

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Seventh Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, November 25, 1986/Agrahayana,
4, 1908 [Saka]*

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock.*

MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER Questions: Shri Basavaraju.

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, first we must congratulate our Deputy Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : I did it personally on behalf of all of you but if you still like to do it once more you can do it

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : I thank all the members and also the Prime Minister and the Speaker who had attended my marriage. I thank all others also.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : But 'At-Home' should be in Delhi.

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : We are having a reception. I request all of you to please attend my marriage reception in Delhi.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : We wish you a happy married life.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you going to provide energy, Sir, now?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I can provide.....
(Interruptions).

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Why don't you allow him some vacation?

MR. SPEAKER : I am sending him on a honeymoon trip.

[Translation]

Bairagiji, do you want to say something?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I want to say that.....

MR. SPEAKER : Say it in poetry then.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : All these good wishes will not take formal shape unless we are served with food cooked by the madam.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, it is correct. It appeals somewhat.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : If it appeals you, then get it fulfilled

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I can only say to our Deputy Speaker, in his married life we will provide all the energy he needs.

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : Thank you very much.

SHRI MADHU DANDAVATE : It should not be misunderstood

MR. SPEAKER : For lighting the House, he means

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We begin with the solar energy first

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Solar Energy Society Of India

*306. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Solar Energy Society of India has urged the Union Government to come out with clear-cut policy on the development and use of the non-conventional sources of energy; and

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the Society and the reaction of Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The National Solar Energy Convention 1986 of the Solar Energy Society of India was held at the Madurai Kamraj University from 13-15 September, 1986. The Convention appreciated the work done in this area by the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources and called for a clear policy of greater overall support and investments for the development and use of non-conventional energy sources. It also called for increased financial allocations for this purpose, particularly in view of their potential to bring substantial benefits to the rural areas.

The suggestions made at the Convention have just been received from the Society and are being looked into.

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Is it a fact that four day convention in which several experts on solar and other non-conventional sources of energy participated and urged the Centre to consult the expert group of the Society before going on in a large scale import of technology on the non-conventional sources of energy to prevent import of obsolete and unsuitable technologies? If so, whether the Government has examined the suggestion and also other various suggestions?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is our very clear cut policy that whenever any technology is to be imported, that technology must be such—

(a) which is not available in this country:

(b) which is capable of being absorbed in our own technological system.

It must be in a sense in national interest and the Society also has recommended that by and large demonstration projects should be taken up for indigenously developed technology. In case of import of technologies there should be clear policy of accelerating their absorption and for indigenous production.

We are entirely in agreement with this suggestion and our policy is also in keeping with this.

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Is it also a fact that the suggestions of the Committee have been examined by the Government and also whether rural areas could not be benefited on a large scale and in a systematic manner for lack of clear cut policy and guidelines for use of non-conventional sources of energy?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As I said it is a fact that up till now non-conventional sources of energy, because of the economic non-viability generally have been looked at as a sort of non-conventional thing as a fad. But it is my humble submission that in keeping with our needs and what we can do and what we have already demonstrated and achieved in the last three, four years in the field of bio gas, biomass, solar energy, particularly solar and wind for which there is tremendous scope, India can give a lead to the entire world in the non-conventional energy sources. We want to give a thrust. You, as a great scholar, already knew that our entire spiritual philosophy is based on worship of the God Sun—

*Om Bhoor bhawah swaha
Tatswiturvarenyam
Bhargodevasaya dhimahi
Dhiyoyonah prachodyat.*

We pray in the morning Gaitri Mantra. We pray everyday that let us get that enlightenment. I believe, Sir, if we get the support from the entire House for this enlightenment to give thrust to the solar and wind energy.

*Surya urja, saur urja, pawan urja
Pawan-putra Hanuman*

Sir, I think India can achieve great miracles in this field. We are determined to do that.

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Sir, the Minister has stated that the suggestions made at the Convention have just been received from the society. But the Government did establish a Commission for Additional Sources of Energy during 1981 and also entrusted the work of formulating the policy to that Commission. I would like to know the recommendations of that Commission and the work done by the Commission and the reaction of the Government. Also, the Government is having the Advisory Board on Energy. What is this Board and what are its recommendations in this regard? There is also one Kapoor Commission which made recommendations. What are the recommendations of the Kapoor Commission and what is the reaction of the Government?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The other Boards and Commissions to which the hon. Member is referring deal with energy as a whole and generally the concentration is on the conventional sources of energy, thermal, hydel etc. Non-conventional sources of energy is the specific field in which this Society, the high level Society in India, is working, particularly for solar and non-thermal and it has 500 members from various walks of life and this Society which is a professional body, this Convention, which meets every year, annually, has made a detailed study and made recommendations. If you like, some of them I can mention. For example, the key things are: Greater support should be given for development and increased investment made in non-conventional energy programme as in the case for large centralised energy development and supply, flexible guidelines for funding and subsidies should be evolved to take into account both quantitative as well as performance related criteria and courses on non-conventional energy should be run in IITs/Universities.

These are some of the key suggestions, and we are favourably looking at them.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may go ahead. The House is with you on this matter.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to submit to the hon. Minister that by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan, we will be facing shortage of 10000 MW of electricity, as has been mentioned here. The first part of my question is as to what percentage of this shortage will be covered by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan through solar energy and will the Government circulate any paper on its potentialities?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have repeatedly stated in the House that today it costs us at least one crore rupees to generate one MW of electricity whereas the nuclear energy costs something between Rs. 1.75 crores to Rs. 2 crores. The provision made by us in the entire five year plan is Rs. 35000 crores and it has been made in these areas. We have already started getting 3.5 lakh units of energy from the wind mills established in the 4 wind farms under the Non-Conventional Sources of Energy Schemes. Visibility has been established. The question is that of the resources. In all, if Rs. 500 crores have been allocated in the Five Year Plan for non-conventional sources of energy, you can very well imagine as to how much electricity we can generate to cover the shortage of 10000 MW.

