocolate and pink stones are cut and polished there. Real marble consists of only 20 per cent whereas chocolate, yellow, pink and black marbles are hard stones, we can call it limestone also. These small scale units have given it the name of marble in order to increase its market price.

This industry has just come into existence. Many educated young men have entered it and have started running it after experiencing many difficulties. They are not in a position to repay the loans taken by them from many financial institutions. Some of the small units have 95 per cent single diamond wheel. In some units a person has engaged all the members of his family and is selling his days produce daily. The entire family is earning its livelihood by working day and night. Some of the units were engaged in the manufacture of small marble tiles after purchasing the waste material which is available after the cutting of the marble.

All the small units have been lying closed since 17th March due to levy of excise duty on marble. One and a half lakh workers have been rendered jobless.

These units have been closed in my constituency Chittorgarh and in the adjacent areas of Kankroli and Nagaur. About ten years ago, some educated young men were attracted towards this industry in Chittorgarh. The work was undertaken after obtaining loans from the financial institutions. After their closure, when I visited that industrial area in my constituency for the first time, I found that the entire industrial activity there had come to a grinding halt.

I would, therefore, strongly urge the Finance Minister to withdraw immediately the excise duty levied on marble in order to save the marble industry in Rajasthan, which is still in its infancy. Government of Rajasthan are also suffering a heavy loss of revenue in the form of royalty and sales tax. Therefore the Government of Rajasthan have also demanded the withdrawal of this excise duty on marble.

13.35 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1985

[English]

MR. DUPETY-SPEAKER : Now, we take up Finance Bill for consideration and passing. 12 hours have been allotted for all the three stages of the Bill. If the House agrees, we may have 9 hours general discussion, 2 hours clause by clause consideration and one hour for third reading of the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : I beg to move :

“That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1985-86, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, the salient features of the main proposals in the Finance Bill have been explained in my Budget speech. The details of the proposals in the Bill have been set out in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated along with the Budget papers. I would, therefore, not like to take the time of the House by covering the same ground again.

During the general debate on the Budget, a number of hon. Members made valuable comments and suggestions on the proposals in the Bill. I have also received a large number of suggestions from trade and industry, professional associations, economists, tax experts and others. I would like to convey my gratitude to the hon. Members, and to all others for their suggestions.

I have given careful thought to these suggestions. While it is not possible to accept all these suggestions. I have decided to modify some of the provisions in the Bill in the light of these suggestions. In proposing these modifications, I have tried to remove legitimate grievances to the extent possible. I shall now briefly explain the main changes proposed to be made in the provisions in the Bill.

I shall first take up the suggestions relating to the Budget proposals in respect

[Shi Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

of customs and excise duties. Hon. Members will recall that during the reply to the General debate, I had already announced certain concessions in respect of biris, and certain items of leather machinery. Further, keeping in view the important role played by the farmer who is the mainstay of our economy, I had also given relief in respect of agricultural implement, specified poultry equipment and for medium power tractors upto 25 Horse Power.

Having regard to the various representations received I have decided to allow some relief in respect of some of the other levies. In respect of *pan masala* some doubts have been expressed by some hon. Members as to whether betel nut preparations like scented supari would attract duty as *pan masala* in view of the Tariff description. To put the matter beyond doubt, I propose to exempt from excise duty all preparations which do not include in it lime or catechu or both, besides betel nuts.

A number of representations have also been received from the small scale manufacturers regarding the new levy on marble, particularly that it would adversely affect the interest of their units being conventional technology. This being a labour intensive industry and bearing in mind the large number employed, I have decided to reduce the duty on marble slabs and tiles from Rs. 20 per sq. metre to Rs. 10 per sq. metre. Also I propose to completely exempt from excise duty, smaller units producing slabs and tiles using power upto 10 H.P. As a measure of simplification, I further propose to introduce a scheme of compounded levy for units producing marble slabs with the aid of conventional gangsaws.

As a measure of further relief to small units, I propose to liberalise the small scale exemption scheme for tyres, tubes and flaps by extending the exemption to all types of tyres, tubes and flaps as well as by providing for 50 per cent duty concession against the prevailing concession of 33.33 per cent of the duty otherwise payable. I also propose to fully exempt flaps of tyres for two wheelers and three wheelers.

In my original proposals I had reduced the duty for full cardboard matches in the

cottage sector from Rs. 4.90 to Rs. 1.60. In respect of cardboard matches produced by the other sectors there was either a slight reduction or increase in the rates. The maximum duty differential between the cottage sector and the mechanised sector thus went up from Rs. 1.70 to Rs. 5.25. I have had the matter reviewed. In the interest of employment of this industry as a whole, some relief is also warranted in respect of other sectors. I, therefore, propose to revise the rate of duty to Rs. 3.50, Rs. 4.15 and Rs. 5.85 per gross boxes as against the prevailing rates of Rs. 4.50, Rs. 5.15 and Rs. 6.85 per gross boxes respectively. These rates would apply for both cardboard and veneer matches.

Hon. Members would recall that in my Budget proposals I had liberalised the scheme of small scale exemption for goods falling under Item 68 by increasing the eligibility limit of Rs. 75 lakhs and by providing slab rates. The full exemption limit was, however, fixed at Rs. 20 lakhs as against the normal limit of Rs. 7.5 lakhs for specified goods. On consideration of various representations received from the small scale sector regarding this proposal, I have decided to give further relief to the small units manufacturing goods falling under Item 68. I propose to provide that units manufacturing Item 68 goods would pay only 25 per cent of the duty payable for clearances in the range of Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 30 lakhs as against the earlier proposal of 50 per cent payable up to Rs. 25 lakhs and 75 per cent up to Rs. 40 lakhs.

These measures imply a revenue loss of Rs. 2.42 crores on the customs side and Rs. 14.5 crores on the excise side.

I now turn to the proposals in the sphere of direct taxes. Under a provision in the Bill, companies engaged in the business of growing and manufacturing tea in India would be entitled to a deduction up to 20 per cent of their profits deposited in a special account with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. I propose to extend the scope of this concession to non-corporate tax-payers as well, as it has been represented that in certain parts of the country, particularly in the South, there are significant number of

small unincorporated enterprises engaged in the business of growing and manufacturing tea and they should also get the benefit. Further, this provision will be made applicable to tea growers who have other businesses also.

The Bill seeks to provide that exemption from wealth-tax will not be available in respect of any property forming part of a business carried on by a charitable or religious trust, except in cases where the profits of the business are exempt from income-tax under section 11 of the Income-tax Act. The income of institutions and funds is exempt in many cases under section 10 of the Income-tax Act. It is logical and necessary that the net wealth of such institutions and funds, whose income is exempt from income-tax, should be exempt from wealth-tax. I propose to make this clarification.

Under the Bill, income-tax at the rate of 30 per cent has to be deducted at source from income-tax by way of winnings from lotteries. Since the maximum marginal rate of personal income-tax has been reduced to 50 per cent and under section 80TT of the Income-tax Act, only 50 per cent of lottery winnings in excess of Rs. 5,000 are subject to income-tax, I propose to reduce the rate of deduction of tax at source in such cases from 30 per cent to 25 per cent.

The Bill provide that no deduction shall be allowed, in the computation of taxable profits, in respect of fees paid by taxpayer in connection with proceedings under the Income-tax Act or any other matter arising out of that Act, I also propose to provide that no disallowance will be made under this provision unless the aggregate expenditure of the specified category for an assessment year exceeds Rs. 10,000. While liberalising the provision in the Bill in this regard, I also propose to extend its scope to fees paid for advice in connection with tax, penalty, interest or any other matter under the income-tax Act. The Government have decided that returns filed by tax-payers with an income upto Rs. one lakh will be accepted, with the minimum of formalities. This places greater responsibility on the taxpayer to ensure its completeness and accuracy of the return. Bearing this in mind, I am not placing any restriction on

the fees paid by the taxpayer for professional assistance in the preparation of the return of income.

The other amendments are of a consequential or drafting nature and I would not like to take the time of the House in dealing with these amendments.

It will be recalled that in order to have the views of the hon. Members, I had put forward a set of proposals regarding corporate tax, which could be introduced in a phased manner in the next two years. It has been suggested to me that the time available for an open debate on this issue has not been sufficiently long. As the Government proposes to come forward with a long term fiscal policy later in the year, it may be better to announce the Government's decision on this matter at that time rather than during my reply to the debate on the Finance Bill.

I now turn to an important new measure for raising resources for the public sector. Government recognises the crucial role played by the public sector in our economic development and the imperative need to provide additional resources for its growth. Government proposes to introduce a new scheme for floatation of bonds by selected public sector undertakings in high priority areas, particularly telecommunications and power. These bonds, upto a specified limit, will be issued by the designated public sector undertakings, and will carry an attractive rate of interest. In order to tap rural savings and avoid inconvenience to those who may wish to subscribe to these bonds, but are otherwise not taxable, there will be no deduction to tax at source from the interest which will also be entitled to exemption under section 80L of the Income-tax Act. The value of these bonds will also be exempt from wealth-tax, without any limit. Necessary legislative measures will follow in due course.

I request the hon. Members to lend their support to the *Finance Bill* with the modifications I have proposed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

Government for the financial year 1985-86, be taken into consideration."

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : I welcome some of the reliefs and concessions just now announced by the hon. Minister. I would have liked that these concessions to have been announced earlier so that we could have an opportunity to make certain comments. But anyway, I welcome, particularly the floating of bonds to help the public sector and to see that the public sector gets more allocations.

Now, it would be possible for us when we take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill to go into the merits of some of the concessions announced just now. Presently, I would like to confine my remarks to some general observations on the tax system.

13.48 hrs.

[Shri Sharad Dighe *in the Chair*]

Sir, as I had already spoken on the General Budget debate, at that time I had pointed out certain loopholes in the Budget system. The House is aware of these because we have been discussing this budget for about six weeks. Yet the full impact of the Budget proposals and taxation proposals would be known only after a time and this is the time to make a proper analysis of the impact of the Budget proposals.

Our Budget has been praised in this House by the Congress benches and outside stating that it has been epoch-making Budget, it is a structuralist Budget and there had been a lot of thinking gone into the making of budgetary formulations. I do not know whether there was any thinking or a lack of it, but one thing is very clear that it is not merely a book-keeper's Budget. It is certainly an economist's Budget. The proposals on the whole have certain directions and the whole approach and the conception of the Budget is very clear before us. Notwithstanding certain peripheral changes which have been announced by the Finance Minister just now, I would like to point out that this Budget has got a definite direction. And that is, this Budget. The conception is very clear.

The Government has come to a conclusion that the more the taxes that we increase, the revenue is going to be less, the concealment of income will be more and it will be counterproductive. This seems to be the whole concept. Now, I strongly refute this concept which the economists call the Laffer curve theory, because it has failed in all the countries wherever this has been adopted, and it has failed in our own country.

Sir, a decade ago we had the direct tax, the income-tax, up to a maximum of 97.5 per cent. We had the highest income-tax rate and this had been reduced to 65 per cent thinking that this would create a better atmosphere and it would be possible that the people who are concealing incomes would come forward and pay the taxes. Then we had reduced it to 60 per cent and again to 55 per cent. (*Interruptions*). And this year we reduced the income-tax maximum rate to 50 per cent and just now the Finance Minister said that the Government is going to have a fiscal policy and there is a proposal, though they may not announce it now, but it has already been indicated in the Budget that they are going to reduce it to 45 per cent. The underlying principle is that as you reduce this tax, it would be possible for you to bring out the concealed income and the revenue is going to be more. This is where we are making a mistake because we have seen in the past that whenever we reduced the maximum tax rate, the improvement was not there because this theory, the Laffer curve theory, does not work like the theory of diminishing returns in economic terms because there the theory of diminishing returns operates on certain natural forces, but here we are dealing with human beings, with human behaviour. People in this country had become used to this concealment of income, tax evasion, and no amount of concession is going to improve the situation and this has been proved beyond doubt because we have been making this exercise for the last 10 years with no results. Sir, I would say this that neither you are having the additional revenues by way of taxes nor are you are in a position to give reliefs to the people. I remember, in Lucknow they say :

na khuda hi mila na visale sanam

[*Translation*]

You worked so hard but no solution could be found.

[*English*]

My point is, that in this Budget and the tax proposals which are before us, whatever changes have been made now, they will certainly help the private sector, there is no doubt about it. There has been a lot of lobbying going on for the last several years that the Indian economy is very much controlled, there are a lot of regulations, lot of controls, high taxation and so on and have no growth. The lobby was so powerful that every time they were in a position to influence the Government and to get concessions and enjoy the fruits. I am sorry, the Finance Minister seems to have come under the influence of this type of theory that if you want growth, you go on giving concessions to the private sector. This is wrong. The argument that if there are less taxes revenue, more income is with the private sector, more funds will be available for growth in investment, is absolutely wrong. Certainly growth may be possible. But then in what direction would it be possible? All this growth is in the different direction. Public sector must have been making losses. But one thing is very clear that public sector is producing goods which are essential for the present day economy of the country. But private sectors is certainly not going to adhere to this principle. They are not bothered about the economic goals of our country. They are only bothered about their own profit. Today where are the profits? The Indian Institute of Applied Economic Research has come out with a beautiful analysis of the consumer goods industry in this country. For the last several years, our industry has been producing consumer goods in large number and this has been generally neglected by our policy-makers. When we go and see huge quantity of various goods which are available in the market, it is amazing. The consumer goods or articles which come in the market in the foreign countries, Europe or United States this year, the very next year you will have these goods manufactured in this country. You see the type of goods that we have today. We have a number of varieties. You have a very big choice. When we go and see the

things in the market, we are thrilled. We see a number of tooth pastes available, a variety of powders, variety of cosmetics and so on and so forth. My point is, these are essential no doubt, but not at this stage this is a stage when we have to curb the growth of consumer goods manufacturing in this country so that our scarce resources go to the desired line of investment. Our economy is at the stage where a lot of stimulation is required, proper direction is required. I see that this particular direction which has been taken by the Finance Ministry is wrong. This pampering of private sector will not do. Certainly we are going to suffer because of this.

I know what happened after the announcement of this Budget. As I has said the other day when I was initiating the Debate on the General Budget, it is not the common man who is happy about the proposals but it is only the rich who are happy. Immediately, within 4 days of announcement of the Budget—the Budget was presented on 16th of March and then by the 21st of March—all the shares of the major companies in the stock exchanges have gone up in value. I have got a study which will indicate that this increase was from 10 to 25% within five days. I will mention them :

	Share Value as on	
	16-3-85 (Rs.)	21-3-85
Total Steel	441	487
Telco	448	546
Tate Tea	70	89
Richardsons	87	109
Colgate	197	244
Ponds	108	117
Reliance Textiles	139	165
Food Specialities	120	140
Glaxo	31	40
Hind Levers	77	88
Britannia	54	58
Brooke Bond	52	59

[Shri C. Madhav Reddi]

14.00 hrs.

The share value of tea estate which was Rs. 77 went up to 96. This was the market. It was, of course, a welcome thing because the economy is buoyant. That means more funds will be available for investment. If that is the argument, yes, certainly it has to be encouraged. But then what is happening? Already there are plans for the major manufacturers to go in for consumer goods and there is no check. It is because you have removed controls, you have removed the licensing system also, liberalised several units and they are free to set up any type of industry and direct the Government investments, that is, the public sector back investments, to undesirable lines of manufacture. This has actually happened today.

How are you going to remedy the situation? What measures do you going to see that the investments go to the desirable units? The consumer goods industry in India is such that today that the top 20% of the people are consuming 50% of the industrial goods and the bottom 50% of the people are consuming only 20% of industrial goods. This fact is known to the manufacturers. They know who are their customers, who are their users and how to meet their demand. The demand for consumer goods is increasing very high. In this connection, I am also reminded of the smuggling of consumer goods which is going on. It is a very deplorable situation in this country, the smuggling of consumer goods like saris, synthetic fibre and synthetic textiles. A huge quantity of synthetic textiles is smuggled into this country. It is estimated that about Rs. 1,000 crores worth of saris which are used only in India are being smuggled into our country from Japan, Taiwan, China and other countries. They manufacture the saris and send them, smuggle them into India. What is it we are losing? Because of the smuggling, the Government is losing about Rs. 600 crores of tax revenue excise duty. In addition to this, it is cutting into the local demand because we have a lot of capacities for manufacture of saris and other synthetic textiles. Our capacity is much more than what is actually required for our country.

Yet, the smuggling is going on. I am really surprised. When you smuggle the consumer goods, it is a great loss to the economy. I know that some other goods are also being smuggled into.

I am immediately reminded of the smuggling of silicon chips, crores of rupees worth of silicon chips. Because it is a very small thing, it is very easy to smuggle that product and then it comes in millions of quantities. That silicon chip is an industrial raw material. Any smuggling is bad and it has to be checked. But when you smuggle the industrial raw material or when you smuggle the machinery or such other things into the country; or when you smuggle something which you can again smuggle it out, there is no harm though it is very bad.

I know there is one country. I do not mention the name of the country because it will embarrass our Government. Which is today embarking on the new neighbourhood diplomacy. But that country is smuggling some pernicious product and smuggling it out and the whole economy is boosted because of the smuggling. That is opium. But when think of our country, we are poor and we cannot afford to divert our resources to this type of nefarious trade of smuggling of consumer goods but still it is continuously being allowed and it is a sight to see the goods in display wherever you go. If the Finance Minister does not know, I would request him to ask his wife. She knows it better. Every housewife knows what is happening in the market and where these saris are available. They are being sold openly with impunity! Go to Bombay, Calcutta or any other place. Everybody knows about the centres where they are being sold; a very brisk business goes on there. Why should you not curb this particular commodity from being imported, from being smuggled into the country? There is a great need for curbing the consumption of consumable goods—not only manufacture of them but also smuggling of those goods.

Coming to the question of prices and deficit financing, I am very happy that the AICC has taken a very serious note of this problem. The AICC has also taken a very serious note of another problem. But we

are afraid that Government is taking a different direction; I am happy that they have made an announcement that they have not given up the goal of socialism. They have said that the prices are going to be brought down; they have said that action would be taken against those people who are hoarding and blackmarketing. But I do not think there is any such problem here; there is no hoarding or blackmarketing; if there is any such thing, certainly action could be taken. But the real point is that it is not hoarding or blackmarketing that is responsible for increase in prices. The real reason for increase in prices is the policy of the Government as contained in their budgetary proposals, the indirect taxes — the increase in duty in respect of petroleum and so on and so forth. During the general debate on the Budget, I had pointed this. Now I have clear picture. Even though the wholesale price increase was only 2.3 per cent or so immediately after the Budget, the retail price increase is very much higher. If you see the impact of this on the middle class people, you will be surprised how much the middle class people have to spend extra on conveyance and other things. I am talking of those people who constitute about a million of people because the Finance Minister has said that about a million people have been taken out of the tax-net; I am only talking of those people; I am not talking of the people who are below that because according to the Finance Minister, they do not exist, they do not pay any direct taxes. Of course, they are the worst hit people because the indirect taxes hit them most—the ordinary people who are not assessees. Now I am talking of the assessees, the million assessees who have been claimed to have been taken out of the tax-net. Their position today is this. On conveyance, travel, they have to pay Rs. 150/- extra per month because of the increase in prices of petrol railways fares, etc.; he has to pay Rs. 50 every time when he undertakes a travel which he does twice or thrice a year. On vegetables he has to pay Rs. 25/- more. On milk he has to pay Rs. 15/- more. On other household stores he has to pay Rs. 20/- more, On domestic help he has to pay another Rs. 20/-. On fuel, cooking gas, he has to pay another Rs. 24/-. All these comes to Rs. 305/-; on an average this is the monthly increase in his budget. Per year it comes to Rs.

3,660/-. Now what is the relief that they have been given? Compared to the increase in his budget, the relief that he is enjoying is very little. What you are doing is, you have taken them out of the tax-net and said that they have been given relief. But actually you have burdened them with another Rs. 3,000/- per annum. This has affected his budget. Nobody can deny that. The Budget has been criticised on this account is several quarters. I need not dwell too much on that. I only wanted to point out that these reliefs have done very little to him.

Another study reveals another aspect the study on the tax reliefs given to various sections of the people. As I said, these are peripheral reliefs, the reliefs which have already been announced. On a taxable income of Rs. 25,000, the relief is 3.1 per cent; on a taxable income of Rs. 40,000, the relief is only 4.7 per cent. For a taxable income of Rs. 60,000 the relief is 7.2%. It is going on increasing. For a taxable income of Rs. 1 lacs, they will be getting a relief of 10.4% and above Rs. 1 lakh and upto Rs. 5 lakhs they will be getting a relief of Rs. 12.6%. Who are going to get these reliefs? It is very clear from this study that it is only the big people who are enjoying the reliefs given by the Government and not the poor people.

Then coming to uncovered deficit and inflation, they say it may be 7% but I feel it is not going to be less than 10% whatever they may say now. It will be going upto 10% because the deficit financing of the order of Rs. 3349 crores is not going to stay there. Deficit finance will be much more than that judging by the figures of last year. I estimate that it will go upto Rs. 8000 crores, not less than that because last year our estimate was Rs. 1700 crores but it went upto Rs. 3900 crores. If you take that into account, I feel the uncovered deficit will be much more. In this connection I am reminded of the deficit financing of the States.

Day in and day out we hear on the floor of this House and also outside that the States are not managing their economy well, that they are not very careful about the collection of taxes, about savings etc. I would like to point out that all the States

[Shri C. Madhav Reddi]

put together, the total deficit financing they have indicated now is very little because many States have not presented their budgets so far, but they have indicated these figures to the Government of India and according to that, the total deficit financing of all the States put together is coming to around Rs. 1400 crores, not more than that. It is not even one-third of the deficit financing that we are embarking upon at the Centre.

This brings me to the question of overdrafts. The States are being criticised day in and day out for the overdrafts position and the Government have been very strict of late to curb overdrafts and the Reserve Bank is coming with a very heavy hand. They have put a restriction on this. Let us examine what is this overdraft and why it happens. The Central Government has got the powers to resort to deficit financing but the State Government has no such power. There are certain periods during which the States require funds more than what they are able to raise or their balances are and naturally the overdraft becomes a necessity. Ultimately the overdraft is adjusted by themselves or adjusted because of certain loans given by the Central Government. That is OK. The overdraft position has come to exist in the present economy of the country. Otherwise, the whole budgetary system, the whole financial structure of the States will be paralysed if you are going to put restrictions. We get revenues at certain times and collections at certain other times and the States' base of taxation is reduced and they are working under great stress. There are certain taxes which we get only during certain periods while the expenditure is going on. The income is available only during certain periods but the expenditure is going on continuously. During this period overdraft becomes necessary. Many other reasons are there for this overdraft. The main reason is that the funds promised for the States do not reach them in time and there is a gap. Similarly, there are unforeseen difficulties, calamities, etc. and because of that the State Governments have to spend money. The overdraft position should not be seen with such a great concern because this overdraft has come to exist and will continue. I am very happy to say that of the

14 States which indicated their deficit this year, our State of Andhra Pradesh so far has not indicated any deficit financing this year. And overdraft position has to continue for some time because of certain Government of India's policies like administered prices. Of late I have been seeing that Government of India instead of imposing new taxes resorts to manipulation in administered prices. Why this manipulation takes place? Because whatever additional income administered prices give you, the States do not get anything out of that. During the last six months the steel prices have been increased twice and the increase went up to 50 per cent. Today the steel prices have gone up by 150 per cent over the last year's prices. Do you know what would be the impact of this on the States which are embarking upon schemes like building irrigation projects or other industrial projects. The costs of these projects has gone up terribly. Administered prices should not be increased without consulting the State governments. When such a drastic step is being taken, that is, the prices of essential commodities are being revised what prevents you from taking the States into confidence. You have JPC of the steel mills but not a single man from the State is there on it and also not a single man representing the small scale industries is there on the Committee. They consult the Steel Ministry and revise the prices. Whatever be the consequences they are not bothered.

Lastly I would like to say that the Finance Minister had said in the Budget and also several times on the Floor of the House that our revenue expenditure is increasing alarmingly. That means Central Government is living beyond its means. Government is not in a position to meet the revenue expenditure from the revenue it receives which means we are eating into our capital. What is it that we see in the budget? Budget this year increased the revenue expenditure by 23 per cent. I do not know how he is going to curb this revenue expenditure.

When Lok Dal was in power for a short period, Chaudhuri Charan Singh, set-up a commission to go into the expenditure of the Central Government. Immediately after he went away the commission was dissolved. How are you going to reduce the

expenditure on the revenue account because unless you curb this expenditure which is mounting day by day you will be having very little for the capital expenditure.

I think the revenue expenditure—the expenditure of the Central Government—is like a very sacred cow and I am sorry for the Finance Minister that he has been driven by this sacred cow to a corner and this cow is running amuck. I do not know how you are going to tame this cow. This is for you to think.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am conscious of the fact that I am intervening in this debate at a time when the budget has had a life of almost two months and that there has been national debate on various aspects of it. I am also sure that the Government has had an opportunity to look at the impact of this Budget on the national life as a whole. But I would wish to concentrate on a few aspects of this Budget and the fiscal measures which are proposed by the Government.

This is not a run-of-the-mill budget. The previous speaker Mr. Madhav Reddy has mentioned that this budget is an indicator of Government's economic policies for the future. And as such, we welcome this and the opportunity to discuss these measures not merely in the short term of one year but its impact over a period of time. And I am glad that the Finance Minister has mentioned that there would be an opportunity for an in-depth discussion on this at some later time. The Budget this time has a clear impact of the Prime Minister's own economic thinking and as such we must welcome the dynamic changes that he has proposed to take the country into the next century. There are two aspects in this connection which I would wish to highlight.

The first is that this budget had made a determined effort to free industry in this country from the clutches of big industrial houses. By giving investible surpluses into the hands of the public the Government has given an opportunity for the market forces to operate on industry and at the same time give opportunity to the people to indicate their preference and the direction

in which they would wish the economy to grow. The hon. Member Shri Madhav Reddy had some difficulty in accepting that we are going to produce more consumer goods. At the same time he pointed out that consumer goods are being smuggled into the country on a large scale. I think the figure which he mentioned was about Rs. 600 crores. Now, if we accept that there is a need in the country for such large amount of consumer goods should we deny our people the opportunity to obtain them from local manufacturers? Even countries with somewhat regimented economic systems have permitted greater flow of consumer goods and I think that it is time, after 35 years or so of Independence, that we should think in terms of bettering the life of the people not merely those who can buy smuggled goods or those who can get them from outside, but also those living in the remote rural areas of this country who should be enabled to purchase them after being manufactured in this country and made available on a large scale.

The second point that I would wish to mention is that there is in this budget an opportunity to draw funds out of the financial institutions and to enable them to flow into smaller industries. It is an offshoot of what I had said earlier, that is, the effort to free industry of control by a few big business houses. I would say that despite the complaints which big business has made of restrictions on growth and on unnecessary regulations, their own assets in the last 3 years from 1980 to 1982 have doubled in the case of 12 large houses and they have been trebled in the case of 8 large houses; out of the particulars of 25 large industrial houses I have here with me. One would notice that 20 of them have grown more than double and four others have also registered remarkable increase. Only one of them has declined in its assets. But the turn-over of all the 25 has gone up. Therefore, despite the restriction, the large houses were growing. Anyhow the budget now gives an opportunity for other smaller houses also to grow.

Now, I mention this because there are certain novel features in this budget and bears the impact of the Prime Minister's own economic thinking. It is essential that

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

we must avoid pitfalls which could negate the thrust of this budget. I think that despite the fact that Government have tried to stress the importance of socialist economy with our firm commitment to socialism and the discussions that this subject has had in the latest A.I.C.C meeting held only a few days back in this city, there have been unjust criticisms, if I may say so, in some sections of the press where exactly the opposite of Government's efforts has been projected. I have the press cutting here from the newspaper "The Telegraph" dated 10-4-1985 where it has said in big headlines—

"Capitalism has now become respectable"

and Mr. Romesh Thapar says --

"We are to intensify the build-up of the two-nations-in-one nation model. An inner nation and an outer one. One with a face, the other without. How else can one interpret the present budgeting, the bonanzas included?"

Now, in the same paper, writing a few days later, that is, on 14th April 1985, Mr. Ranjit Sau compares our budget with Mr. Reagan's economic ideas. He goes on to say like this.

"Reaganomics essentially means, we are told, a policy package of tax reduction across the board to stimulate work, saving, investment and risk taking : elimination of wage and price controls ; and a steady and predictably moderate growth of money in the economy."

He further says—

"Our economic czars at New Delhi seem to have borrowed a leaf from Reagan's book to make this year's budget. They should take note of the fact that President Reagan, who to the US gave "the largest tax cut in history" in 1981, also presided over "the largest tax increase in history" a year later."

Now, my appeal to the Finance Minister is that these criticisms must be firmly replied to and the wrong impression that they are creating should be corrected. But the main thrust of criticism can really be met only if we are able to control the rise in prices. This is important not merely in terms of purchasing power of the people but it is essential for a healthy growth of the economy. I was in my constituency a few days back and I realised there how the impact of this budget has adversely affected the farming community. The prices of their own product had declined by 1.9 points of the wholesale price index for the 3-weeks ending on 6th April 1985. While those of non-food articles have gone up by 5.8 points and that of all commodities by 6.5 points. The fuel, power, oil and lubricant prices have shown a remarkable jump of 29.7 points. The other day there was a discussion in this House and the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies admitted that the prices have already gone up by 2.3% in the four weeks ending 13th April, 1985. The retail prices, on the other hand, have gone up further and I have to add the caution that has been mentioned by Shri Madhav Reddy that unless these prices are seriously checked now, we could run into a two figure inflation.

The rising cost of living, higher prices of fuel and inputs and falling prices of agricultural produce could bring extreme hardship to the overwhelming majority of our people living in the rural areas, particularly the farmers and the small scale farmers.

The Finance Minister has already referred to some of the reliefs that he is thinking for them and I welcome those as well as other reliefs that have been indicated, but I must add that the relief that he has talked about is not adequate enough to have an impact on the high cost of living that has now entered the lives of the farmers and the poor people. I would be failing in my duty if I do not mention to the Finance Minister that people are beginning to talk in terms of this budget being only a recognition of the existence of some four million people in this country instead of 780 millions that inhabit this land.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Who are those people ?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Professor Sahib is a professor and I do not have to teach him.

This issue of rise in prices is not a matter of mere supply and distribution. The Finance Minister has to give further consideration to imposts which have a cost push and price rise effect on the economy. Fuel is one of them. As I have mentioned, growth of 29.7 points within three weeks is not a small matter. It affects the lives of all our people and the economic condition in the country.

The second factor which we have to bear in mind is the uncovered gap of Rs. 3400 crores. Again, Shri Madhav Reddy while speaking took the advantage of mentioning it and I do not wish to give the impression that I am following his thinking; he spoke first, and it is my misfortune that I have to follow him. This uncovered gap would go up further if last year is any guide to the effect of demand over our resources. I feel that the Finance Minister must take a bold step to set up an Expenditure Commission which the Mathai Commission had recommended as early as the 50s. The Expenditure Commission could then given an indication to him how to control the growing Governmental expenditure and heavy demand on our revenue. Talking about revenue expenditure as such, may I point out that in the one decade preceding the revenue expenditure has gone up five times. Surely, the requirements of government could not have gone up and this revenue expenditure that I am talking of, does not include Defence expenditure. Therefore, there has to be a firm curb on Governmental spending. Would it not be possible for the Finance Minister to say that there should be an across-the-board reduction of 10 per cent on revenue expenditure and at the same time to ensure that all non-developmental expenditure is kept in strict check ?

Another issue which tends to push up the prices is the administered prices of the public sector enterprises' products, and I have in my mind the example of Coal

Industry, which despite many price rises since nationalisation, is still not economically viable. The question that comes to one's mind is why should people be punished for the mismanagement of certain key industries which have been guided by bureaucratic norms and bureaucratic management. It is time that in the modernisation that we are attempting, these must be made into professional run organisations responding to the professionally requirements of the economy. And Sir, may I remind the Finance Minister that a socialist economy envisages public sector enterprises revenue givers and not revenue takers ? Therefore, there has to be a strict control by the Finance Minister over the funds and expenditure of the public sector enterprises.

One other aspect that I would wish to refer to in this connection is the nationalisation of private sick mills. This is casting an avoidable burden on our economy. When this Act was passed to take over sick mills, there was a clear direction in that mills once taken over will be reconstituted and modernised to add to economic activity and not merely to draw on public resources. We have to be quite clear that by spending money on these sick mills, we are really asking the public to pay for the sins of omissions and commissions of private industry. There is no earthly reason at all why it should be necessary for us to throw good money after bad. These should be reconstituted, even their product mix changed and made into viable companies, which can then be sold in the market and enable to work on their own.

Sir, the whole exercise of this Budget has been made to give money to sectors which have the highest growth potentiality. This is another thrust of this Budget, which I greatly welcome. But this would be possible only when there is a clear understanding of the responsibilities between Government and industry. Merely giving concessions to industry is not an answer to the rapid growth that is being attempted by this Budget. It would, in my view, be necessary for the Government to have a clear dialogue with industry to make sure that they make an equivalent capital investment in export industries, that they increase

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

their allocation on research and development, and update the technology, and that they have a time-bound programme for job creation and development. This is essential, to involve the industry in a meaningful manner in our developmental processes. At the moment, there is a total separation between Governmental action on fiscal policy and economic development, and industries acting on their own; and some measure of coordination is essential, if we wish to continue with this pattern of mixed economy.

While giving specific responsibility to the industry it would, in my view, be essential for Government to create the infrastructure which is necessary for our economic development. The first requirement is that of electricity. No industry can grow without electrical power.

I am glad that the Minister for Power is also here. We hope all of us would derive power from him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : He is a 25 HP Minister.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Prof. Dandavate has not fully estimated the power that he controls.

I would wish to emphasize that electric power generation is in a terrible mess; and asking users of power to set up diesel generators is an enormous waste of national resources. There is no reason why diesel, which is still largely imported, should be used in small, uneconomic generators when we have sufficient stock of coal to produce thermal power. If it is merely a question of investment, I am sure the Finance Minister would look at it kindly, so that over a long period of time which he is now planning to run the industry, there will be a nett saving rather than a nett outgo, which is now taking place with these small generators.

In this connection, the other aspect I would wish to emphasize is Communication. If we wish our industry to develop rapidly, we have to provide better communication, both transport as well as telecommunications,

This Budget has a total balance, a balance between controlled prices, diversion of resources into areas of maximum growth and the operation of market forces through generation of large investible surpluses into the hands of the public. But all of this rests on the control of prices. The Finance Minister has taken *pan masaala* from us. Even in the concessions that he announced to-day, he has decided to retain his take-over of the *pan masaala*. Let him not take away ice cream from the children. They are already paying 25% more for it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is concerned with the cream of the society.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : That is the section which consumes most ice cream. Even on that account, it would be necessary to hold the prices.