Therefore, the question is that of the resources. We are thinking that if the Integrated Energy Development Programme is formulated as part of the Rural Development Programmes like IRDP then we can pool the resources available to us and I am of the view that if these are properly utilised, particularly our villages can become self-reliant in the matter of energy.

[English]

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Sir, the utilisation of non-conventional energy, the instrumentation part of it, it is stated, has become more costly than the utilisation of the conventional energy. If it is true, what is the research that is being done to take the cost very low

MR. SPEAKER : Is it correct?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, actually it is not correct. May I submit that if you take the total cost of even non-conventional energy like thermal, the infrastructure required is normally not taken into consideration—railway, transportation, coal, for example, coal mining and then setting up thermal power plants, then the recurring cost and then transmission lines to be drawn. If all this is taken into consideration, even today as delivery cost, it will be high. In the case of solar energy, if solar energy is set up or if wind energy is set up, it is locally available straightaway, and other multiplier benefits like pollution free and other benefits are many. Therefore, if you take this total cost even today, solar energy or wind energy or localised biomass energy is economically competitive.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the hon. Minister has thrown light on the utility of the non-conventional source of energy. Being a member of the Energy Committee, I have seen its success at several places. The hon. Minister has also stated that the Parliament should sanction more funds to meet the shortage of electricity. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take action to adjust the amounts meant for the programmes of rural development, with the sanction of the cabinet, to avoid shortage of funds?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is supreme and if it feels that provision should be made, the Finance Minister and the Cabinet will have to.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I award you the degree of 'Vidya Maartanda' today.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : What else can I say? I cannot make this provision by a magic wand but if I get the funds, then I am of the humble view that we will be able to make progress, particularly in the villages.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : You are evading this issue. What will the House do?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It should support.
(Interruptions)

[English]

**Modernisation of Telecommunications
System of Calcutta**

*307 SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of the plan to modernise the telecommunications system of Calcutta metropolitan city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): A statement is
given below.

Statement

*Plans to modernize the telecommunication
system of Calcutta Metropolitan City*

- (1) As on 30.9.1986, the position of Calcutta telephones was as follows:
Telephone Exchange Capacity :241,700
Working Lines :205,213
Waiting List :33,402
- (2) During 7th Plan it is planned to add 45,000 lines of exchange capacity out of which 10,300 lines has already been added.
- (3) During the 7th plan it is planned to replace 91,800 lines of old/worn out exchanges out of which 30,000 lines have been replaced so far.
- (4) It is proposed to construct a total of 100 Km. of ducts by 1990, out of which 56 Kms. have so far been completed.
- (5) It is proposed to replace majority of the

junction cables by radio relay and optical fibre systems.

9 radio links have been installed. 60 more are likely to be installed during the 7th plan.

37 optical fibre cable systems have been planned.

- (6) PCM systems are proposed to be installed on various junction cables. 338 systems have so far been commissioned. Another 700 have been planned.
- (7) Electronic Trunk Automatic Exchanges (TAX) have been planned. 4000 lines SPC electronic TAX has been installed in 1983. A 4000 lines digital electronic exchange has been planned to replace the 4000 lines Penta TAX. Another 8000 lines digital TAX is planned.
- (8) A 3000 lines Digital Electronic Telex has been installed in 1983. Expansion by 4600 lines has been planned out of which 2500 lines will be used to replace the existing strowger telex.
- (9) Computerization of Telephone Directory updating and enquiry service: Computer has been installed. Software and data work is in progress

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Sir, the condition of the Calcutta Telephones is known to everybody. We have discussed the matter here several times. The Telephone Department has taken some routine steps here and there in the Calcutta metropolitan town also. But that has produced no effective benefits to the consumers.

The hon. Minister in his statement has stated that the capacity of the telephone exchange is 241,700 and working lines are 205,213. The number of waiting list is 33,402. However, the hon. Minister has not stated why the waiting list consumers were not provided with the lines though the capacity was there. In his statement, the cost factor was not also mentioned.

In my opinion, a comprehensive study about the whole matter was necessary before undertaking the modernisation programme. May I know from the hon. Minister that before undertaking modernisation programme whether a comprehensive study would be made as to how to make the telecommunication system in Calcutta Metropolitan City into an effective system and the consumers would be guaranteed with a very good service?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the