I had proposed an amendment to Clause 7 which related to the tea industry in South India. But now that the Finance Minister has very kindly come out with an amendment of his own, I do not think it would be necessary for me to press this. I only wish to express my thanks for his taking note of this.

May I say in conclusion that this Budget has a tremendous potential and the dynamism of growth. It is the responsibility of the government as a whole, particularly the Finance Minister to ensure that this dynamism is not wilted, is not withered away and that we are able to establish that there is a new thrust which will bring benefit to the largest section of our people, to the poorest of the poor; and if this is not done, I think we would have played a role in history which will not be well appreciated later. But, I am confident, on the other hand, that, with the ministers such as that of Power and Finance and various others sitting here, they are appreciative of the responsibilities that have been placed on them.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Finance Bill introduced in the House by the hon. Finance Minister. Not only do I support it but entire country supports it and I feel

that the Members from the Opposition also support the Finance Bill in their heart of hearts.

Sir, a budget of the type has been presented in the House for the first time. The hon. Prime Minister and the leader of the country Shri Rajiv Gandhi has said that in the Seventh Five Year Plan, Government's main thrust will be on productivity and employment. Keeping in view this aspect our hon. Finance Minister has taken certain bold steps to increase production and remove unemployment. I appreciate the steps taken by him.

On behalf of the Opposition, hon. Shri Reddy has said that our party has deviated from the basic policy and object of bringing in socialism. But he is under some misapprehension. The provisions made in this Budget indicate that there are not for millionaires but these are meant to cater to the genuine needs of the common people of our country and to benefit them. A budget which does not cater to the needs of commonman, cannot be called a practical budget. It is called an Utopian Budget. This Budget is a practical Budget.

Sir, there is need to understand the circumstances under which the hon. Finance Minister had presented last year's deficit budget. We know the reasons for last year's deficit budget. A great responsibility rested on our Finance Minister to meet that deficit. Last year there was a deficit of Rs. 3,660 crores. The present Finance Minister has kept this deficit to Rs. 3,359 crores in a very bold manner. I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister for having only this much deficit in this Budget.

The hon. Finance Minister has said that there is no need to borrow loans from I.M.F. He is our first Finance Minister who has said this thing. When we used to take loans from the I.M.F., the Opposition used to criticise us. We should thank and congratulate the hon. Finance Minister who has announced that we need not take loans from any international agency at higher rates of interest. Besides this, you have said that the non-developmental expenditure has increased. But you should know that our first priority is to

make payments of interest. You might be aware that about 23 per cent of our revenue receipt goes in payment of interest only. On the Funding and Non-Funding loans outstanding against India. It has been said that the prices of foodgrains have gone up. A large amount of subsidy is being given on foodgrains and import of oil, crude and petrol. Does the Opposition want that this subsidy should be stopped? Will they favour it? I feel that the hon. Finance Minister has present a very balanced Budget, and the present Finance Bill and the announcements made today have added more feathers to his cap. I would like to point out that India's population is 15 per cent of the total population of the entire world and her income is merely 1.5 per cent of the income of the entire world. Under these circumstances it is very difficult for the hon. Finance Minister of any developing country to prepare a plan the Seventh Five Year Plan to ensure the development and growth of the country having such a huge population. You all know that the population inflation is a very big problem. After a period of two years when the mid-term appraisal will be made, the present outlay on the Seventh Five Year Plan might be reviewed and more funds might have to be provided. Under these circumstances it is very difficult for the Finance Minister of any developing country particularly for the Finance Minister of the biggest democracy of the world, to present a budget which is meant for the welfare of the common man. We appreciate the fact that the hon. Finance Minister has taking up and completing this task with great efficiency.

I would like to submit that the hon. Finance Minister will have to pay attention towards certain things particularly towards increasing the employment opportunities in the country. Sir, you know that the maximum production of foodgrains in the country so far was 153.4 million tonnes in 1983-84 and this production was from 166 million hectares of cultivable land. We should not be complacent over the rate of production of foodgrains in 1983-84. It is not adequate. The average agricultural production in our country is much less as compared to other countries. This is the question which is before our Finance Minister. There are only two sectors

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

through which we can create employment opportunities. The greater problem facing the country today is the provision of employment to the people, and employment can either be provided through industries or by using improved methods in agriculture. You have got 68 million hectares of irrigated land. During the Sixth Five Year Plan, you have increased the area of irrigated land from 56 million hectares to 68 million hectares. Today we have got only 68 million hectares of irrigated land out of 166 million hectares. It is a very challenging task to bring more and more land under irrigated area. This will help increase our foodgrains production and it would also increase our rate of growth of GNP. During the Sixth Five Year Plan agricultural production has contributed the maximum to the rate of growth of the GNP. Production will increase in the country with the rate of increase in GNP. During the Seventh Five Year Plan the main aim is increase the production of foodgrains. This will be achieved only then. It will help in achieving production target as well as the target fixed for creating employment opportunities in the Seventh Five Year Plan as it is the major factor responsible for the ushering in of a socialistic pattern of society. It is were to utilise the manpower resources which are in abundance in our country. This can be utilised in two sectors only i.e. the industrial sector and the agricultural sector. I admit that you have provided many facilities to the industrial sector and the development works undertaken by you will definitely yield results in the coming 3-5 years. During the period of the next 3 to 5 years, crores of people will get employment. Employment opportunities will further increase due to the direction given by you to the Budget and the commendable work done by you through this Budget and more people will be able to get employment.

I would also like to point out that the progress of work on all irrigation projects in the country such as the Indira Gandhi Canal Project in Rajasthan, previously known as the Rajasthan Canal Project, the Mahi Bajaj Sagar Project, The Narmada Project etc., is very slow. The country is

not being benefited by the capital invested in them. The reason is delay in the execution of such projects. Due to delay not only the cost of the project goes up but the country is deprived of the required benefits and the people have not get employment which they should have got otherwise. The project estimates go on increasing. In this way our country is suffering a lot. I would like to say that the hon. Minister should pay attention towards improving the situation.

I would like to submit that you should treat the agricultural sector at par with the industrial sector. Only then the average yield of our farmers can increase. I admit that great concessions have been given to farmers in the matter of fertilizers. Besides, the fertilizer input has also gone up and the farmer has started using more fertilizers. Still, the rate of consumption of fertilizers is very low in India as compared to what it is other countries of the world. There are two reasons for this. One reason is that there are no irrigation facilities for the dry farming land in our country. And the second is that the farmer does not have enough money at the time of sowing. Therefore, you ought to pay attention towards both these points. As the sowing season approaches, whether it is rabi or kharif, you should make an arrangement to make available fertilizers, hybrid seeds and other inputs to the farmer. If you reconsider the Budget with this viewpoint and make provision in this regard, I think it will have a very good and favourable impact on the economy of the country.

At the same time, I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Minister who has announced these concessions in the matter of industries and has presented in this House for the first time a budget which has no parallel. This is not merely a budget but a living reflection of our party's as also of the Government of India's economic charter; economic philosophy and economic ideology. We have to fix some norms in industries on the basis of the package announced by you and the foremost need is to see how in the matter of setting up of industries we can change the unit to block level from the present district level during the Seventh Five Year Plan which is due to start

after 8 to 9 months from now so that unemployment could be removed from our country and industries could expand. With the expensive of industries, more and more people will get employment.

Sir, there are 24 million unemployed people in our country of whom 2.5 crores of people are registered with the employment exchanges. According to one estimate this figure is as high as 4.5 crores, out of which 2.5 crores of people are registered with the employment exchanges and the rest two crores are not registered with the employment exchanges as they are uneducated. The biggest challenge facing the country as also this House is how to provide employment to these 4.5 crores of people who seek employment. This Budget is an answer to that challenge as it generates such employment resources which will provide employment to more and more people. Our Finance Minister has announced certain concession to industries, but more and more facilities are also required to be given to the village and cottage industries and other rural industries, and to the small artisans such as, cobblers, potters and blacksmiths working in the villages. They should be kept free from the influence of big industries. Therefore, they need to be encouraged. We see that during the last year as also this year, the amount of foreign exchange earned by us from the finished products of cotton industry is commendable and today there is a great demand abroad for the products manufactured by the cotton industry in our country. Therefore, you should especially, pay attention to that field.

15.00 hrs.

In the end, I would like to say that the concessions which you have announced, whether they be in wealth tax or in Income tax, or by way of estate duty abolition are commendable by themselves. These concessions have been welcomed by one and all. At the same time I would also like to draw your attention to the fact, at which you had also hinted in this House, that the tax structure needs to be simplified; whether it is the public sector or it is the individual tax-payer, tax structure should be further simplified. Today, we find that whether it is the public sector or it is the individual tax-payer, they face a lot of difficulty in paying taxes. You have

simplified it and the whole country acknowledges it, but at the same time, there is still need simplify the tax structure further.

You have revised the limit for summary assessment to Rs. 1 lakhs. This step of yours is also commendable. The way you have set about to bring in the socialistic patterns of society, you endeavour towards the betterment of society and the concession allowed by you in excise duty on two-wheelers and three-wheelers are also welcome steps. The benefit of these steps will directly reach the people in the lower income group.

With these words, I express my thanks to you. Our public sector has many commendable achievements to its credit and the view of one of the hon. Members of the Opposition who spoke today, that adequate attention was not being paid to the public sector does not seem to be correct. I am sure that our country will progress and flourish under the leadership of our leader and our party. Our party and our leaders are heading towards achieving the objective of 'service to the nation'. The usury in of socialism and the progress of the public sector are our principles and our country will achieve a great deal of progress by adhering to these principles.

With these words, I support the Finance Bill.

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill. This Bill which gives effect to the proposals contained in budget signifies a turning point in the Indian economy. We have heard a lot of criticism against this budget. The Leftists have said that this Budget is an attempt to move away towards a capitalist economy. They have done so because Shri Palkhiwala and other spokesmen of big business supported it. If we are going to devalue the budget merely on the basis of what Palkhiwala says then I am afraid we are not going to make an objective assessment.

This year's budget signifies two major attempts into directions. One is that certain

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam.

[Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan]

controls which were unnecessary have been sought to be removed. The main purpose of this exercise is to accelerate the pace of production. The reduction in the corporate tax, personal tax and many other concessions have been given with a view to generating more investible surplus. Besides, Government expects that this will lead to less tax evasion and more revenue. What is wrong about this approach? A modern Government cannot operate on the presumption that all the tax payers are thieves. It has been proved from experience that high rate of taxation will lead only to higher tax evasion. Therefore, a change in the existing rate of taxation was necessary.

The second direction is with regard to the problems of the working class. Hereafter in the event of closure of a company the dues of the workers will be treated as par with secure credit. This shows the sincerity of the Government in solving the problems of the workers. The Government has also promised to bring many important legislations for the welfare of the workers.

Thus, with regard to two basic aspects of the productive sector the Government has taken a realistic approach. One is in regard to the generation of investible surplus and the other is welfare of the workers. The Government under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi has brought about a change in the Indian economy. In this context I must caution the Government about a very important thing. That is about the need for maintaining the price level. The Government itself has admitted that during March-April the wholesale prices have gone up by 2.3%. This is the result of the taxation proposals in the budget as well as the fresh imposts in the railway budget. Normally there is no relation between the wholesale price and the retail price. Even when the wholesale price remains stable there will be rise in the retail prices. Therefore, it is anybody's guess as to what will be the increase in the retail prices if the wholesale price moved up by 2.3% during such a short period. Therefore, I request the Govt. to take all measures necessary to check the rise in prices. The Government has adopted the policy of distributing more and more

items through fair price shops. But in order to make the P.D.S. successful the financial position of State Civil Supplies has to be strengthened. I would request the Government to give financial assistance to these corporations and formulate a comprehensive scheme for strengthening the public distribution system.

India is an agricultural country and 80% of its population depend on agriculture. In 1983-84 our farmers produced more than 151 million tons of foodgrains. This year it is expected to be more. It may be recalled that we have decided to export wheat this year. In the 60's we had imported foodgrains from America but in the 80's we have reached a position where we can export foodgrains. This has been made possible by our farmers. But I regret to say that many of the problems of our farmers remain unresolved. The major problem is that they do not get remunerative prices for their produce. There is a general complaint that the APC does not fully take into account the increase in cost of production while fixing the prices. Therefore, a more realistic approach should be adopted while fixing the prices of foodgrains.

While I am on this point I must draw the attention of the Government to the miserable plight of the paddy cultivators of Kerala. The paddy production has come down from 16 laks tons to 12 laks tons during the 6th five year plan. The main reason is the decline in price of paddy and the steep increase in the inputs. The farmers of Kerala are unable to repay the loans which they have taken from the banks. Unless they repay the previous loan on fresh loan will be given and if no loan is available they cannot start agricultural operations. Thus the farmers are in a dilemma. I would request the Government to declare a moratorium on the repayment of loans for a period of two years. Besides pesticides and fertilizer should be supplied to them at concessional rates. I would also request the Government to fix the support price for paddy. Another suggestion that I would like to make is that farmers should be given production bonus. Thus my request is that Government should take all steps possible to help the paddy cultivators of Kerala.

Sir, I would bring one or two more problem to the notice of the Government. Kerala is presently being ruled by a united front under the leadership of Congress. This Government has been able to bring about many achievements in that State. Law and order has been re-established, 20-point programmes has been implemented and industrial peace has been established. It was during this period that the man days lost has been reduced to the minimum. Because of the greater emphasis on social services the Government of Kerala has been facing financial problems. Since the Finance Commission has placed Kerala in the category of advanced States the Central allotment has come down. The result is that the total outlay of 7th plan is going to be the same as that of the 6th plan. This will lead to curtailment of many of our developmental programmes. Therefore, I would request the Government to increase the plan outlay for Kerala.

Kerala is very backward in respect of industrial development. The Central investment in Kerala is negligible. The State has to provide employment to 23 lakhs of unemployed persons. If there is no industrial development it would not be possible to provide employment to them. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to provide financial assistance to the State for industrial development. In this context I would remind the Government about the railway coach factory. The Government of Kerala had assured of infrastructural facilities at concessional rates. But it has not been set up in Kerala. My request is that at least in the 7th five year plan a coach factory should be set up at Palghat. Similarly, industries can be set up by using the commercial and other crops. For example, a large number of processing units for rubber pepper etc. can be set up in the small scale sector. Thus if chain of such industries is set up we will be able to make a dent in the unemployment problem. The hon. Prime Minister has taken keen interest in the welfare of the youth and I would request him to give special consideration to the problems of unemployed youth in Kerala.

Sir, as I have said in the beginning this year's budget was a bold step. We will be able to change the complexion of

this country during the next five years if we implement the policies initiated by the Government. Once again I support the Finance Bill and conclude.

15.10 hrs.

[Shrimati Basava Rajeswari *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Mr. Chairman, this is the last leg of the Budget proposals and this Finance Bill puts the stamp of finality on that. We have already had a discussion on Budget generally and, at that time, we expressed our apprehensions that the increased relief in direct taxes and increase in indirect taxes, will have the effect of generally increasing the prices. That was a month and a half ago and, in the meantime, the prices have moved in a way which far exceeds our apprehensions. They have moved much faster in an upward direction. In this one and half months, they have risen 2.5 to 3%. That is the wholesale price. I do not know the increase in index of retail prices. It must be much more. This is because of the Government having followed a particular philosophy, giving it the benefit of doubt that it does believe in a philosophy and, also, try to follow it bonafide that if there is saving through tax reliefs, that saving will be channelised into investment and that investment will give more employment and output. Now this is a theory of a school of economists, the supply side economists.

This Government may have shown a touching faith in that particular school of economic thought while formulating this Budget. Or, on the other hand it may have just taken advantage of that particular school of thought to give relief to people to whom it wanted to give relief for political considerations. Even though it may be possible that it acted bonafide thinking that investment would be stimulated, the output would be stimulated, employment would be generated, I think, in the Indian context, what we have seen is this: unless they prescribe some penalty for keeping or holding wealth in an unproductive form, people would tend to do so. You have given relief in respect of wealth tax all around and not only on specific items

[Shri Amal Datta]

which are necessary for increasing production in the economy. If relief was given only in respect of wealth held in a productive form, in the form of plant and machinery and things which produce goods and services then I could say that you have shown that you want to go the whole hog in embracing a particular school of economic thought. But now with the decrease in wealth tax, people can hold their wealth in whatever form they want to and still enjoy the benefit of lower tax. They can hold it in the form of land, real estate, which is not productive; they can hold it in the form of gold or whatever other precious items, whose value goes up as prices rise. So, they can hold their wealth in all kinds of such items as a hedge against inflation. There is no penalty for that. If there was such a penalty, I would have given full marks for this bonafide action, at least for having faith in a particular school of thought and trying to implement that. But that has not been done.

The Government's concern, the ruling Party's concern, in socialism, in public enterprises, has recently been demonstrated or rather spoken of from the forum of AICC. But I do not find it in the Government's conduct in this final act the Finance Bill. In this there is nothing to show that the Government has a great faith still in the public sector and that it is not supporting the private sector. On the other hand, whatever concessions have been given point to the other direction, namely, that the Government is trying to have more private industries, that the Government is giving more emphasis on the private sector as against the public sector. So, they are speaking in two voices: speaking in one voice when they speak to the people; but when it comes to this final act which will ultimately decide the fate of the economy at least for the next one year, they are doing something quite different. This is the type of double speak, speaking in two voices, in which the ruling Party has been habitually indulging. So, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to consider whether he will make some changes to see that whatever tax reliefs are given are channelised into productive processes

and not held in the form of unproductive wealth.

The prices have already risen. What are you going to do about that? The rise now is nothing compared to what it will be at a future date when the full impact of the Finance Bill, the increase in the indirect taxation rates, the increase in railway fares and freights, etc., is felt. Are you going to give the people some relief through controlling prices of at least the essential items?

The West Bengal government and the left have been advocating or canvassing for 14 items to be brought under the public distribution. The prices of those items must be controlled and distributed all over Indian and even to the remotest village at the same prices. That is possibly the only solution for giving relief to the poor people against price rise. Anything else you may say will not go any way at all in relieving the poor. It will remain a saying but if you can still get the votes you will go on saying that. But I am sure you are not going to budge an inch from what you are going to do.

In giving the tax reliefs certain peculiarities are there. For instance, the wealth tax rate has been decreased. The rate has been decreased rather drastically I would say, from 5 to 2 per cent. I am told even by businessmen that they have never expected that kind of a sudden and drastic reduction. They are very happy. But it does not really conform to the Government's or the ruling Party's profession of belief in socialism. So I think they should speak at least in a language in which their action can be interpreted. In reducing the wealth tax from 5 to 2 per cent and at the same time talking of socialism cannot be harmonised.

Similarly Estate Duty. The reason given for its abolition is that the cost of collection was too much. Now what efforts have been made for reducing the cost of collection over the years—that we were not told. We are simply told that it is too much and uneconomic and, therefore, it is being abolished. So I think on that ground some other taxes can be abolished later on.

Wealth tax will now be very little, after the reduction. Next year the Finance Minister may come up with a proposal for abolition of the Wealth Tax because it will then become so little, and so the cost of collection is no longer justified. Like that taxes can be reduced on various pleas. I think it is the duty of the Government to tell us exactly what steps they have taken to economise on the cost of estate duty collection or to simplify the structure and all that. Why has it not been done? In Western capitalist countries they still have the Estate Duty.

About the attitude towards the public good which has been so much talked about from their platforms by the ruling party, this attitude does not find any expression when the question of redistribution of wealth between the Centre and States comes up. We are still following—Madam you will be surprised to hear—the same attitude which was given to the Government of India by Sir Otto Nimeyer in 1930s—the Centre's total neglect of the finances of the State Governments, keeping the State Governments as a kind of super municipalities and giving them doles and not arranging for sufficient finances for the State Governments to carry out their constitutional duties. The same attitude is prevailing. Of course, the bureaucracy remains the same and the people who stepped into the shoes of the former rulers have somehow imbibed their philosophy. As a result, I can quote some figures to show what has been happening in the last few years. In 1977-1980 we find the Plan budget of the Centre was Rs. 6412 crores and the Plan budget of all the States together was Rs. 6099 crores. The position remained approximately the same upto 1982-83. In 1984-85 the Centre's Plan budget became Rs. 17,351 crores whereas the States' Plan budget was Rs. 12,781 crores. It is less by one-third. The Centre's Plan budget is increasing whereas the States Plan budget is not increasing.

Sir, who is to look after education, health, agriculture and all the things which go to make up an ordinary citizen's well-being. It is the State Government who is constitutionally responsible. The Central Government only comes to the assistance of the State Governments through some

specific Centrally sponsored schemes. Nothing more than that. Yet the State Governments are being left in the lurch while the Central Government's finances go up. Central Government is no longer dependant on taxation for doing that. They are taking loans from the market. Out of all the loans raised by all the State Governments the Central Government gets 80 per cent. Centre even dictates how much loan the State Government can get. Why should not the Centre sit with the State Governments, and seeing to their needs give them additional finances? Why should the Central Government determine what loan the State Government should get and in what specific direction they can spend the money. I asked in the Planning Commission's Consultative Committee meeting as to who approves the Plan? I was told that it is the NDC. In one of the NDC meetings the Chief Minister of West Bengal and Tripura walked out because they said that they are not given any information as to what is going to be the agenda and they are not even given time to give their suggestions. So, this meeting is only a Centrally managed thing. The Central Government formulates and the State Chief Ministers are brought to give their consent and raise their hands. There is no real consultation. It is a stage managed consultation. One should get away from this kind of attitude. This attitude has not helped us in the past nor will it help us in future. We are the most backward country of the world and whatever we may say our progress during the last 30 years has been the least in the world. (Interruptions)

Some gentleman said before me that in 166 million hectares of land we are producing 153 million tonnes of foodgrains. The Prime Minister and other Ministers have been praising the Government for its efforts. Sir, China with 100 million hectares of land produces 400 million tonnes of foodgrains. That is 4 tonnes per hectare whereas as we produce 9 tonnes per hectare. Is that our achievement! (Interruptions) I just replied to him. I did not want to raise this. The ignorance of the hon. Member appalled me! That is why I said it.

Then, Sir, there is the Overdraft

[Shri Amal Datta]

question raised by Mr. Madhav Reddy. I fully support him. Overdraft question is something regarding which you must consult the States. You cannot say that 'your overdraft will be as it existed on a particular date in some year'; it cannot be done like that. It all depends upon the exigencies of the State to determine how much overdraft is needed by them. Take a businessman who is doing business; his money does not come in time for him to go in for production. It is the same case with Government. Similarly, sometimes, Government's money does not flow in time. They have to carry on the Government business. They have to pay the salaries. They have to go ahead with construction works. Everything is being brought to a standstill. I don't know whether it was just wilful—it may have been—because of the political pressures and all that, in order to topple the Left Front Government in West Bengal. But it did affect the development of West Bengal. Very bad, because of the position taken by Centre on overdraft suddenly, starting from 1982. Now, what happens when a Government borrows money from the banking system and that Government does not pay back? What happens when a State Government owes money or a State Government Corporation owes huge sums of money to a Central Government Corporation and it makes no effort to pay back? Nothing happens, if they happen to be States where the ruling party is the same as the ruling party in the Centre. Sir, I have been told that the Punjab Government had borrowed Rs. 600 crores from the banking system for the purpose collecting foodgrains. It is all very well. Foodgrains have to be collected. But the money also has to be paid back. Now, Sir, I would like the hon. Finance Minister to tell this honourable House how much of this Rs. 600 crores has been paid back. My information about a month ago was that they were holding back this amount of Rs. 600 crores. Why? Sir, this is a Centrally-administered State now. Similarly, the U.P. the S.E.B. owes a fantastic sum like Rs. 200 crores to the NTPC. They have not settled that bill. Now what happens? There are many more such examples. I cannot waste the time of the House by citing all of them, nor do I have all the material in detail. But I would like

to ask the hon. Finance Minister as to what happens when there is indiscipline all along the line, when some of the various Government undertakings owing money to the Central Government Undertaking or the Central Government and do not pay? Why do you only pin-point a particular State? That is not proper. But you have been doing that. You know it very well. You refuse to increase their overdrafts or you refuse their cheques. Fortunately for us, we were able to keep it below the level of some States under the control of the ruling party at the Centre, and therefore we somehow escaped the full rigour of it.

Sir, employment has not been the goal of this Government. Now, in spite of what has been stated by various hon. Members, I would say, we are going for high-technology industries, without understanding the implications.

Sir, I doubt whether those people who advocating the import of Computers and various other high-tech equipments in this country all along the line (without paying the customs duty and all that) realise all the implications. There is no customs duty now I believe for some kind of advanced computers, called 'Advanced Computer System'. We don't know what is meant and in fact some computer specialists also could not explain what is meant by this 'Advanced Computer System' and what goes under the word 'System'. Anyway, my point is only this. Unless certain definite safeguards are taken with regard to employment, if such import is allowed without any restriction whatsoever, what will happen? What will happen to our economy? What will happen to our foreign exchange position? We do not know. We are apprehensive that this will reduce the employment potential in a very large way unless some other measures are taken to see that employment increase in some other sectors.

Sir, a company which reduces its clerical staff by putting in a Computer or couple of Computers, must have a duty to see that the people made redundant by introduction of computers must be employed somewhere else. Employment opportunities must not go down at all. Now, where are those provisions? There is

nothing in the Finance Bill or in the other measures brought before this House by the Government.

Regarding the problem of 'Sick Industries' I must say that this problem has not been understood by anybody in the present Cabinet. Regarding various sick industries I have approached number of Ministers. But all have got the same attitude towards the sick industries; "could not careless attitude", I should say. They say : If you are sick, either you pay off, or you just get wound up and the employees will be paid off. There is one concession which the Finance Minister has announced. If the employers are to be paid off, what happens is, their entire wages will have to be paid. That will have priority. Very well. But what will be there with which to pay off? Nothing really. In most of the cases, the sick industries with which we are now concerned, are industries the management of which has been taken over by the Central Government, 6, 10 or 12 years ago. But no investments have been made. They have been carried on, on a hand-to-mouth basis. Although wages have been paid and some production has gone on, on investments have been made. There is no question of technological upgradation or anything like that. So, what has happened in the meantime? They have all become unviable. But if the Central Government takes us this attitude that 'You are not viable now; why should we make investment?' then those industries will have to close down.

Now, what the Central Government says in this context is exactly what the Chairman of Employers' Association also stated in some newspaper which I read the other day. It exactly looked like what the Prime Minister said about the sick industries. If industry dies, then, what will happen to the people who are employed there? Sometimes there are thousands of people who are employed there. Now, what will happen to them? Nobody thinks about this thing. Nobody thinks in depth. But many of them can be made viable by making use of the skill and experience which the workers have got. We have got today in India an industrial capacity which is not being utilised to more than fifty or sixty per cent. Now, why is this so? It is

because these industries are not able to sell their produce. They are not able to sell their produce because the market base for industrial goods is very narrow. It is because very few people have enough surplus after their food budget to spend on industrial goods. In fact, very few people in India can have two square meals a day. Whoever can have two square meals a day, has got very little money left, to spend for industrial goods. Employment opportunities must be increased; but I see no indication of this in the entire Budget or in any of the Departmental Damands for Grants, etc., to say that there is some real, concrete, effort to increase employment.

Sir, even in regard to the Rural Development sector, what has been done is, just to more or less carry on, on the same lines. Of course, there has been some increase; there must be increase because prices have been rising. They have to make rather a 'quantum jump' in this kind of Rural Asset Creation, and this can be done only through giving employment to the people who are working only for 30 or 40 or 50 days in a year and for the rest of the year they are just idle. So, those people will have to be given work and through their work, assets have got to be created. For this, a big, massive, employment programme for Rural Development has to be initiated. But the Government has done nothing like that.

Our main emphasis should be not on Industry; I am not saying that we should not have anything; but what I say is that great emphasis should be put on agriculture and on Rural Development. I am sorry to say that I see no indication of that in the Finance Bill or even in all the Departmental Grants.

Now, Sir, the Finance Minister has said one thing; he has taken credit for that elsewhere also. He has said that there is a Crop Insurance Scheme. But, this is a very, very small measure and an experimental measure. This measure will mean that only those people who are taking loans from the Banks will get the benefit of some kind of Insurance, so that the loan taken can be re-paid to the Banks. It is not for the benefit of the farmer or for the benefit of the agriculturist and the poorest that

[Shri Amal Datta]

this Crop Insurance Scheme has been instituted. What is required—and this is a suggestion which I made to the Planning Commission also earlier—is that the high-yielding varieties, which have now been introduced only in a part of India—only in the Northern India, —have to be introduced in all parts of India. Farmers being basically conservative have to be given insurance cover for introducing high-yielding varieties. If this could be done and the farmers take to high-yielding varieties, that would generate enough employment, because these high-yielding varieties are labour intensive. As I said, if crop insurance scheme could be introduced for these high-yielding varieties, particularly in areas where they have not yet become popular, then you would have done something good. This is a monetary measure, not a fiscal measure. You can think of it.

There is another thing which I do not like. Companies engaged in rural development used to enjoy a concession; deduction in respect of funds spent for rural development. That deduction has been withdrawn. In the last budget, deduction with regard to expenditure incurred by the Chambers of Commerce on rural development was withdrawn. This year the provision with regard to expenditure on rural development by companies has been taken away. I do not think, it is good because you just do not have enough people to do the extension work. Some of the companies who were doing this extension work were doing quite well.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : New-found faith in the private sector.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Some people happen to be basically interested in the development of rural areas. Some money was, therefore, being spent. In fact, they are not interested in spending money just out of their pocket, but if by spending some money they could save the tax or reduce the tax, some people would always come forward. Some companies were doing good work in this behalf. I have got personal experience in regard to that. I would be happy if the Government could substitute them; in fact, I want the Government to

substitute them, but are they in a position to do that ?

There are more than 100 laboratories who are engaged in research relating to agriculture and allied products in some form or the other. What happens to the knowledge which is accumulated in these laboratories ? These laboratories are financed with the public fund. More than Rs. 1000 crores are being spent on scientific development, but the results do not reach the farmers. The Government do not have the extension service. I have talked to the heads of various laboratories and asked them why they do not go to the people and make available the knowhow to them. They said that they did not have the money. They could train 15-20 trainers a year. How in a country like India are 15-20 such people going to help ? That does not help in the progress of agriculture at all. You have to have a very good extension system in this country. There is enough knowledge in our laboratories which must be taken to the farmers, and this is exactly what China has been doing. Everything there has been taken to the farmers. But in our case, everything has remained in the laboratories and a very limited portion has gone to the farmers.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : We have a very good lab-to-land programme in our country in all the States.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Lastly, you have said that political contributions should be allowed by companies. This is on the ground that this will reduce corruption. No doubt, political contributions were one of the reasons for corruption and we always said this, but the question is that if you say that political contributions can now be made by companies openly and that totally take away corruption, that will not be so. This is because your black money sector would remain. Black money sector is more powerful than the white money sector. With regard to companies, business sector, black money is more powerful than is the white money. How are you going to reduce the generation of black money by merely reducing your tax rate ? That is not going to happen. You have said that your tax collection will go up by Rs. 200 crores. That is what you have said. Only with Rs. 200

crores more of tax collection, how can you do away with the black sector? You cannot do that. It must be generating at least Rs. 10,000 crores every year. The black sector will remain. Political corruption will remain. This will only be another head under which the Ruling Political Party will get big donations. It is, therefore, absolutely a political consideration. There are no *bona fides* in it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Does the hon. member know that 'ruling political party' includes that of West Bengal also?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : West Bengal ruling party is ruling only in respect of those on whom it has got power. It has not got any power with respect to companies. It has got power with respect to people cultivating the land, the landless people the bargadars and so on. They pay to our party. Otherwise, our Party cannot exist.

Coming to the end, I just want to say a good word. I appreciate the fact that concession is given to the tea industry. Originally it was limited to companies. Today the hon. Finance Minister extended it to partnerships and proprietorships, etc. I hope that cooperatives are also included in that. Because of the recent increase in tea prices, this will go a long way. The value added export tea is sold at a very high rate. The tea which we export at Rs. 30 per kg. is ultimately sold at Rs. 90 or Rs. 100 or even more than that, when it is sold to the consumer in the Western countries in a package form. Encouraging this value addition on a long-term basis and not on a short-term basis, must form part of a scheme to boost the export of tea in value added form. This will go a long way. If that is done, I would have been very happy. Please remember that the TTCI was established by the efforts of Late Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu who went out to all the Western countries himself, to find out at what prices tea was being sold compared to India in a package form. Thereafter, he urged the Government and TTCI was set up. But this has been in doldrums ever since. The Finance Minister, who doubles as Commerce Minister also may kindly take some steps to revitalise the TTCI and see

that all its exports are in value added form.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL (Junagarh) : Madam Chairman, We have been debating both the aspects of this Budget for the last two months and today the Finance Bill is before us for consideration. This budget has been appreciated by all sections of the people from all corners of the country and the hon. Finance Minister has received appreciation from all parts of the country. Before preparing this budget, he had paid ample attention towards the problems prevailing in different parts of the country and had listened to the views of the people and even after the presentation of the budget, he has been continuously listening to the reactions of people. He remains in touch with the people up to two O'clock at night, listens to their views and is trying to adopt a positive approach as far as possible.

The budget presented in this House has drawn a mixed reaction from society. Whereas many people have praised the budget, at the same time some people have criticized it for the deficit shown in it as also in regard to the growth rate envisaged therein. I do not want to go into all these points but instead want to make two or three points before the hon. Finance Minister on the Finance Bill presented in the House. You have given a lot of relief and concession in agriculture and still continue to do so. The first point which I want to raise is about engines of less than 10 H.P. which are used only in agriculture. Mr. Chairman, the irrigation facilities in our country are scanty and the position of availability of electricity is also not satisfactory. Therefore, the only means of irrigation in the entire country where irrigation is done through tube-wells is oil engine. Those who have electricity at their farms also keep oil engines for agricultural operations, because nobody knows when the electricity will go off. Therefore, it is necessary to keep oil engine as a substitute and it is for this reason that oil engine has a vital role in the agricultural development of our country. The importance of oil engine increases all the more in the areas where there are no canal irrigation facilities.

[Shri Mohanbhai Patel]

Therefore, it has an important role in the agricultural development of our country.

Today, this oil engine is covered under Tariff item 66. I would like to ask what its position was earlier and when it come under it. In this connections, my submission is that before 1960 neither the oil engine nor its components were covered under tariff.