hon. Minister has asked whether a study was undertaken before the modernisation programme was being implemented in the 7th Five Year Plan. I would say, yes, a thorough study was made. The Calcutta Telephone system has got a total of 49 exchanges. Out of that, we have got 2 manual and 27 strowger. These 29 exchanges which are old need replacement and repair. So, in the 7th Five Year Plan, we have decided that by 1990, 17 of these telephone exchanges will be totally replaced. Some of them which require service will be repaired. Apart from that, now we have got three digital electronic Exchanges. This will be No. 9/1990. We have got one analogue electric exchange. This is going to be the second. Apart from that, we are taking other methods to see that the cables which run in Calcutta, underground cables, there have been perennial troubles because of excessive rain and theft as well as damage to the cable because of all multi-channel work has been done by Metro, by the Development Authority of Calcutta Corporation. We are also changing the underground cables and also taking steps to see that there are more micro-wave and UHF interstate connections. One plan has been taken into consideration. Keeping that in my view in my answer, I have already told that within these 33,402, we have taken a scheme to give additional lines of 45,000 whereby all the waiting lists will be covered and there will be an addition of 10,000 lines which may be coming in future.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : I want to put a very small question to the hon. Minister. What will be the total cost factor involved in it?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : The total cost will be about Rs. 250 crores and that provision has been made. I can tell you that the hon. Members were trying for more so that we can flush in more money and we are at it and I hope more funds will be available but at present the allocation for Calcutta Telephones in the Seventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 250 crores.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Is it a fact that Calcutta Telephones is a physically handicapped boy of our Ministry who can crawl but cannot walk? We are having our nitrogen but we need oxygen because Calcutta Telephones is not working properly. It is suffering from polio. Several times we have met our hon. Minister and have made our demand. But the Department is not working at all.

So, I would like to know from our hon. Minister what steps have been taken by the Government in the Seventh Five Year Plan to

modernise Calcutta Telephones.

I would also like to request why, in Tripura there is no communication system. That is a totally neglected state. Nobody is asking in Parliament to do something about it at least

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what the Government is going to do in Tripura to instal the telecommunication system.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It will be difficult for me to treat polio as well as handicapped, all at a time. But step by step we are going.

MR. SPEAKER : You must decide which step you have to take up first.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Apart from what I have already said about the installation of new telephone exchange, the main trouble in Calcutta is the underground cable. We have already installed radio system No. 9. In the course of the Seventh Five Year Plan, another 69 inter-acting radio systems will be introduced...As regards optical fibre system which is now needed in Calcutta, optical fibre system will be introduced whereby the damage which is now caused in the underground cables will be not to the extent to which it is happening now and, thereby I am sure Calcutta which the hon. Member has said is suffering from polio or handicap will be much better in due course

SHRI BHOLANATH SEN : May I say a few things? In Calcutta, out of every five telephone calls you get one correct call. Four calls are wrong numbers. The question is if Calcutta is in such a great difficulty, will they be charged for all the wrong calls also, that too continuously. After making five or six calls, they get one call. Even if you want a trunk call, you get cross-connection. What is going to be done? I can understand that the total cost is Rs. 250 crores. Will the Minister kindly say as to what relief is going to be given to these people who are really suffering by getting one call out of every five calls or ten calls. What is going to happen to them?

(Interruptions)

The woman who comes to you on the line is not the woman whom you want to talk to.

MR. SPEAKER : Why women particularly?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Anywhere in the country, cross-connections or wrong connections are there. It might be more in

number in Calcutta. I fully appreciate the feelings of the hon. Member but with the progress of this work on hand....

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : What is the meaning of cross-connection?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : From the very beginning, he is agitated about the cross-connections. There is something wrong with his telephone.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : There is a lot of difference between wrong and cross-connection.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : With the improvements being done, I hope this particular difficulty will be overcome.

Control on Drug Prices

*308

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken note of the plight of poor people, particularly in rural areas, who can illafford buying medicines as a large number of drug formulations are not yet covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order and their prices are excessively high; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken/proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Government has enacted the Drug (Price Control) Order 1979 to subserve the objective of making available, in abundant quantities and at reasonable prices, drugs which are essential for the health of the people.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the avowed policy of our socialist Government and our popular young Prime

Minister has also reiterated time and again, after he was administered the oath of office, that the benefits of our programmes, laws and policies should reach the common man. The responsibility of implementation of the policies falls collectively on all the Ministers of the Government.

The Drug Control Order, 1979 was enacted in the interest of the consumer, but it is not complied with. If the poor do not get benefits, they will lose faith in the legislation. You are aware that the violation of the Drug Price Control order is punishable under the Essential Commodities Act. In his reply to Unstarred Question No. 1557 dated 2.12.85, the hon. Minister had stated in the Rajya Sabha that 185 drug companies were selling medicines without taking permission from the Government in respect of the prices. Four drug companies had violated it and two companies had made wrong categorisation.

Will the hon. Minister tell us as to how many cases have been filed under the Essential Commodities Act for violation of the Drug Price Control Order and what are the results thereof?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The Drug Price Control Order, will apply only to category I, II and III. It will not apply to category-IV. The hon. Member mentioned that category-IV drug prices have gone up. Some companies violated this rule also. We are taking action against the two companies - (i) Warner Hindustan Ltd. and (ii) Richardson Hindustan Ltd. Both these companies have been served notice. Action is on to bring down the prices. After receipt of their explanation, final action will be taken.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : There is a clear provision against the violation of the Drug Control Order in the Essential Commodities Act but the hon. Minister is not telling anything about that.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : The first supplementary has not been replied to in full.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first supplementary has not been replied to.

My second supplementary is that the prices of the drugs have been fixed under the Drug Price Control Order in the interest of the consumers

but the Departmental officers and the bureaucrats have not complied with it on the pretext of giving chance of hearing and natural justice. In this way, several multi-national and Indian companies in our country have managed to get stay orders in many cases from the Bombay and Delhi High Courts. As a result of these technical stay orders, the situation has deteriorated so much that natural justice has not been done and chance of hearing has not been given. The officers concerned are in league with them on these two or three grounds. The prices have increased so much that the ordinary consumer cannot buy these medicines.