[English]

In 1960, agricultural diesel engines were covered under Tariff Item 29, for the first time. Then in 1965, the above engines upto 10 HP were exempted by Notification No. 138/65. Then in 1975, the diesel engine components were covered under new T.I. 68. This is the present T.I. 68. For the first time, the components were covered in 1975. After representation, the components of the diesel engines were exempted, *vide* notification No. 114/75. Again in 1979, I think during the Janata regime, the above concession was withdrawn, *vide* Notification 26/79. It was withdrawn.

[Translation]

So, it has vital role in the development of agriculture and the country for that matter. The common man, who cannot afford to keep a tractor or some other accessory, keeps an oil engine. As such, this is a primary need of the farmer. Many changes have since taken place in it and now it has come under tariff item 68. Therefore, my submission is that there is no duty on oil-engine of 10 H.P. capacity, but there is duty on its components. When there is duty on the components, the duty automatically comes on the engine as well. The second important point in it is that if somebody manufactures only components the tariff is levied under item 68, but if someone manufactures oil engine, there is no duty on it, as the duty is levied only on the manufacture of components. If the person manufacturing engines manufactures components and assembles an engine, there is no duty payable. Therefore, a situation has arisen today in which it is difficult for the manufacturers of components to stay in competition with the manufacturers of engines. Therefore, I want that engine should not be kept under tariff

item 68, because it was never under this item. As such, it should be totally exempted. 20 days back when we made a request to the hon. Finance Minister in this regard, he had said that they wanted to totally exempt oil engine but it had many such components, such as bearings and fuel injection pump which could be used for other purposes also. There is a separate tariff on them and there is no question of set off in this regard. Our demand is that the components which are exclusively used in that engine should be exempted from excise duty. You had said in part (B) of your speech—

[English]

“The rate of duty in respect of item 68 of the excise tariff is being raised from the existing level of 10 per cent to 12 per cent. This is likely to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 125 crores by way of central excise duties and Rs. 60 crores by way of counter-vailing duty in a full year. I must hasten to add that this increase will not affect the raw materials and manufactured inputs which are intermediates, as the existing provisions for the set off of the duty paid on goods falling under item 68 used in the manufacture of other excisable goods, would continue.”

[Translation]

What you have said does not apply in the present case because an engine of 10 H.P. is totally exempted and if an oil engine set is not installed, it does not apply to it.

You have exempted many components of common use, such as, of cycles and sewing machines in the last budget. This is also necessary for having more production and it should also be totally exempted.

With regard to tariff item 68, I would like to say that before I had raise. This matter, changes hand already been made in respect of all other items except oil engine. So I do not know whether our request will now be entertained or not, as you have just now made certain changes. But, my submission is that you have

reduced the exemption limit from Rs. 30 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs and the rate of excise duty between Rs. 20 lakhs and Rs. 30 lakhs has been reduced from 50 per cent to 25 per cent. What I want to say is that the people who run these factories are very small persons. Even if they install two machines in one room, the production thereof touches the Rs. 20 to 30 lakh limit. There are 40,000 such units throughout the country which have now come under tariff item 68. Some of the owners of this industry are such that they are themselves the artisans and have become owners from artisans by taking loans from the banks and due to Government's policy. They cannot afford to maintain accounts regarding excise duty and they do not have even a clerk to maintain such account. They are so much uneducated that it will become an obstacle in their way. When this limit was Rs. 30 lakhs, they used to stop production at the point of Rs. 28 to 29 lakhs and did not want to be covered under excise duty. Today, what has happened is that you have reduced this limit from Rs. 30 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs. Now, they will have to stop at Rs. 16 lakhs lest they should come within the excise net.

16.00 hrs.

My request to you is that the problem can be solved to a greater extent if the limit is allowed to be retained at 30 lakhs. You have reduced the rate of duty to 25 per cent, but had you fixed this duty at 40 per cent instead of 25 per cent, we would have had no objection to it. But you do re-consider the exemption limit which you have reduced from Rs. 30 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs because two thousand small scale industrial units out of four to five thousand units in our Rajkot, have been closed down. They have also sent a representation. Two days back, I also received a telephone call that they were going to launch an agitation. As long as the Finance Minister does not intervene in this matter, the problem is not going to be solved.

I hope, you will certainly consider giving exemption to the components of 10 H.P. engine which is used in agriculture. With this request, I support the Finance Bill.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this first Finance Bill of the Eighth Lok Sabha. This Finance Bill, which has been presented by the hon. Finance Minister to give legislative shape to the General Budget presented earlier, have some merits for which Members from both sides of the House have commended it very much. It is a practical budget. Prior to it, the collection of used to be difficult as many formalities had to be completed and Government were unable to collect the intended amount of tax in spite of their best efforts. But our hon. Finance Minister has admitted those things with an open heart and by eliminating those formalities has created an atmosphere in which Government could collect more taxes and at the same time could get rid of unnecessary expenditure and labour in the observance of those formalities.

There are many incentives for the industries in this budget and we hope that in the coming days more and more industries will be set up in the country leading to generation of more and more employment. The good intentions with which our hon. Finance Minister has presented this budget will certainly bear fruit. In this connection, I would like to refer to two or three points.

Many of our people have expressed the apprehension that in spite of a marginal increase in taxes and increased facilities provided in this budget, the prices have risen so sharply that it has adversely affected the common man. The price of salt which is the smallest item of use by the common man, the prices of foodgrains and other essential commodities have risen so sharply that I fail to understand how it has so happened in spite of such a practical budget.

In the capacity of Finance Minister, it is his responsibility to provide more relief to the people.

So far as the discussion on this Finance Bill is concerned, I had submitted earlier also that there are many areas which have been lost sight of, such as our eastern U.P., every inch of which is known to our hon. Finance Minister. He knows that that area is not going to be developed in

[Shri Raj Kumar Rai]

this way. It is such a unit whose communications, industry, agriculture and irrigation needs to be developed on separate lines under a special plan. If a separate authority for the development of this part of the State is not created, if special attention to its development is not paid, what to talk of one budget, hundreds of budgets will continue to be presented and all States will go on making progress, but eastern Uttar Pradesh will continue to groan as a backward area. I do not say that the other parts of the country are not weak and poor, but the position of eastern Uttar Pradesh is very critical.

Broad-gauge railway line is almost negligible there. It was in this context that I had requested through the hon. Finance Minister, the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Railway Minister that the work on the Shahganj-Balia broad-gauge railway line should be completed early so as to power the way for the progress of that area. The progress of work on the Bhatni-Varanasi narrow-gauge line is so slow—about 16 kilometres of track has so far been constructed—that many five year plans will be over, but the track will not be completed.

Another thing which I want say is about the Thermal Power Station at Dohri Ghat, Azamgarh, the installation of which was announced by the former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. In this connection, I had written to the hon. Minister of Power, the hon. Finance Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister that the announcement made by the former Prime Minister should be honoured and provision in this regard should be made in the Seventh Five Year Plan so that, keeping in view its utility, the work on this project could commence early. A similar project was drawn up in case of Unchahar and the work has also been commenced. If that project is not taken up along with this project, the districts of Deoria, Gorakhpur, Basti, Balia, Azamgarh and Ghazipur of eastern Uttar Pradesh which can get the benefit of development with the setting up of only this thermal power station, will remain undeveloped as at present. But no project has been taken up there. Whenever

this issue is raised, the paucity of funds and resources is made out to be the reason and the matter is evaded.

We are fortunate to have a most competent person as the Finance Minister of the country but nothing can be worse than that the districts and the poor sections of the people of eastern Uttar Pradesh should be ignored as here to before in spite of having a Finance Minister who has carried experience and has seen the backward and poor regions quite closely. Who will then improve their lot?

Without going into detail, while I support the Bill, at the same time I request the hon. Finance Minister to ensure that attention is paid to all these things. The Congress Government is a socialist government. We are committed to socialism. Therefore, it was envisaged and the hon. Indiraji had also said so, on the basis of which the programmes, such as, N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.P. were introduced so that the poor farmer who goes to the field with his spade could get some foodgrains, some food, some wages and India may not remain that India about which anybody in the world dare say that here is a country where nobody has any work to do. Therefore, such schemes were formulated in which work was made available for all those who wanted work. Although this guarantee of work was given, yet at the same time I would like to say that the benefits of such a big scheme involving huge funds are not accruing to the people due of misuse of funds during implementation. These funds are not reaching in poor. If a survey is conducted of N.R.E.P., it will reveal that the entire funds to the tune of crores of rupees are being spent on the contract system. We provide the money so that it could be utilized by the poor for earning his livelihood, and at the same time the construction of a road, a path way or a canal could also be undertaken. We do not provide this money to be usurped by the contractors in connivance with the government employees. The last man in the queue, the poorest of the poor whom we want to benefit and for whom we and sanction this huge amount, does not get this money. You do distribute it for the sake of doing so, but it never reaches him. Therefore, what is needed is that whatever

money is provided should reach him and its proper benefit should accrue to him. I remember I was an M.L.A. in Uttar Pradesh and the hon. Finance Minister was then the Chief Minister of the State. Once we decide that the money is to be given, we shall certainly give it to the intended person. We shall do away with the formalities, as you have removed the formalities in taxation. I would like to submit that if a person is finally selected by the concerned authorities for being provided with a buffalo for earning livelihood for his family by selling milk, why should he undergo so many formalities and restrictions? Sometimes has to run after the doctor, at other times he has to make rounds of the bank. With all these formalities, your help becomes meaningless for him. I would like to say that when you have decided, and it is your policy also, that the poor man is to be assisted by the administration, then what is the meaning of imposing so many formalities on that poor man? The hon. Finance Minister when he was the Chief Minister of U.P., had said that he favoured decentralised planning, but after his moving out from the State, that situation did not come about. Today, fortunately, he is the Finance Minister in the Centre. I request him through this great institution that he should remove all those restrictions because of which the funds intended for the poor do not reach them. I hope that he will announce today the lifting of those restrictions and the doing away with those formalities. There should be no contract system in the implementation of schemes like the N.R.E.P., R.L.E.G.P. If contract system has been adopted anywhere, the concerned authorities should be penalised. With these words, I express my gratitude to you.

[*English*]

SHRI G.L. DOGRA (Udhampur) :
Madam Chairman, I am very grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to say a few words. I am not going to deliver a long speech, but I will only draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards a few facts.

Madam, this is an excellent budget from the growth point of view. For the growth of industry and commerce probably a

very congenial atmosphere has been created by this Budget. Even for those who have export trade, those who deal in export of goods, very heavy concessions have been given and I think we will be able to earn a lot of foreign exchange because of this Budget. It has been a very bold budget and as far as production is concerned, as far as trade is concerned, it is a budget which at least most of us, Members from this side and that side, wanted, and I should call it ideal from that point of view. But, for whatever concessions that are given, the alternative revenue has to be found out and because of that, I think, a harder exercise was necessary to find out an alternative. Whatever may be the taxes that were imposed on petroleum products, some concessions were also given and also the increase in the railway fare and freight has led to price rise which is disproportionate to this increase. If this factor is taken into consideration, probably the cost of transport is a very small factor in the price rise. But this has been made misuse of by the producers of goods, by the wholesalers, by the retailers, and in particular areas where there are no roads, the people have to carry the goods on mules and horses and camels, and those poor people have to pay very heavy prices. Somehow or the other an atmosphere of price rise has been created and people all over the country, particularly people in the rural areas—my friend was talking about only U.P. and I come from a place which is away from U.P. There the people have been complaining about the price rise. Unfortunately, the exchange rate of dollar also raised at the time when our Budget was presented. The price rise in diesel is partly due to the Budget. But the major part of it is, probably due to the exchange rate of dollar. This actually synchronised with our Budget. So, people think that the rise in the price level is all due to the Budget. But that is not the fact. Somehow we have been controlling it in the past. Now the people are feeling the pinch of it, particularly the people who are living in the rural areas. So, I will request the Minister to find out what can be done because if we take only harsh and casual measures probably it may again give a boost to corruption—policemen and civil supply officials might be let loose on distribution system. So, naturally that will

[Shri G.L. Dogra]

also create problems. So, a very serious consultation is required so far as this aspect of controlling price rise is concerned.

Concessions were given by our hon. Finance Minister at the time of conclusion of the General Discussion on the Budget. But the benefit of those concessions or reduction in the rate of taxes has not been passed on to the consumers. It has been appropriated or misappropriated by the people who have been dealing in this field—producers, wholesalers and retailers. But as far as the people are concerned, the prices once raised have not come down. There is also laxity so far as the State Governments are concerned. The difficulty of the Central Government, and particularly the Finance Minister is, they have to implement everything through the State Governments. I have seen from my own experience that it was not allowed to raise the freight or even the carriage rate or passenger rate by the transporters without the approval of the State Government. But this time, it so happened that even fares and freight in all the States were raised by the transporters themselves without consulting the State Governments, without making them to fix the reasonable increase, if necessary.

Today in Delhi we are feeling the difficulty because the three-wheeler drivers and owners and even the taxis are on strike and our people, particularly who have come here to attend the AICC Meet and also the Congress Centenary Meet have to face lot of difficulties and they have to go on foot for a long distance, and pay very heavily if by chance they could get vehicles. So, we have to think of these things and solve the problem.

The atmosphere of price rise has been generated. Even the atmosphere of scarcity has been so created that even after we introduced this computer system in the booking of air tickets, we are feeling the pinch of it. I think, everybody is feeling it. Otherwise, you never found that there was scarcity of tickets. But now, everybody feels that. Whenever one goes for a ticket, it is not available. In moffusil area, it is worse. If you go a month earlier and

book a ticket, people in the Airlines say that the booking will be finalised at Delhi and then they will come to know. I have written a letter to the hon. Minister also that people having booked the ticket a month earlier have not got the confirmation till the last date, till they reach the airport on the day of journey, they do not know whether they have got a seat or not. So, when you go for booking of the air tickets or for booking of the railway tickets, the atmosphere of scarcity faces you and people are just feeling helpless. Yesterday I want to get the ticket, to the railway counter in Parliament. Even though it is meant only for MPs, I could not reach the counter. This is the environment prevailing. You have to take note of it.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister of Finance that various members have spoken on the need for even development of the country. India is making development in both industry and agriculture but the development is not even. There are certain parts developing like anything and the rest of the country is lagging behind. This uneven development is dangerous. The people living in under-developed pockets are feeling about it. The hon. Minister of Finance can just look to this because he can guide those States and those Departments which are ignoring the backward areas or under-developed areas. Only the hon. Finance Minister can help in the even development of the country. The socially and financially weaker sections deserve special attention.

So far as agriculture is concerned, I have already pointed out that there are certain areas which are developing very quickly. But there are the irrigated areas. But as regards the multi-cropped areas, single crop areas, backward areas, desert areas and hilly areas, all are feeling that they are not able to make progress in agriculture. An effort is being made by the Agriculture Universities and Colleges of the Government also to develop agriculture all over. We have to pay attention to this.

Drinking water is another problem. In spite of our best efforts, there are villages which are feeling the pinch of lack of water supply. Therefore, we have to see that the drinking water is made available.

Afforestation and deforestation is connected with drinking water problem. Afforestation is necessary because all the forests which have been there are our wealth, as well as conserve the source of water-supply. Therefore, they are very necessary and they have to be protected.

We have a Department of Environment. I think most of the Officers of this Department do not go to see how; the programmes are implemented. What is the use of giving money? My suggestion to you is that every Ministry should have an Inspection Team. It should go to the field and see what steps are being taken to implement the programmes irrespective of the party which is ruling there. They should see that the money given is spent for the purpose for which it is given. Forests have become the casualty of the lack of these inspection teams.

Another point which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister of Finance is that the fees being paid to the lawyers and consultants on income-tax by the assesstes to defend the cases are not being treated as permissible expense under this Finance Bill. This is very unfair. This is a very unfair restriction. If whatever a man has to spend on defending his own case is not permitted, it is very unfair. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider this.

Another point I would like to make is this. The rural areas, particularly those areas where the national integration movement is weak, may be Jammu and Kashmir or eastern States or hilly areas, may be exploited. There, we need a thrust for development and employment especially in villages. Without that, it is not possible to strengthen the feeling of oneness of the country. It is a very good and a welcome gesture that the Prime Minister has made so far as Punjab is concerned; he has spoken about the Thien dam and other projects; a coach factory is also being established there. Some such steps are necessary in other areas also. We should go the whole hog at it and we should make the people feel that they are a part of the country and that the Centre is taking a great interest in them so far as their employment is concerned, so far as their economic development is concerned.

It has been brought to our notice that the credit channels, both in agriculture and in industry, are not free from corruption. Everybody who goes to get the credit is rubbed on the wrong side. The agencies are exploiting the people who apply for credit. That has got to be stopped. I know, so far as banks are concerned, the Finance Minister has taken some interest, he is trying to improve the situation. Even in the state agencies like the State Finance Corporations, there is a lot of corruption prevalent. They are, of course, supposed to be State institutions, but the money goes from the Central kitty for re-financing. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to see that this evil of corruption is stopped in these institutions, because they are the guarantor of development, particularly in backward States. If they start misbehaving, it will become very difficult for those people to get the concessions which you are giving.

In the end, I would say that whatever you are trying to do is very laudable indeed. But kindly have a monitoring cell so that you keep on checking the implementation. We have to learn from the people, we have to listen to the people. If you have your monitoring cells for all these programmes, you will know the real thing.

These are the few suggestions I wanted to make.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI P. SELVENDRAN (Periakulam) : Madam Chairman, I wish to say a few words on the Finance Bill for 1985-86. The Finance Bill gives legislative sanction to the taxation proposals announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget.

At the outset I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that it has become a convention on the part of industrialists to rush to a Court immediately after the Finance Minister announces taxation proposals. This has become a recurring annual phenomenon. I would give the example of what happened this year after the Finance Minister announced the rationalisation of

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri P. Selvendran]

excise duty match industry. On the next day scores of writ petitions were filed in Madras High Court and interim stay was obtained. Naturally the Government cannot proceed with the collection of excise duty from match industry. This also impedes the industrial growth of the country. I would also give the illustration of the recent judgment of the Supreme Court about the post-manufacturing expenses for calculating excise duty. Now the Government has got the opportunity to recover the outstanding excise duty of Rs. 800 crores or so from the industrialists. Madam, the Government had to wait for five years or so to go ahead with the collection of excise duty and also to proceed with the recovery of arrears. During this period of five years the industrialists were enabled to utilise this money for personal aggrandisement. This is highly reprehensible and the Government should endeavour to stop this kind of references to Courts on financial levies proposed by the Government. I would suggest that the Government may get a law passed for prohibiting references to Courts about the financial proposals. The Government is the arbiter of the destiny of the country and not the Courts. We should not encourage such legal quibblings on fiscal matters. I request the hon. Minister to ponder over this and ensure that the convention of taking to Courts and getting stays on fiscal measures is eradicated from the national scene.

Secondly, I came across the statement of our hon. Finance Minister that the Centre had to meet the entire Plan investment of two States in the country—one State on account of chronic drought and the other State due to financial mismanagement. None can dispute that drought is a natural calamity; it is beyond the control of Government. The Government of India should go to the rescue of such States afflicted by drought. In the other case also, the financial mismanagement in a State comes about on account of wrong fiscal policy of the Centre. Recently the Central Government has announced interim relief to the Central Government employees and also further instalments of Dearness Allowance. This is going to cost the Central Government annually Rs. 380 crores and

more. You can well imagine the consequences in the States. The State Government employees will start ventilating their genuine demand for enhancement of D.A. and interim relief. After all, the price rise is common to all. The rice is sold at the same price to the Central Government employee and the State Government employee. Both have to pay the same price for vegetables. They have to buy cinema tickets at the same price. They have to buy edible oil at the same price. There is no discrimination in this regard between the two. Naturally the State Government should try to redress the grievance of the State Government employees and sanction more D.A. and increase the interim relief. The question is where will the State Government go for money. All the elastic revenue resources are with the Centre and the inelastic revenue resources are with the States. If they enhance the non-plan expenditure like this, naturally the financial constraints stand in the way of implementing Plan schemes. The Reserve Bank of India is very strict in sanctioning overdrafts. There is rigid adherence to the rules in the matter of overdrafts. We cannot expect the State finances to be sound enough to meet such frequent increases in D.A. and in interim relief.

Our Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. has been repeatedly stressing in the meetings of National Development Council that the State Government should be consulted by the Centre before the announcements are made regarding D.A. and interim relief. With prior intimation the State Governments will be able to take some preemptive steps and prevent agitations on the part of the employees demanding higher DA and interim relief. We cannot prevent the State Government from exercising their constitutional right to agitate and to ventilate their genuine demands. But the State Governments should have finances to manage this. I suggest that the Central Finance Minister should take into confidence the State Chief Ministers while the Central Government employees are given DA and interim relief. I am sure that the hon. Finance Minister will ensure this.

I will now refer to the increasing foreign debt. In 1985-86 we have to pay Rs. 1438

crores, in 1986-87 Rs. 2010 crores and in 1987-88 Rs. 2396 crores. The hon. Finance Minister has to find ways and means for this. In our national income, the foreign debt is of the order of 25%. We have to pay the debt in foreign currency. We have taken 68% loan from America and American supported international financial institutions, 12% from Britain and 10% from West Germany. I have to say this because we have to pay back the debt in dollars and pounds.

According to the recently announced three-year Import and Export Policy, I am afraid that the imports will be increasing substantially and the exports will be depleting. The natural consequence is adverse balance of trade and our inability to pay back the foreign debt in foreign currency. Unless we accumulate foreign exchange, we will not be able to repay the foreign debt. I would quote here what our great Tamil poet KAMBAR had stated in his Ramayana, while describing the state of mind of King Ravana at the time of the defeat of his mighty army. His state of mind has been compared to the state of mind of a debtor. You can imagine the plight of mother India who is steeped in such heavy foreign debt. The hon. Finance Minister must take energetic steps to clear the foreign debt burden as early as possible.

It is estimated that the Central Government's revenues resources are becoming scarce because of heavy incomtax arrears to the tune of Rs. 1200 crores and the tax evasion of the order of Rs. 2000 crores. The tax evasion leads to generation of black money and I need not narrate the havoc being created by black money in our country. Stringent measures should be taken to root out black money through tax evasion. Tax arrears should be recovered expeditiously. Then only the finances of the Central Government will become sound. I request the hon. Finance Minister to take up urgent steps in this matter.

Before I conclude, I would refer to the nutritious meals scheme being implemented by our Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. He is feeding 80 lakh children every day. Even the worst critics of this scheme have

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[Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*]

become admirers. We find it difficult to feed our hosts for a day. Here 80 lakhs children are being fed every day. It has received universal acclaim. Even international organisations have hailed this scheme. I want that this scheme should be treated as Plan scheme. I request the good offices of the Finance Minister in this regard. Similarly, I am sure that our Finance Minister would be generous enough to ensure the approval of the Seventh Five Year Plan allocation for Tamil Nadu.

With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, I rise to support this Finance Bill. The Budget presented this year by the hon. Finance Minister has been appreciated by all sections of the society. This Budget will provide an impetus to the growth of our industry and this will push up the development of the country speedily. With this Budget we shall march forward on the path of economic progress.

There is no point in the criticism of this Budget by some of the Opposition Members. They say that this Budget deviates from the path of socialism. Our view is that with the provisions made in the Budget, our country will definitely develop further and it will generate more and more employment opportunities and thus it would benefit the people of the country. It will give an impetus to the economic development of the country, but there are certain points to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister.

There is a principle that the lesser the tax, the more would be the collection of revenue. From our experience of the last two to three year, it has been prove that the reduction in the tax rate has enhanced our income and keeping that in mind, you have taken good steps this year also.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards income tax. The

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

concessions you have given are welcome steps, but I would like to draw your attention to certain shortcomings. You have given more concessions to those people whose income is more and have given less concessions to those whose income is less. If you calculate the percentage of the concessions given up to Rs. 25,000 and the concessions given to the people with income between Rs. 1 lakh and Rs. 5 lakh, you will find that the big people have been given more concessions as compared to the people with less income.

SHRI VISHWA NATH PRATAP SINGH : Though I will give a detailed reply to the hon. Member's point yet at the moment I would like to tell him that the figures are just the reverse.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : I am submitting my point as I have understood. It is good if you say that you have given more concessions to the people with less income. That is what we also want.

You have been kind to Rajasthan. You have reduced the excise duty on marble from Rs. 25 to Rs. 10, but still it is on the higher side. Thousands of people are engaged in the marble industry in Rajasthan and because of the imposition of this excise duty the whole marble industry has come to grinding halt.

In this connection, a representation has also been submitted to you. You have reduced the duty, but even Rs. 10 is also on the higher side. It will be better if you reconsider it and reduce it little further.

Sir, you know that the Rajasthan marble is sent not only to the different parts of the country, but it is also sent to the foreign countries and thus it helps in earning foreign exchange and provides employment to thousands of people. The majority of the workers in this industry are poor. In such a situation it will be better if you reduce the duty even further. This will lead to running of the factories regularly which will ultimately increase the production.

Now I would like to make a submission

about the excise duty. The excise duty which you impose is recovered by your officers. We have seen at various places and have examined also that it is not levied to the requisite extent because the concerned officers get their own fixed share in it. This results in loss to the exchequer to the tune of crores of rupees. At the time of audit many discrepancies are found. Thus, there is a lot of bungling in its recovery. Consequently we do not get the amount of revenue which we should have got. You should take action against these people also. There is need to streamline the procedure to avoid loss to the Government.

Now I would like to make certain submissions about customs duty. You have opened customs offices at various airports. All over India, check-posts have also been established but in spite of all this, smuggling is going on at many places resulting in substantial losses to the exchequer. To avoid this, you will have to make proper arrangements, particularly in the border areas where smuggling is going on. All the poisonous drugs are being smuggled into our country. They are creating a very bad effect on our youths. If this thing is not checked, it will have a very bad effect on our society. You will have to take strict action in this regard. Strict action should be taken against the big gangsters who indulge in smuggling.

The Border Security Force personnel and the personnel of other enforcement agencies posted in the border areas and hand in glove with these gangsters resulting in large-scale smuggling. Proper action needs to be taken in this regard as well.

The Opposition Members have made it a point to criticise the estate Duty. Estate duty has now been abolished totally. That is why they have got a chance to say that our Government are giving relief to the big people from taxes. I have gone through the detailed statistics regarding the Estate duty. On the basis of the study, I have found that around one hundred crore rupees are in arrears, the cases for which are pending in the Courts because of which the money is not being recovered and dates of hearings are extended time and again. If you think that this system should be streamlined, then I would submit that

Estate duty should continue on the properties of big people, maybe at a very lower rate. Otherwise, the system will be disrupted. This tax was levied long back and on many occasions many misgivings have been expressed. Therefore, such taxes should continue, even if the recovery is less, because our ideology has been to take more money from the rich. Otherwise unnecessary doubts and misgivings creep in. This aspect should also be kept in mind.

You have reduced the wealth tax also from 5 per cent to 2 per cent. This reduction in the wealth tax is alright, but special efforts are needed to be made to find out ways and means to collect wealth tax and also to get the details of everyone's property. This principle, of course, is correct that the lesser the tax more the collection. That is why you have reduced the tax rate but a complete list of the assesseees should be prepared. If you prepare a complete list of the property-holders and the persons who possess wealth, then even with 2 per cent we can collect more revenue than we used to collect earlier. Therefore, you should do something in this connection also.

There are two or three problems of my area. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards banking facilities. There is a provision to provide loan upto Rs. 25,000 to the educated unemployed persons so that they may be able to run their own business and may become self-reliant. But if the procedure is not streamlined, then we shall not be able to provide benefit to the people through such a good scheme which can help in providing employment to lakhs of people, because it is being misused presently by your banks and because of that we have to hear many things from the people. Particularly, the element of subsidy is the main cause of chaos in this scheme. My submission is that if this subsidy factor is taken out and instead an interest-free loan is given, then the corruption which is rampant today will no more be there and the people will get money as well as employment. The system will then function properly.

In our area, small farmers and marginal farmers, particularly the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people are given a

loan of Rs. 3,000 per head by the banks but due to certain unforeseen calamities like floods and famines they are unable to repay those loans in time. The result is that those people have to pay compound interest on that amount. A person takes a loan of Rs. 3,000 and deposits Rs. 6,000 instead but even after that a sum of Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 8,000 still remains due against him. I have got a list of such cases with me. I can give it to the hon. Minister if he wants. I have received this list from the District Magistrate. There are at least two hundred persons who have deposited double the amount that they had borrowed and even then four times the loan amount is still due against them. The result of all this is that the lands of those persons whom we want to give employment, are being auctioned and they are suffering in many ways although there is a provision in the Civil Procedure Code that the amount recovered against any loan should not be more than double the loan amount and a similar provision exists also in the Act governing money lending. If five to six times the principal is recovered it is definitely a great injustice. There is no such provision in the banking system that the loan recovery can be less than the amount given or cannot exceed double the amount given as loan. Therefore, you should make such a provision in the Banking Act also as has been provided in the Act governing money lending and other laws. Double the loan amount is recovered from the poor. Just a few days back, the hon. Minister of State had informed us by giving figures that lakhs of rupees were due to for recovery from the poor. I would like to submit that when a person has already deposited twice or thrice time the amount he had taken as loan, how can there then, be arrears against him? When industrialists are provided with loans, they do not repay double the amount. One reason for these arrears is that when a person becomes defaulter, the amount against him goes on increasing. A great injustice is being done to them. I, therefore, draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this and hope that he will take some steps in this matter so that the poor people get some relief and their lands are not auctioned. We want to give him employment so that he may earn his livelihood but if his land auctioned, his well is auctioned, then how will he be able to

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

earn his livelihood? Therefore, necessary amendment should be made in the relevant law to save them from the injustice being meted out to them and also so that they may be able to draw benefit from these schemes.

One thing I would like to say about the price rise. The prices of the items on which you have increased taxes and freights have not increased in that proportion. They have rather gone up more than double. The prices of all the items have soared up so high that there is great resentment among the people. Two days back the hon. Prime Minister had said that stringent steps should be taken to check the price rise, but until we do that, these hoarders, profiteers, black-marketeers will go on fleecing the people. I would, therefore, request you to take stringent steps soon so that the benefits reach the masses.

One submission I would like to make about the textile mill of my area. You have promised to make the funds available. My submission is that these funds should be made available at the earliest so that the Mewar Textile Mill may start functioning. Your action in this regard will be an act of kindness and two and a half lakh workers will be grateful to you and they will bless you.

With these words I support the Finance Bill.

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD (Chatra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill introduced by the hon. Finance Minister.

It is a very progressive Bill. It does not present any short term policy, rather it propounds a long-term policy which will benefit us in the coming years. Without this long-term policy, we cannot move ahead. The Finance Minister is the custodian of the poor people of India and their upliftment. Therefore, he has presented a well-thought Budget. We hope to get many benefits from this Budget. It is a matter of regret that our Opposition Members have expressed their reservations on it. The people of our country having the

capitalist-view apprehend that we are moving towards communism and the communists are of the view that we are tilting towards capitalism. But there is no remedy for such misgiving. These people should know that the reduction in the prices of fertilisers has been made in the interest of the small farmers and it has boosted the morale of the farmers. The crop insurance scheme has been enforced which is a progressive measure and I think this will check the tendency of the farmers fleeing towards the cities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now I would like to put forward two or three suggestions before the hon. Finance Minister. Regarding irrigation, he has explained the position in detail which will benefit the farmers a lot but there are many backward areas in the country where the irrigation facilities are negligible. In Bihar also, there are many backward areas for which several small schemes were formulated but all these schemes have been lying at the planning stage for the last 15 to 20 years. If we do not pay attention to these areas, our dream of the farmers' upliftment will not be fulfilled. I would, therefore, like to submit that for the schemes which are pending at the planning stage, a final decision should be taken for their approval at the earliest after having discussions with the State representatives and the Irrigation Minister.

Some people have said that we are losing faith in the Public Sector and are paying more attention towards the Private Sector. I would like to tell these people that recently on the Labour Day, our Prime Minister had gone to Dhanbad and in his speech at the labour colony he announced about the workers' participation in management. This announcement is a very progressive step which will give a thrust to our socialistic programme. Our Finance Minister is anxious that more capital and more resources should be created in our country so that the developmental programmes could be speeded up. In this connection I would like to submit to the hon. Finance Minister that in our Private Sector there are certain industries which take the maximum money from Government but utilise the same in other industries and even then they create a

crisis in respect of their own industry. For example the industries in Dalmia Nagar or certain jute mills in Bihar which take crores of rupees from the Government by showing losses time and again, still show losses by diverting that money for other purposes. They try to black-mail Government by saying that they do not have money and as such they will have to close the mills. There is need to take stringent and step against such people so that they neither be able to misutilise Government money nor close their industries.

Our public sector should earn profit. Ours is a welfare State and work should be done for the welfare of all. We have seen that the functioning of our public sector units is not satisfactory. The high officials of these units lack industrial experience because of which these units incur losses. The generation of power is very essential to remove the backwardness of the country but the importance of coal is also not insignificant. I would like to draw the attention of Government to coal-mines. If proper attention is paid towards this sector, I think we can earn much revenue from this industry. I would like to say something especially about certain areas under Coal India Ltd. In the figures given about coal production, it has been stated that in Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh, coal production has been very high but that coal is not being utilised. Lakhs of tonnes of coal have been piled up there but no arrangement has been made for its transportation. If coal is not moved from there, then our public distribution system will be of no use. My submission is that alongwith coal production, you should pay attention towards its transportation also. In our area, hard coke was produced in B.C.C.L. but since August 1983, its production has been stopped. Now-a-days in all the idle collieries, the hard coke ovens are lying idle and crores of rupees will have to be spent are their repairs, whenever these collieries to recommissioned. On the one hand we are incurring losses but on the other hand, we have been observing that the hard coke ovens have been running on a large scale in the private sector and those people are earning a profit of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 per tonne. In this way Government are being deprived of huge profits.

Slurry is our highest quality coal but

that is being allowed to be washed away deliberately and we are losing this quality of coal due to certain corrupt officers. This requires strict monitoring.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards one more thing. Although large and highly technical works are being done in our public sector Units, yet the atmosphere in which the workers have to work is not proper. The workers' living conditions are not good and they live in squalor and slum. Proper arrangements have not been made for their accommodation. Earlier also I had drawn attention towards this aspect. In the first National Coal Wage Agreement, it had been provided that 12,000 houses will be constructed but these houses were not constructed to that extent. Only 4,500 houses were constructed. In the third National Coal Wage Agreement provision for construction of 17,000 houses had been made but the work has not so far been started and the Agreement is going to expire shortly.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the condition of the workers. Our hon. Prime Minister has taken many progressive steps and has spoken about many measures for the upliftment of women, but I would like to bring to his notice that the women who work in the collieries are being thrown out of their jobs and it is being said that their posts are not transferable and therefore there is difficulty in transferring them. They have been asked to leave the job and instead, get one of their dependents posted in their places. This procedure was earlier adopted but a lot of bungling was indulged in and person who had impersonated as dependents got the jobs. Certain shrewd persons got others appointed by paying illegal gratification. Therefore, a certain approach is required in this matter.