MR. SPEAKER : Put the question.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : The hon. Minister had himself conceded in the Rajya Sabha in reply to Unstarred Question No. 84 dated 6-5-85 that the Government had fixed the price of Baraligan-a drug for relieving stomach ache-at Rs. 1810 per Kg. but the company was charging Rs. 24,735 per Kg. Similarly, the price of Dexamethasone had been fixed at Rs. 55,000 per kg. by the Government but the company was selling it at Rs. 1,95,000 per kg. This was admitted by the hon. Minister about one and a half years ago also. The position of the market is well known to the House. There is manifold difference between the rates. It is so simply because the companies have got Stay Orders on technical grounds and the bureaucrats' absence has led to chance of hearing and natural justice not being given to them. This collusion between the two is creating difficulties for the country

I want to know what action was taken by the Government to get the Stay Orders vacated? The Government has not done anything for the last six years to get the Stay Orders vacated. Should it then be construed that the Government is hand in glove with those companies and it is because of this that consumers are not getting medicines on cheaper rates?

MR. SPEAKER : You are going ahead with your speech.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : You should formulate a new drug policy.

MR. SPEAKER : Leave this controversy. Adopt Ayurvedic system.

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : As I mentioned in my earlier answer, the Drug Control Order will

not apply to Category IV. Under that, multi-national companies' products will come. Very soon the Government is going to announce the new Drug Policy and we will take care of all these things.

[Translation]

DR. B.L. SHAIKESH : Mr. Speaker. Sir, the hon. Minister had stated in the meeting of the Drug Association on November 14 that the Government was going to take a decision to increase profit in the medicines and that several medicines were going to be excluded from the purview of price control order.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this proposal regarding pricing policy has been studied thoroughly and how much will it affect the prices of the medicines? Will the poor be able to buy medicines in this way?

The hon. Minister had himself stated in this House on 17th December 1985 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4301 that the prices of the medicines which had been excluded from the purview of the price control order had increased by 53 per cent to 175 per cent. in such a situation, will the poor be able to purchase these medicines?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I entirely agree with the hon. Member. The report is ready. It is going before the Cabinet. Very soon we will announce the Drug Policy and the medicines will be within the reach of the poor man.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : The answer given by the hon. Minister is totally disappointing. It is a fact that there are many medicines and drugs which are used by the common people and which do not come under the purview of the DPCO; for example, Vicks Vaporub which is extensively used by the common people. It does not come under its purview. I am astonished to find a statement by the Minister for Chemicals while addressing a meeting in Bombay—it is reported in the November 16th Economic Times published from Bombay—that Government plans to decontrol some drugs which are now under the purview of DPCO. The obvious thing in that, if it is decontrolled, the price will go up. So, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government intends to de-control some drugs which are now under the purview of DPCO.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : It is a poor matter. Now it is before the Cabinet. We will take a decision in favour of the poor man, not in favour of the rich or in favour of any company.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : It was a statement by the Minister for Chemicals which has been reported in the Papers that Government plans to decontrol some drugs. Is it the opinion of the Government?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : It is not the opinion of the Government.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : People have to purchase drugs in pharmacies at exorbitant prices. Sometime for weaker section people drugs are available in Health Centres; but due to non-availability of drugs there they have to purchase at exorbitant rates outside. To stop this, may I ask whether you are going to evolve any scheme whereby you can subsidise these drugs for weaker section people?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Then again somebody will swallow the subsidy

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in whatever field we see, the man from rural area, whether he is a peasant or some one else, is always lagging behind. The poor in the villages have no money to buy medicines but just now the hon. Minister has said that we have reduced the prices of drugs. I want to draw his attention towards the fact that the medicines supplied by the Government in the villages are procured through tender system and these medicines are of inferior quality. At the same time, it has also been observed that the tenderers buy these medicines at very low prices. If the medicines are purchased at low prices they are bound to be of inferior quality and as a result thereof, they are not going to produce any healthy effect on the patients. Shri Vengal Rao has been the chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. I know he is a practical man and as such he will definitely try to provide benefit to the poor. I want to know whether his Ministry is considering any proposal under which better quality medicines could be supplied in the rural areas? If so, by what time these medicines will be supplied in the villages?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I am also from a rural area just like Mr. Tulsiram. I know that some substandard drugs are being sold in that

area. We will punish them. As I submitted, very soon we are announcing the the new drug policy.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The trouble is that we are forgetting the indigenous system.

[English]

Foreign collaboration for manufacture of Motor Cycles

*309. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Electrical and Allied Engineering Company Limited, Cochin has requested for giving sanction for a foreign collaboration approval for the manufacture of motor cycles; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) : The proposal has been rejected. The representation made by the party against the rejection is being examined.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Sir, Kerala Electrical and Allied Company is a Kerala Government undertaking which is making a huge profit. There is another company Kerala Scooters which has been given the licence for the manufacture of motor cycles. But this company is now sick because it cannot get foreign collaboration. Part of the capacity has been transferred to Kerala Electrical and Allied Engineering Company Ltd. and then this company has negotiated with an Italian company for getting collaboration. After detailed negotiations KEL came to Government of India in March for getting the approval. Till today the Government of India has not taken a final decision. I would like to know on what basis their proposal has been rejected because the application has been given by a public sector undertaking

SHRI J VENGAL RAO : We are not approving any foreign collaboration now. Already the approved capacity for scooters and mopeds in the country is much more. Our necessity upto Seventh Plan is only 18 lakh and by the end of this year we will be producing 13 lakh. That is why we are not allowing any foreign collaboration.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Sir, I seek your protection. The question is that Kerala Scooters has been given licence to manufacture the motor-cycles. It is only that a part of this capacity has been transferred to KEL and KEL has negotiated with an Italian company for collaboration. In India almost all the motor-cycles are manufactured by private sector industries and these private sector industries have got collaboration with Japanese companies. It is the only public sector undertaking which is coming up in our country to manufacture motor-cycles.