Government are very much concerned about the employment situation. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the fact that in Bihar there are certain backward areas where there are huge reserves of coal and we can generate large-scale employment opportunities there. In Palamu and Balumath in Bihar, there are huge coal reserves. Rail

[ShriYogeshwar Prasad]

and road facilities are also available in these places. If we run coal mines in those places, lakhs of people, specially Harijans and Adivasis who are being exploited will be benefited and they will get employment. It would definitely lead to their upliftments. I would urge the Finance Minister to take steps for the development of these collieries.

I would like to say one thing more. The work relating in slurry and hard coke ovens in the coal fields should be taken over by Government. Everywhere there is mushroom growth of coke which is polluting the atmosphere and an acute problem of pollution is arising. The problem of dust spreading in the collieries should be tackled in a scientific manner. If proper arrangements are not made, a serious environmental problem will be created.

I would also like to add that arrangements for drinking water for the workers should also be made. In the Mines Act, there is a provision which makes it obligatory to provide drinking water to the workers in the coal-mines but today the situation in coal-mines is pathetic and there is no arrangement for drinking water. An authority was set up there with the help of the Central Government but although many years have passed, yet no work is being done. Even the work which was being done earlier has also been stopped and an acute water problem has arisen there.

I would like to say something about drinking water. The Damodar River, which is a source of drinking water for people there, has become very polluted. The slurry from coal washeries flows into it and it is destroying the very beauty of the river. Drinking water is being supplied from this river. The drinking water supplied from the river is so dirty that after taking it, one may fall ill. The water, which is not fit even for taking bath, is being utilised for drinking purposes. It is causing great harm. Hence, the programme announced by the Hon. Prime Minister regarding control of pollution should be implemented immediately in the coal mine areas also.

I would like to say one thing about

the coal-mine workers. Shrimati Indira Gandhi had given a new direction to the task of improving the living conditions and removing the poverty of the seven and a half lakh poor coal mine workers. The wards of the retiring workers used to get employment, but now this scheme has been abandoned. I request Government and the hon. Minister that immediate arrangements may be made to provide employment to the children and dependents of the retiring workers.

The water problem is also there. Wells, ponds and rivers get dried up in the rural areas and the drinking water problem also arises thereby. In addition, the people these are facing great difficulty in providing water to their cattle also. Government should pay attention towards this aspect also.

Besides, I would like to draw the attention of Government towards the matter of acquisition of land. People are not paid any compensation for acquired from them. Earlier, there was a provision under which a person, whose land was acquired, used to get employment. There is a rule in West Bengal under which a person, whose one acre of land is acquired, is provided with employment but in Bihar this limit is 3 acres. This difference is not justified. Besides, the pending cases should be disposed of immediately so that their problems could be solved.

Recently, I had gone to Dhanbad. There I saw some extremists cutting the road and creating bottlenecks. Coal is used for generating power and it contributes a lot in the production of steel also. Still no attention has been paid towards it. If the extremists are allowed to dominate the Dhanbad area, the work will not go on smoothly and the production of steel would also go down. Government should pay attention towards it.

With these words I support the Finance Bill presented by the hon. Finance Minister and express my thanks to you for allowing me to speak. I conclude.

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): I support the Finance Bill presented to this House by the hon.

Minister of Finance. As it is, it is the third reading of the Budget and our Minister has been pleased to make some concessions and give some reliefs earlier while making his speech in this House. So, it is a welcome measure that he has given a new hope to some of the hard hit sectors.

Sir, one of the things that I would like to appreciate in this Finance Bill is the extension of exemption in respect of income-tax to the residents of Ladakh. It was to have been over by the end of the current financial year. Now, it has been given a further extension of three years. So, on behalf of those people—of that mountainous region—I think the Minister of Finance for giving an extension of three years for this exemption.

Secondly, he has promised to add some new sub-clauses. A new sub-clause 3(a) in Clause 15 to Section 10 of the Income-Tax Act is going to be added, in respect of interest payable to any foreign banks which are performing the central banking functions here provided they have deposits with the Indian nationalised banks and of course this is subject to the permission to be issued by the Reserve Bank of India. So, this is also a welcome step. Similarly, there has been insertion of a new clause 33 AB. This is in respect of tea companies in account with NABARD. I welcome insertion of these new clauses in the Finance Bill.

There has been a radical re-structuring of taxation since 1963 when the two Boards for Direct and Indirect Taxes were set up. Since then various reforms have been going on. They are in the right direction. We need not reply to the criticisms from various quarters. Somebody is saying that the Finance Minister speaks in the language of the left and moves in the direction of the right and so on and so forth. These are certain observations borne out of perceptions which are not in tune with the indepth study of the Budget.

The Finance Minister has various measures in mind. He has given promise to the country of a comprehensive fiscal policy to be announced in the month of September. Perhaps, at that time, he would

announce the decision regarding the financial year. It is for us to see what he brings in that packet when he comes before the House.

The economy of the country has been regulated on a new initiative. He has called his new measures as the philosophy of *satyam, shivam, sundaram*. I have my reservations about it. But I would like to see that his hopes are ultimately realised in practice and a new direction which he has tried to give ultimately results in this concept of socialism, planning and democracy. If these critical concepts and aesthetic ideas are translated into hard realities of economic thinking, that would be good for the country. But at the moment, we are faced with rise in prices. Prof. Raj Krishna had said in the beginning of April '85 in the course of a talk in a seminar, that the prices were going to rise. The prices have risen. Now, our Minister has also admitted that. So, the need of the hour is to do something to control them, because, at the moment, in Delhi we are having a strike of three-wheelers because of a hike in petrol prices. The general public is facing a lot of difficulty in getting transport. What is the effect of these policies has to be seen and analysed in the day to day functioning and day to day working of the life of people and Delhi is the index of the entire country. The people are feeling the pinch. It is high time that something could be done to reduce it. There should be some sort of an organic link between what we propound in this House and what we expect to happen outside, because we are not talking in a vacuum. I suppose, the Finance Minister would understand that with the rise in prices of petrol, the general public is bound to feel the pinch because the people who ply three wheelers and taxis generally start over-charging or try to pressurise the people or the Government. When you increase the price of petrol, there should be concomitant increase in the fare also. After all, the people who ply three wheelers are not richer sections of society. At the moment, we are having acute shortage of transport in Delhi because of this strike and the consequent inconvenience to the people and to those who ply these vehicles. This should be looked into.

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

The Finance Minister has withdrawn some concessions given to the publishers. The publishing trade has been hit hard. Recently I received a reply from the Finance Minister to my letter saying, "Well, this provision has been mainly misused earlier and it has been only helping the well-established publishing firms and publishing houses, and therefore, the better way would be to give direct aid or subsidy to new publishing houses or to new entrepreneurs in the field of publishing". But it is unfortunate and it must be understood that the new publishing trade and the new entrepreneurs will take time to come up whereas the old publishing houses will refuse to publish the books of poor scholars who are already hit hard in this country. So, I would plead with him to reconsider his views in this regard because India is already a country having mass illiteracy and there is not much scope of scholarship here. Many authors die without getting their work published because no publisher is available and the Government agencies which are responsible for publication of these works, are also not very large establishments. Therefore, any incentives or any concessions which have been given to the publishing trade earlier, should be continued. If you are not going to give them any relaxation, well, you can at least think of the extension of those which are continuing. India has a large number of languages. The Minister for Information and Broadcasting told us one day here in Lok Sabha in reply to a question that radio programmes are broadcast in as many as 142 languages, but books cannot be published in all those languages. The Constitution accepts only 15 or 16 languages and the Sahitya Academy adds another eight or so. So, total 23 or 24 recognised languages are there. Any person who writes a books in a language other than these, must be able to publish it himself, bear the entire cost as he would not find a publisher. So, there is a case for considering the hardships caused to the publishing trade by the withdrawal of the concession which had been incorporated by the Finance Minister in this Budget and which has been taken away. Until a new scheme of subsidy is announced and implemented, this should be continued. That is my plea.

There is one point that I would bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. Our Minister for Finance and his Minister of State are appreciative of the demands of the hill States, but they allow the special hill allowance to Central Government employees only at a certain altitude. They give it at Simla which is 6,000 metres above mean sea level but they refuse to give it at places which are beyond Shimla with height less than 1000 metres. Although the altitude may not be 1,000 metres, the place may be located on the bank of river Sutlej, and the prices are higher. It is a more remote area. It is an area which is inaccessible. This will be clear from the very fact that the three Assembly constituencies which are located beyond Simla, are going to the polls on 26th of May. They cannot march in tune with the rest of the country. The entire parliamentary constituency of Mandi is having election on the 25th of May. You would give allowance only at a certain fixed altitude, above 1,000 metres or at least 1,000 metres, but there are places which are far beyond. So, what I would plead is that since the Planning Commission accepted the idea or the concept of the hill area by a resolution of the National Development Council in March 1965, why not extend this benefit of hill allowance or special hill allowance to all those areas which were accepted by the Finance Commission about twenty years ago? They are not new creations... (*Interruptions*).

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What about the North-Eastern States ?

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : They are covered. By the resolution of the National Development Council, the Planning Commission accepted certain States as hill areas and they generally cover them under the special category States. Of course, slight modifications can be made. There is no grouse about that. But when you give them 90 per cent grant and club them under the title of special category States, they are in for a special treatment in the matter of planning. The Central Government employees who are working there, feel disappointed that their State counterparts enjoy large allowances, they draw more fat salaries than the Central Government employees. There was a time when the Central Government employees

used to be the envy of the State Government employees.

The wheel has turned full circle now and it is the State Government employees who are the envy of the Central Government employees. So, what has happened? Every Government employee who is posted in Himachal Pradesh or Ladakh or somewhere in Arunachal Pradesh or Meghalaya and Mizoram would try for transfer immediately to Delhi or other big cities through pull or push whatever you call it and he will be able to manage it, with the result that we have constant instability in administration. It is in a state of flux because no senior officer would like to go there because of distance, because of poor emoluments, because of larger costs and because of the inconvenient conditions of living there. Therefore, here is the case that I want to bring to your notice.

The most important case is the ban on recruitment of new posts and filling up of existing vacancies. You think that by imposing this ban you are regulating the economy of the country as if you are doing it in a paradise.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : We want to economise.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : You know your needs are expanding. While earlier there were three telephone exchanges, there are five now, but you are refusing to increase that staff strength. So, what has happened? One line man who would operate one telephone exchange, to look after its repairs and functioning has now to run about in five places. You are getting more money through larger number of subscribers. You are earning more, but you are refusing to spend. What is this logic, I do not understand. When you are earning more money by giving more telephone connections, you must be able to provide more persons for service, for monitoring and for maintenance. The result of this ban is that there is a sharp deterioration in telecommunication services. There is a sharp deterioration in other activities which are required. In this wonderful country in the entire one year the Minister for Communications, Mr. Mirdha, told us that only 62 branch post-offices have been opened, whereas

in one State alone more than one hundred branches used to be opened in every circle in every year of the Plan. So, this is the effect of your ban on new recruitment. You refuse to open even a branch post office where the entire work is for two hours and not much money is to be spent because it is a part time job. You say, he is not a government employee. You say, since it is a government subsidy, we refuse. The result is that it has caused deep gloom in inaccessible and remote areas resulting in the deterioration of services and creating frustration among the employees. There is additional workload but no additional incentives. There is no recruitment. Even people who are promoted, their vacancies are not filled up. People who have been given training, they are waiting for one year, but they have not been appointed so far. For what is the training then? All this is because the Ministry of Finance in its wisdom has thought that by regulating the non-plan expenditure and by reducing the size of the Plan expenditure, they are able to keep the economy well on its wheels. This is no way of managing the economy. You consult your administrative Ministries and find out their reactions. You say, you give exemptions in individual cases. How many individual cases can be processed by your Ministry which is so fast that according to one Professor of the Bangalore University it takes 289 days for one file to be processed? This is the research finding of the bureaucratic functioning in India. When these things happen like this, the common man in the village feels the pinch. So, I plead with you to reconsider your concept of the ban and think in terms of efficiency, in terms of its normal functioning.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : You should say in regard to commercial services.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Yes, in regard to commercial services, so that something can happen and subscribers can get a better deal for the investment that they are making. When you are receiving money from him in the form of deposits or payments for the services, he must also be assured of better services at least, if not better than the normal services. Or is it that we are going to have this spectacle that deterioration in services in 1986 is

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

going to be sharper than what it was in 1985 and that it has to be still sharper than what it was in 1984 and so on and so forth. So, we are moving on to the Seventh Five-Year Plan and we are going down in our efficiency. Therefore, I would plead that this matter should be reconsidered in the interest of efficiency and better services.

Similarly there are certain things which require a word of appreciation. This crop insurance scheme is something which has to be appreciated. The Finance Minister has been right in saying that the vagaries of weather should not spoil the fortunes on Earth. When the farmer loses his crops, he does not get anything whereas the factory owner, if he meets with an accident, he gets a compensation. So, the farmer is entitled to relife at the hands of the State. At least the farmer is not the step son of the soil. He is as good citizen of this country as the owner of a factory or a businessman is. Therefore, I would plead with you the case of the farmer and say that this should be processed at an early date.

Similarly, I would also plead that our Finance Minister should take a total view of the economy. It is not that we have only a financial approach. When you think of the total economic picture of the country, you should not reduce the investments on new railway lines or which are on-going projects. It is not fair because ultimately the backward areas of the country have also to be brought upto a certain level with the rest of the country. So, I would plead with you that all the on-going projects should not be subjects to any cuts and kindly keep the 1984-85 budget in view and restore all the cuts that you have put on various on-going projects. The welcome move to allow the public sector undertakings to raise resources through loans for telecommunications and Power should be extended to Railways for new Railway lines especially for the on-going projects. I say this for all the States who have been subject to cuts in respect of their on-going projects. At last you are going to enter into the Seventh Five-Year Plan; let it not be lower than the Seventh Five-Year Plan not only in size and the volume, but

also in the nature of allotment in each one of the projects. There is the way that through a regulated economy and through wise control we would be able to give a better shape to the national economy a better hope to the nation in the days to come. Thank you.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN
(Chidambaram) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on the Finance Bill, 1985-86.

The Finance Bill is the most potent instrument for ushering in the era of economic reforms. The credit for introducing such a Finance Bill goes to our hon. Finance Minister who has in fact heralded a new economic order with his very first Finance Bill.

We should be proud of ourselves because India is perhaps the only country which has generated resources to the extent of 93 per cent for its development. The country is now producing 151.5 million tonnes of foodgrains in sharp contrast to the situation in 1966 when India was going around the world for the import of foodgrains.

Some prophets of doom have started harping on sudden spurt in prices. This price rise is a seasonal factor. The full impact of 1985-86 budget is yet to be felt. I would take this opportunity to suggest that special courts should be set up to try tax evaders. There should be no 15 days' grace for declaration of assets by those whose premises had been raided by tax men. All loan-transactions above Rs. 10,000 must be through cheques only. Those caught contravening this rule twice should be sent to jail for six months to seven years. While I appreciate that the Centre has to be liberal in extending financial assistance to States with chronic drought, the same approach is not necessary towards States wallowing in financial mismanagement. Similarly, we cannot afford to forget that public sector industries alone had been responsible for the main thrust of industrialisation in the country as it is not motivated by the profit orientation of private industry. It is time for us to stop degrading the public sector industries.

The private sector industries are always crying wolf, wolf. While majority of private sector industries survive or credit facilities to the tune of 90 per cent from public sector financial institutions, they do not hesitate to undermine the interests of public sector industries. I suggest that the representatives of public sector financial institutions on the Boards of Management of private sector units should be more effective and energetic in looking into the financial management of such units. They are the guardians of public money in these institutions.

Secondly, I would suggest that the non-plan expenditure must be cut down heavily. There should be a moratorium for two years on unwarranted non-plan expenditure. I would suggest even reviving the Expenditure Commission for this purpose.

Thirdly, there should be strict adherence to the schedule of work undertaken in public sector industrial projects. Unnecessary delay leads to escalation in costs. The public sector projects must be completed on time.

Tax arrears running to thousand crores should be recovered on war footing basis. Tax avoidance and tax evasion should be dealt with severely. I had suggested earlier certain steps in this direction.

There should be very strict control on inventories in public sector industrial projects. We cannot allow huge sums to get blocked in unnecessary inventories.

I would now refer to an area where the Government should formulate a clear-cut national policy, I mean, the national policy on alcohol. I would refer to article 47 of the Constitution of India which says :

“The State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption, except for medicinal purposes, of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health.”

Unfortunately, the State is endeavouring to encourage the consumption of liquor. As per the declared policy, since 1975 licences can be given for production of alcohol only for industrial purposes. The

State Governments are violating the licensing provisions with impunity. The Union Government is a silent spectator of the increasing incidents of diversion of alcohol for potable purposes. In the annual meeting of the Central Molasses Board, the Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers has stated that in 1976-77 industrial alcohol accounted for more than 60% of the total alcohol production; in 1983-84, however, this came down to as low as 46%. In 1984-85, it seems to have gone below 35%. Though the hon. Minister Shri Veerendra Patil states that diversion of alcohol would amount to a violation of the provisions of the Industrial (Development and Regulation) Act, yet no penal action is initiated against such people who indulge in this.

The State Governments seem to rely more and more on growing revenue from liquor. The economy of our States seems to be based on quick-buck from liquor. Near the school, adjacent to temple, church, mosque, close to factories and cinema halls, you will find arrack shops and wine shops in our towns and cities. The Government of India talks about uplifting the people above poverty line but more and more people are taking to liquor, i.e. country liquor. The Government declares that there will be balanced industrial growth in country; unfortunately, there is balanced growth of liquor trade in the country.

The alcohol-based industries are on the verge of being exterminated. We do not have a national policy on alcohol. The hon. Minister of Finance is aware of the progress made in Western countries for using alcohol as an alternative source of energy. I understand that in Brazil 10 lakhs of cars are run on alcohol. Alcohol has become a primary raw material for many industries in Western countries. In India, we have not made any significant progress in this direction. There is a pioneering styrene butadiene rubber manufacturing unit in Bareilly, U.P. This was set up by one of the Congress stalwarts, Shri Tulsidas Khilachand on the understanding that the entire alcohol requirement of this unit would be met. This solemn assurance was given by Shri Govind Ballabh Pant. Today this unit is starved of alcohol. From U.P., alcohol goes to West Bengal and not to this unit located in U.P.

[Dr. P. Vallal Peruman]

It is really ironical that the Government has been forced to import industrial alcohol after exporting molasses about a few months ago. While the Government allows duty-free imports of industrial alcohol by actual users, I do not know any valid reason why butadene required for producing synthetic rubber should not be allowed duty-free import for the actual users. Similarly, while natural rubber is free from all taxes, the synthetic rubber made out of industrial alcohol, which is an agricultural product coming from sugarcane, is subjected to very heavy taxes. Our Finance Minister knows about the problems of Synthetics and Chemicals Factory at Bareilly. He should order the import of butadene free of all duties, in the interest of survival of this unit located in the backward area.

The Government should gradually reduce the consumption of liquor by strictly implementing the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act and by issuing licences for production of alcohol only for industrial purposes. Presently, the State Governments find that the potable liquor is among their major sources of revenue. The Centre should compensate the loss on account of prohibition by giving 100% grant.

If this is done, besides removing the pernicious effect of alcohol on human body, industries will come up generating more employment for able-bodied persons.

Khandsari molasses represent an untapped source of industrial alcohol. The jaggery sector can supply alcohol by adopting the electrolytic method. We must give greater attention to alcohol-based industries in the country, leading to generation of more employment opportunities.

These steps will ensure remunerative prices to sugarcane cultivators. I would give the example of Brazil which also started production of industrial alcohol in 1974. Brazil produced 615 million litres of alcohol in 1974 while in India we produced just 318 million litres. In 1983, Brazil had produced 741 million litres and India produced 540 million litres.

For India to enter 21st Century with

great confidence we should emulate the example of Brazil in producing more quantities of alcohol which has great potential for revolutionising the industrial scene. There should be total ban on diverting alcohol to distilleries in pursuance of the Directive Principles of State Policy as enshrined in our Constitution.

In conclusion, I request the hon. Minister for total prohibition and also to constitute a National Alcohol Policy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Finance Bill introduced by the hon. Finance Minister I would like to put two or three suggestions.

The hon. Minister has presented the budget with great care and foresight and every effort has been made in it to give benefit to the people of the country. The hon. Finance Minister deserves congratulations for announcing concessions in taxes on various items. So far as the price rise is concerned, he has admitted that the prices have increased considerably in the markets. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the circumstances under which the prices have gone up in the markets. The hon. Minister has stated that stringent action would be taken against those working against the interests of the country. I would like to urge the hon. Minister to ensure proper implementation of the policies of Government.

I would like to make one thing absolutely clear that even a peon in the country knows that Government are spending a huge amount for lifting the people above the poverty line, but this amount is not being utilised properly. If a survey is conducted, it will be found, I believe that hardly 10 per cent of the people might have got the benefit out of such schemes. Not much benefit is accruing out of them otherwise. The money allocated for these schemes is being pocketed by the officers and employees concerned. I would like to urge you to set up an enquiry committee for each block. It will then become very clear how much money has actually been given

to each block and how many people have got benefit therefrom. In the meetings Government officers come and give figures that so many crores and so many lakhs of people have been brought above the poverty line. But in practice the situation is quite contrary. I think that everybody is aware of it, but the question is how it should be controlled. Some of our friends have said that the middlemen pocket the money meant for either I.R.D.P. or N.R.E.P. or the scheme meant for providing employment to the educated unemployed persons. I want that it should be enquired into. As a result of the 25 per cent concession given under it the poor people and the weaker sections do not get any money and whatever they got, 1/8th of it is pocketed by these people. So the furnishing of figures here will not help in the development of villages. Our officers are incapable of implementing the assurances given by you here. Moreover, they do not want to implement them. When we point this out to them, their reply is that M.Ps. are in the habit of making criticism only. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the development of villages is not going on as desired. I would like to give you an example. Today, we purchase a buffalo which gives 10 kgs of milk for Rs. 5,000. If we purchase it with the help of loan provided by Government though we might spend the same amount but it will give only 3 kgs of milk. Why is it so? Everybody knows it. Hence, I submit to you that arrangements should be made to give money direct to the poor people in villages. If it is done through middlemen, then the poor people will definitely be exploited.

I would also like to say that a ceiling on wealth should be placed on the pattern of land ceiling. It should be provided under the rules that any persons found having more wealth than the prescribed wealth would be punished in the same manner in which a murderer is punished. A law should be enacted that a person who exploits the poor farmers and accumulates wealth shall be hanged as he is exploiting the living human beings. Unless it is done, upliftment of the poor is not possible. A provision should be made in the Constitution for awarding capital punishment to such persons.

My Constituency is Phulpur from where the hon. Finance Minister was also elected once. So, he is well aware of the difficulties of that area. There is an IFFCO factory, in our area. Some time back the Minister of Agriculture Rao Birender Singh had announced in the presence of our former Prime Minister, the late Shrimati Gandhi that a soda-ash factory would be set up there, but neither such a unit has been set up there nor is any action being taken in this regard. I have come to know that some people having technical know how have opened that the setting up of a soda-ash factory there would not be beneficial. If this be so, then some other factory may be set up there so that Shrimati Indira Gandhi's soul may rest in peace as this announcement was made in her presence. In this connection, I had written a letter also but no reply has so far been received. I request the hon. Finance Minister to take easy action in this regard.

You might be aware that very good quality sugarcane used to be produced in Allahabad, but because of lack of facilities for sugarcane crushing, the farmers have reduced the average of the sugarcane crop there. Recently a proposal was submitted for the setting up of a sugar mill in the Soron tehsil of Phulpur the Government of Uttar Pradesh have forwarded the said proposal to you for according early sanction as funds are to be provided by the centre.

When the hon. Finance Minister was the Chief Minister of U.P., he had given sanction for the construction of the Curzon Bridge in Allahabad and the work on this bridge has also started. I would like to express my thanks to you for the same. In the end I again request you that a soda-ash factory in Phulpur and Sugar factory at Soron may be set up and if one more factory each is established at Soron and Phulpur the local people would remember you for generations to come. It is a very backward area. The first Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru was also elected from this area. We shall be grateful to you if the backwardness of these people is removed. We shall have to enact stringent laws to save the poor from exploitation because the capitalists exploit the poor and I think at present the officials

[Shri Ram Pujan Patel]

have also become the capitalists. If an inquiry is instituted in their cases then we find that there would be 60 to 70 per cent of officials who are multi-millionaires. There should be a check on them because the administration does not run only on figures. We shall have to see whether the farmers are getting the amount meant for them or not. I do hope that you will enact laws for the upliftment of the poor, the landless and the Harijans of this big country in the same way as you have benefited the farmers and the landless Harijans of Uttar Pradesh by enacting laws in their favour.

With these words I express my thanks to you and hope that you would pay attention to suggestions.

SHRI UMA KANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill. We had supported the Budget earlier also when it was presented in the House and a general discussion was held on it. We had welcomed this Budget very much at that time and even today I say that this Budget deserves our appreciation. There are some measures which have been incorporated in the Budget for the development of the backward areas of the country and for speeding up its economic development. These measures were necessary also. With the presentation of this budget, we think we have not deviated from our basic economic policy. Our hon. Finance Minister as well as Hon. Prime Minister have repeatedly said that we believe in mixed economy and are shall work for the development of all the three sector, i.e. the private sector, the public sector and the Cooperative Sector. This is our basic policy which had been formulated by Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru and taken forwards by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. But a confusion is being created in the country in a big way that the Budget, which has been presented this years, is rightist in character and our economic policy is moving from the Centre towards right and our hon. Finance Minister wants to shift our economic policy from the Centre to the right. This confusion is being created in the country and a wrong kind of propaganda is being carried on. We have to counter this confusion and propaganda

because we know that our basic economic policy is based on mixed economy in which we have to work for the development of the private sector, the public sector and the Cooperative Sector we are also moving in this direction and it is essential also.

The reason for the confusion is that after presentation of the Budget rightists like Nani Palkhiwala have praised the budget, when Nani Palkhiwala who is a supporter of Swatantra Party's policy, praised the Budget, people thought that by presenting this budget the Government were shifting from the Centre to the right and giving up the leftist approach and that the policies of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi had been dropped. The industrial and trade organisations like the FICCI have also started praising this budget. They have welcomed it. Of course, the private sector should get an opportunity to work for the development of the country. To that extent it is welcome. But the opposition parties have been saying that since the capitalists of the country are praising the budget so this is a capitalists' budget. They are also saying that this Budget does not belong to the poor, the farmers and the common man. The people have neither gone through the Budget more care to know its aim. When the industrialists praised the Budget, they said that this Budget belonged to the industrialists and when Nani Palkhiwala praised it, they said that it was a rightist Budget based on the policies of the Swatantra Party. This provoked the people of the country.

I have read an article written by him in which he has said that the mainstay of the economic system of the country is the private sector and tax should also be levied on the agriculturists. We are against it. No tax should be levied on the agriculturists. He says that tax should also be levied on the agricultural sector. If he praises the Budget, the people say that it is inspired by his views. In fact the people have not appreciated the good aspects of the budget. A general feeling has been created among the people that the budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister is a rightist Budget and is anti-poor, although our hon. Prime Minister has refuted it at the massive rallies and in A.I.C.C. meetings. The hon. Finance Minister has

also explained it in detail that we are following the economic policy as enunciated by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and taken forward by Indiraji. It is true that it is a Socialist Budget. We are taking our economy in that very direction.

We had said that unless you adopted a liberal view towards the private sector and gave encouragement to it, neither the production would increase nor would the backward areas of the country be developed expeditiously. It is our basic policy to develop the backward areas expeditiously. So the general this Budget reflects the hopes and aspirations of the common man and hence this Budget has to be welcomed.

Although we welcome the Budget it is surprising that in spite of its being a good Budget, the prices in the country have risen sharply. The hon. Finance Minister had stated in detail the other day that the Budget was not responsible for the increase in prices in the country. We belong to villages and travel in buses and visit the villages. It is my personal view and it is a feeling among the people also that the prices of articles have increased know in comparison to taxes and excise duties which have been levied. If the increase in the prices would have been in proportion to the taxes which have been levied, it would not have created any bad effect, because every one knows that the prices will rise in that proportion. But the price rise has been three times more than the taxes and the excise duties levied. Besides, the prices of those articles have also increased on which no taxes and excise duties have been levied. There was no justification for such increase in their prices. This has caused concern.

There is no doubt and you had also stated the other day that the Budget was responsible for only one or two per cent increase in the prices. The Budget is not responsible for any increase beyond this level. The reason for the greater increase in the prices is the seasonal factor. What I want to say is that the prices do not increase so sharply on account of the seasonal factor. I think there is a psychological factor working behind it, i.e., the people think that this Budget belongs to the trading community and the profiteers so one should earn as such profit as one

can. But this is not true in the case of this Budget there is no truth in it.

(Interruptions)

As I have submitted earlier also, this is a socialistic Budget and people's budget. This Budget is production—oriented and a progressive one. But when Nani Palkhiwala, the FICCI and all other big industrialists as well as the rightists praised the budget, then this propoganda was given wide publicity that it was a traders' budget. The traders indulged in profiteering by increasing the prices of those commodities in where this increase in price was not necessitated. The prices of salt, oil, cloth, and Vanaspati also started increasing. The prices of those items on which no duties were levied have also shot up. This has caused concern. So my submission is that efforts should be made to remove this impression from the minds of the people that this is a traders budget *(Interruptions)*.

18.00 hrs.

I would like to urge that the increase in prices should be checked. I firmly believe that the prices have not increased due to the Budget. This increase is due to the confusion created by the people. These people sitting on that side have a hand in creating such confusion and impression. The opposition publicised this view that this is a Capitalist's budget and not a people's budget. Such propaganda as well as praises showned by the rightists have helped in increasing the prices. This is a wrong impression. In the end, I shall conclude by giving some suggestions.

Strict measures should be adopted to check the rise in prices. Our hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister have not deviated from the basic economic policies. This budget is a socialistic, progressive, production—oriented, budget as also a budget aimed at people' welfare, but by suggestion is that drastic steps should be taken to curb price rise.

The Seventh Five Year Plan is going to commence and at present there is the acute problem of drinking water is every State and in every region. We are at a fix how to solve the problem and satisfy the people. It is not as if only a few districts

[Shri Uma Kant Mishra]

or regions are facing water famine. Today, vast regions in every state are facing acute water shortage. I would therefore, like to urge the hon. Finance Minister through you, Sir, to invariably make provision to solve the drinking water problem in the Seventh Five Year Plan. If pruning is necessitated, then it can be done in other items but clean potable water should be provided to all the people in the villages of the entire country. This is my submission.

My next suggestion is regarding the farmers. You have presented a very good Budget and given many concessions to the farmers, but the farmers are not getting fair price for their produce. The support price has been declared. But you may go to the villages and see the situation for yourself. Though the support price for wheat has been declared as Rs. 157 per quintal yet wheat purchase centres have not been opened in the villages, with the result that the "bania" is purchasing wheat at the rate of Rs. 115 and Rs. 120 per quintal and in this way the produce of the farmers is being sold at throwaway prices. I would, therefore a like to suggest that arrangements should be made to provide the farmers with fair price for their produce.

In the end, I would like to say that today the work of the land distribution to the poor under the 20-Point Programme of Shrimati Indira Gandhi is lying standstill. If land distribution work is not undertaken to rehabilitate the tribals and the Harijans in agriculture, then discontentment will prevail among them. Besides the IRDP, the work of land distribution for the economic upliftment of the rural masses is very essential. This is a part of the 20-Point Programme and this work should be taken up further.

My last point is regarding power. Power is an important prerequisite for the development of a country whether it in the field of agriculture or industry or for lighting purposes power is synonymous to development. Power is progress and in the words of Stalin, Power is the second name of socialism. But in our country the problem of electricity is very acute. The power situation is causing concern. As I have been elected from Uttar Pradesh, I am

aware of its power situation very closely. Although the situation is the same in the entire country, yet the people of Uttar Pradesh are suffering the most. So long as the Electricity Boards continue to exist as a white elephants, the situation in the power front cannot be improved at the State level. All the central undertakings under the Union Government are working well, but the Electricity Boards of the State are not working well neither in the matter of power generation nor in the field of distribution of power. So my suggestion is that the States should be asked to wind up their Power Boards and constitute small Power Boards in every division which should be responsible for the generation as well as the distribution of electricity. Unless the power situation in our country improves, the dream of development in the country, the dream of Shri Rajiv Gandhi to take the country to the 21st Century and the dream of increasing production and the programme put forward before the country will not succeed. While supporting the Budget, I would like to mention only one more point.

You have provided facilities to the Private Sector. When they get licences, they set up industries wherever they like. I would like to suggest that with a view to bringing about balanced development of our country, industries should be set up only in those regions which are backward. I would like to suggest that whenever an entrepreneur is given licence, he should be told in unambiguous terms that he will have to set up the industry in the backward region, backward tehsil or backward districts and if this is not done then the licence will be cancelled. Shri Birlaji has been given licence to set up a carbon black factory in Mirzapur but he wants to establish it in Pimpri. He should be told that Mirzapur is a very backward region and hence the factory must be set up in Mirzapur proper or in Mirzapur Tehsil. This will help in the development in that area. With these words I convey my thanks to the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister and support the Finance Bill.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla):
Sir, I was called upon to speak sometime back. I am sorry I was not present in the

House at that time. I have to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister. I want to know whether the hon. Minister would apply his mind and examine regional imbalance in the country in so far as industry is concerned. I wanted to bring this fact to his notice. I do not speak as a politician essentially this time. Planning is something different and ultimately the Finance Minister should apply his mind in regard to regional imbalance. There are Ministers who nurse their own constituencies. Therefore, I want to bring to his notice that during the last 30 years or so, a sum of Rs. 25,550 crores has been spent on public sector. The share of Jammu and Kashmir is very low, abysmally low. We need railway lines and water in the State are wastefully running

into Pakistan. Against a total capacity of 15,000 megawatt, our harnessed capacity is only about 200 megawatt. I would therefore request the intelligent Finance Minister kindly to apply his mind in this respect and help the Jammu and Kashmir State.

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):**
In my reply to the debate, I will clarify this point.

18.10 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven O'Clock on Thursday, May 9, 1985/
Vaisakha 19, 1907 (Saka).*