Sir, there is no question of exceeding the capacity because you have already given a licence to manufacture these motor-cycles. Sir, you have been protecting the interests of the farmers. You should also protect the interests of the public sector undertakings which are under attack.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Sir, Kerala Scooters is a sick unit which was taken over by the Kerala Government. Kerala Government has already incurred a loss of Rs. 3 crores. Further, Sir, we have now granted licence to manufacture upto 2 lakh scooters indigenously so we are not going to allow any foreign collaboration.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, the Minister has said that Kerala Scooters is a sick unit. The recent policy of the Government is to give direction to the big industries to adopt sick units. Here is a case of one public sector coming to the rescue of another public sector undertaking. Kerala is one of the most backward State in industry. Further the total capacity is not exceeding and the recent policy of the Government is to remove some of the hurdles in the import of foreign technology wherever it is necessary. May I know from the hon. Minister in view of the peculiar situation of Kerala whether the hon. Minister will consider the proposal of KEL to come to the rescue of Kerala Scooters which will ultimately help the State of Kerala in removing its industrial backwardness?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Sir, the Kerala Scooters is not working. It is a sick unit. Now 500 people are unemployed. The latest policy of the Government is not to take over the sick units. In Gujarat also we have issued licences for Gujarat Government. They are manufacturing with indigenous technology only.

[Translation]

**Setting up of Petrochemical
Complex based on Natural Gas
In Madhya Pradesh**

*311. **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent any proposal for setting up any petrochemical complex in the State based on the natural gas available from Bombay High; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Sir, Hajira Vijaypur gas pipeline is passing through Jhabua, Diwas, Ujjain, Indore, Shajapur, Guna and Shivpuri districts of Madhya Pradesh, which cuts Madhya Pradesh horizontally and covers a large area. Will the hon. Minister consider sanctioning of some petrochemical complex or ancillary industries in any part of Madhya Pradesh, where the pipeline is passing through? Has any survey been done in this connection?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Madhya Pradesh Government has not applied. But one of the biggest fertilizer plant is coming up at Guna and four other companies have been given permission to establish petro-chemical units. We are also thinking and exploring the possibility of setting up joint sector enterprises for extraction of L.P.G. propane etc. at suitable locations.

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : What was the schedule of the construction of the gas pipe line Hajira-Vijaypur? Was it delayed? if delayed, for what reasons? When will it reach Vijapur, because the fertilizer plant there is being delayed because of this gas pipeline?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I think, there is no delay. We are monitoring it. As soon as the plant is ready, gas will be supplied to it.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : The real solution to meet the urban fuel gas requirements is through pipeline as they have done in western countries. The Government has been considering for a long time the proposal to supply domestic fuel through pipeline to the Bombay city. I would like to know whether this scheme has been finalised and whether the required quantity of gas has been allocated to the Bombay Gas Company. How much time will it take the materialise finally?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: I require a separate notice for this question.

Use of Krishna Basin Gas By Andhra Pradesh

*313. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Newstime" dated 12 September, 1986 under the caption 'Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna basin gas';

(b) if so, whether 1.5 lakh cubic metres of natural gas can be made available per day for commercial application; and

(c) the likely date from which the gas will be made available to prospective entrepreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987.

SHRI V.SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: I am happy that at least the hon. Minister has come forward with a categorical answer that about 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987. In the previous two sessions I and my other colleagues had been asking from the Government about the availability of gas for commercial purposes, but the Government had then told us that they had not yet assessed the quantity of gas that would be available for commercial use and from which date it can be made available. My question was:

"Whether his Ministry's attention

has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Newstime' dated 12th September, 1986 under the caption 'Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna basin gas'."

Unfortunately, somehow the high placed officials in the ONGC have been giving a wrong impression to the people, and I fear that they are still not supplying the correct information to the Government. While the Government did not give the information in the previous sessions, the ONGC officials have gone on record to say, as was reported in the Newstime:

"About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of natural gas can be produced every day from the four wells we have sunk so far in Razole and Narsapur. And we have in the last eight months tried to get entrepreneurs and the AP Government to set up industries to make use of this valuable fuel, but the response has not been very encouraging."

This gives a very wrong impression to those who go through these press reports. I would like to know from the Government whether they are aware that recently, the APIDC Chairman has conducted a joint meeting comprising both the ONGC representatives and entrepreneurs from the Coastal Andhra near the source and convinced both sides to agree to the suggestion of making both gas and coal prices equivalent. In spite of the fact that the State Government is giving several incentives and concessions to the new entrepreneurs by way of lower rates of electricity, concessions on purchases, etc., they are not coming forward because of this gas price which is fixed at Rs. 900 per 1000 cubic meters. In the present circumstances, to avoid transport of coal in wagons and so on, will the Ministry direct the ONGC to finally agree to fix the price of gas that will be made available, equivalent to that of coal prices, so that the entrepreneurs will come forward?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : About the report to which attention has been drawn, I would like to say that the report is not based on facts. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is also trying to utilise this gas. We have several meetings with them. About the gas plant which the AP State Electricity Board has proposed, ONGC is in a position to supply gas for 3 megawatt units. The price will be decided by the Government. Provisionally, it is kept at Rs. 900 to Rs. 1000 per 1000 cubic meters, but final adjustments are to be made about this.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, he did not reply to my point.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you are not to follow the footsteps of Dagaji.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The hon. Minister has not clearly understood the need to make the coal price equivalent to that of gas. Otherwise the entrepreneurs will find it very difficult to utilise the gas.

Secondly, in Kaikaluru well near Vijayawada very good oil was found and the quality of this oil is as good as the oil found in the Ankaleshwar Wells. Will the ONGC spend more money to explore the Kaikaluru area with more speed to derive oil which will to some extent ultimately reduce our importing oil from other countries?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We are considering to reduce the prices of natural gas for power plants. As regards oil, our emphasis is more and more on exploration and then exploitation. So, there is an exception. There is the possibility and we are spending money in this regard.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the funds demanded by ONGC last year for exploration and for completing the projects have not been fully utilised by it whereas on the other hand, gas worth crores of rupees had to be burnt. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to take any active step in this direction because on the one hand the funds made available to the Ministry are not being utilised fully and on the other hand, gas worth crores of rupees is burning and going waste? Is his Ministry going to take any steps and if so, the nature thereof?

MR. SPEAKER : Let them give money to us and then see how money is spent quickly.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, although this question is not related to the main question yet I would submit that gas is, no doubt, burning. One third of the gas is going waste because we do not have the bottling capacity. Phase-III is going to be completed within a period of one year and we are now moving towards Phase-IV. We are also trying that private sector may install bottling plant so that maximum gas is made available. But it is not true that the funds are not being utilised.

[English]

Collaboration Agreements for updating Technology

*314. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Will he Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of collaboration agreements with foreign firms for up-dating technology signed by India during the last three years: and

(b) the impact of these agreements on product range, quality of product and cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) 2,449 Foreign Collaboration proposals were approved during the last 3 years (1983-85).

(b) These agreements are expected to improve production speedily through greater efficiency and fuller utilisation of existing capabilities, and enhance the quality and reliability of performance and output.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question has not at all been replied to the question is totally different from the reply. He is a new Minister and therefore, I do not want to say much. The question is whether any National Technology Development Plan has been formulated to update the high technology? Secondly, whether you have requisite manpower or not to implement that Plan? My third supplementary is whether you have any data as to which industries have been permitted to enter foreign collaboration and also which type of foreign collaboration has been permitted? In addition to the above, kindly tell us whether indigenous technology was available in regard to those about which figures have been given and whether permission was given because of non-availability of indigenous technology? I

want to tell you that during the last 20 years, you have given the permissions as follows:-

[English]

"In the last twenty years the country has signed 9,966 collaboration agreements with foreign firms for technology updates but what we get is products with changed brand names and no improvement either in product range or in unit cost," says a senior Industry Ministry official.

The industry has largely failed to make best use of transferred technology "

[Translation]

I, therefore, want to know to what extent you have marched forward towards achieving self-reliance after the high technology transfer and in what sectors you have achieved indigenisation?

MR. SPEAKER : Did I not stop you?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Sir, the sources of technology are limited and the suppliers are not willing to part with their technology. Our technology is the latest and the best available on the basis of instrumental capacity where feasible. In ordinary cases, we are not allowing these foreign collaborations.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : The Finance Committee has taken a decision very recently under the chairmanship of Shri V.P. Singh. Our foreign exchange is being spent outside the country and the position of balance of payments is deteriorating. Have you ever thought as to how much foreign exchange is drained out to foreign countries and how much the position of balance of payments has deteriorated as a result of giving permission for import of technology? I want to know whether you have any data as to how much is the demand in the country and for which item, and how many licences are being issued by you? Kindly give us this information.

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Sir, without the

knowledge of the Finance Minister, we have no power to take the technology. It must go to the Cabinet Sub-Committee of Economic Affairs, where the Finance Minister is the Chairman. In that Committee only we approve all these things. Without the knowledge of the Finance Minister, we cannot approve any foreign technology.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Joint Consultancy Agreement with Non-Resident Company

*310. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Fresh conditions for technology imports" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 29 August, 1986 wherein it is stated that Government have specified fresh conditions for technology imports with a view to accelerating absorption and adaptation of the imported know-how;

(b) if so, what are these conditions; and

(c) whether these conditions are fulfilled in the case of recently reported Joint Consultancy Agreement with a non-resident company?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). In order to accelerate meaningful absorption and adaptation of imported technologies by Indian enterprises and their future improvement on a self-reliant basis, it is considered necessary to bring the Production and Research and Development Sectors in the country closer. Accordingly it has been decided that where technology payments are more than Rs. 2 crores during the period of foreign collaboration, the following conditions will apply :

(i) It will be obligatory on the part of Indian entrepreneurs desirous of having foreign collaboration to involve competent R&D personnel (from within the enterprise or from any other competent R&D Institution in the relevant area) in the process of technology acquisition right from the negotiating stage.

(ii) The Indian Party shall submit a time

ound programme for technology absorption/adaptation/improvement (TAAI) within six months of the issue of foreign collaboration approval. Any default in this regard shall carry punitive measures specified by Government from time to time.

- (iii) It will compulsory for the technology units registered with Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to set up in house R&D facilities or to enter into long terms consultancy agreement with any relevant R&D institution in the country, within a period of two years of receiving the foreign collaboration letter. Any default in this regard shall carry punitive measures specified by Government from time to time.
- (iv) The foreign collaboration agreement to be executed by the Indian party and the foreign collaborator shall not deny an indigenous R&D Institution, identified for the purpose of examining the technology absorption/adaptation/improvement (TAAI) plans, any access to the production unit of the Indian enterprise.

Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the NRI American Company and public enterprises Joint Venture proposal. No agreement has so far been reached for setting up of the Joint Venture Company.

Foregin Brand Names

*312. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government are aware of the widespread use of foreign brand names in the domestic market causing loss to domestic industries;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to prevent this;

(c) the reasons for not allowing foreign brand names for internal sales;

(d) whether Government are contemplating any legislation for curbing use of foreign brand names;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) whether the existing policy of disallowing use of foreign brand names for internal sales is in conformity with the international contention?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a). The extent to which foreign trade marks affect competitiveness in the domestic market varies from industry to industry and manufacturer to manufacturer.

(b) to (e). It is the Government's policy not to encourage the use of foreign brand names on sales in the domestic market. New foreign collaboration agreements stipulate a condition to this effect. The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act does not also allow the payment of any direct or indirect consideration for the use of foreign trade marks in the domestic market. The question of providing for Government's prior approval to the use of registered trade marks is also engaging the consideration of the Government.

(f) India is not a member of any international convention relating to trade marks.

Take over of Sick Units

*315. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided not to take over any more sick units;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether Government have made any attempt to detect the reasons for sickness in the industrial units and to take preventive measures; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). The general policy of the Govt. is not to take over sick units. The main reason underlying this approach is that the scarce resources of the country could be more productively employed in efficient and viable ventures.

(c) and (d). A variety of causes such as poor management, high cost of production, shortage of raw materials and other inputs, infrastructural constraints, poor industrial

relations, obsolescence of technology and equipment, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, and inadequate attention to R & D have contributed to industrial sickness. The Reserve Bank of India, the term lending institutions and commercial banks have established monitoring mechanisms for detection and prevention of sickness in industrial units.

The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has also been enacted which provides, *inter-alia*, for establishment of a quasi-judicial body, designated as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, with powers to take suitable measures for speedy rehabilitation of potentially viable sick industrial units.

Commissioning of Stakna Hydel Project

*316. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether commissioning of the Stakna Hydel Power Project in Jammu and Kashmir has been delayed and if so, the reasons therefore;

(b) the action proposed for fixing responsibility for delay in the construction of the project; and

(c) when the power plant is going to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The project has been delayed mainly due to reasons such as revisions in the scope of the project, difficult climatic conditions at site which restrict the working season, and problems of logistics. In view of these factors the State Government do not feel that action for fixing responsibility for the delay is necessary at this stage.

(c) The project is expected to be commissioned during the current year.

Adulteration in Diesel and Petrol

*317. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the cases of adulteration in diesel and petrol;

(b) the number of cases of adulteration detected during the year 1985 and upto October 1986 from Delhi; and

(c) the action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) There has been no increase in the proven cases of adulteration in diesel and petrol.

(b) There has been no case of proven adulteration during 1985 and 1986 (upto October) in Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

Inquiries regarding Unfair Practices by Companies

*318. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ
ALI KHAN:
SHRI VISHNU MODI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime back Government had initiated investigation against certain companies to find out whether trade practices followed by them were prejudicial to public interest or unfair

(b) if so, the companies against whom investigation was initiated by Government during the current year;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). During the period 1.1.1986 to 31.10.1986, M.R.T.P. Commission ordered investigations in 126 cases of Unfair Trade Practices.

(c) Based on investigation reports, the Commission issued Notices of Enquiry in 14 cases and passed final orders in 3 of these cases.

(d) The Commission takes appropriate action in all such cases as per provisions of MRTP Act, 1969, relating to unfair trade practices.

Export of Cars produced in India

*319 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the cars produced in India have attained the requisite standard to compete in the world market;

(b) if so, whether efforts have been made to export cars particularly those manufactured in the Public Sector; and

(c) if so, whether the foreign collaborators of Indian car manufacturers are making any efforts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). Indian car manufacturers are undergoing the process of modernisation which would, *inter-alia*, improve the exportability of Indian cars. Manufacturers like Maruti Udyog Ltd have already started exporting their vehicles in a limited way. The foreign collaborators of Maruti Udyog Ltd., are extending necessary cooperation with a view to maintain quality of the product to achieve international competitiveness.

[*Translation*]

**Sale of Wheat in Open Market
By F.C.I.**

*320 SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a). whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India had tried to sell wheat of 'A' and 'B' grades in the open market;

(b) if so, whether they succeeded in their efforts; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The Food Corporation

of India have sold 9.53 lakh tonnes of A & B categories of wheat, in the open market, from July, 1986, to 15.11.1986.

(c) : Does not arise.

[*English*]

**Advisory Panel on Technology Development in
Petrochemical Industry**

*321. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a standing advisory panel on technology development, as recommended by the National Committee on perspective planning of Petrochemical Industry, is being set up for research and development;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal;

(c) the expenditure incurred so far on research and development in petrochemicals and the results of its evaluation in terms of cost benefit; and

(d) whether use of renewable sources of energy such as alcohol from various substrates will be important part of research and development work in that industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The Committee for Perspective planning of Petrochemical Industry which submitted its Report on 3.9.1986 has recommended that a Standing Advisory Panel on Technology Development may be constituted comprising of senior representatives from Industry, R&D and Design Organisations, DGTD and other Departments concerned, for scrutinising and approving research and development programmes for the petrochemical industries. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration

The actual planned expenditure incurred by the Public Sector Unit in the Petrochemical Industry on R&D schemes was about Rs. 4.2] crores during the 6th Five Year Plan and Rs. 1.37 crores in 1985-86. The R&D programmes for petrochemicals are planned and reviewed by this Department in Review Meetings and also in the Annual Plan discussions with the Planning Commission and other concerned agencies. The Scientific & Research Advisory Committee for

the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals also examines various R&D programmes for Petrochemical Industry and advises this Department on broad areas and policies in scientific and technological research. The R&D programmes are meant mainly for upgradation and indigenous development of technologies and it is not possible to quantify the results in absolute cost-benefit terms.

Use of renewable sources of energy, viz. alcohol from various substrates will not be the part of research and development of petrochemical industry. As per the recommendation of the Committee for Perspective Planning of Petrochemical Industry recently submitted to the Govt., this does not come under the purview of the Standing Advisory Panel on Technology Development to be set up for petrochemical industry

[*Translation*]

Palana Lignite Thermal Plant

*322. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether clearance from all angles has been given for Palana Lignite Thermal Plant.

(b) when the work on this plant is likely to start;

(c) whether this plant is being set up in collaboration with some foreign company;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total estimated cost of this plant;

(f) the time by which the plant will be completed; and

(g) what will be the capacity of this plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHEELA ROHTAGI): (a). The Palana Lignite-based Thermal Power Plant has been approved for implementation.

(b) The project is in the state sector and work is expected to be taken up by the State authorities after finalisation of the agency for supply of main plant and equipment

(c) and (d). While foreign offers, broadly evincing interest in the implementation of the

project, have been received, there are, as yet, no detailed proposals covering the power plant and lignite mines.

(e) The integrated project, including the lignite mining and the power plant, is estimated to cost Rs. 297 crores.

(f) The State authorities plan to commission the project in 1991-92

(g) The plant will have a capacity of 120 MW

[*English*]

Raising of Loan by ONGC

*323. SHRI SHRIHARI RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to borrow 500 million dollars from abroad; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions on which the loans will be raised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) ONGC propose to raise a loan of US \$ 575 million as follows:

- (i) A conventional LIBOR (London Inter Bank Offered Rate) tranche of US \$ 325 million with an interest rate of 1.4% p a. over LIBOR for 1 to 3 years and 3.8% p a over LIBOR for 4 to 10 years
- (ii) A Japanese tax spared tranche of US \$ 175 million with an interest rate of LIBOR flat
- (iii) A UK / Belgian tax-spared tranche of US \$ 75 million with an interest rate of 0.01% over LIBOR.

The loan would be guaranteed by the Government and would have a maturity period of 10 years, with a grace period of 5 1/2 years.

Clearance to Manuguru Thermal Power Project, Andhra Pradesh

*324. SHRI H.A. DORA:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up Manuguru Thermal Power Project;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have given final clearance to this project and allocated required funds; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) A proposal has been received regarding the setting up of a thermal station at Manuguru in the central sector.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The project can be considered for approval after its techno-economic viability has been established and all necessary inputs, including the availability of funds, have been tied up.

[*Translation*]

Linking of Ayodhya with Akbarpur, Tanda and Jalalpur by S.T.D.

*325. **SHRI R.P. SUMAN:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to link Ayodhya and other big towns like Akbarpur, Tanda and Jalalpur through S.T.D. service; and

(b) if so, the time by which action in this regard will be initiated and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Not in the 7th Plan, Sir.

(b) Due to limitation of resources, during the 7th Plan, it is proposed to provide S.T.D. facilities only at the district headquarters not yet having S.T.D. and other stations having telephone exchanges with a capacity of 1,000 lines and above.

Provision of STD facilities to Ayodhya, Akbarpur, Tanda and Jalalpur, having small capacity exchanges of 100 lines, 150 lines, 200 lines and 100 lines respectively can be taken up after meeting the priority programme.

[*English*]

Power demand of States

3176. **SHRIMATI BIBHA GOSH GOSWAMI:**
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:
SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the power demand of the States in the twentyfirst century, State-wise;

(b) the details of the present power generation position (1986-87) in the country, State-wise and project-wise: and

(c) the details of the plan to meet the power generation demand in twenty-first century with the names of the projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) State-wise details of the power demand assessed by the 12th Power Survey for the year 1999-2000 are given in the Statement-I below.

(b) Details of power generation during the period April to October, 1986, are given in the statement-II below.

(c) The Seventh Plan envisages a capacity addition of about 22,245 MW. In addition a capacity of about 2225 MW from short-gestation projects is also likely to be commissioned during the Seventh Plan period. A capacity of about 15,900 MW would be commissioned in the Eighth Plan from the present ongoing schemes. Details of new projects which could give benefits in the Eighth and Ninth Plan periods would be available only after the respective Plans are formulated.

Statement - I*Demand assessed by the 12th Power Survey for the years 1999-2000*

State	Energy Requirement Million Units	Peak Load MW
Haryana	23199	4729
Himachal Pradesh	6700	1366
Jammu & Kashmir	11218	2328
Punjab	37319	7100
Rajasthan	37545	7143
Uttar Pradesh	77272	15209
Gujarat	56338	10049
Madhya Pradesh	45153	7930
Maharashtra	82271	14230
Andhra Pradesh	56644	9948
Karnataka	44734	7796
Kerala	21577	4140
Tamil Nadu	48998	9022
DVC	24270	3848
Bihar (excluding DVC)	16836	3203
West Bengal (excluding DVC)	25279	4681
Orissa	37385	6276
Sikkim	315	103
Assam	6586	1297
Manipur	551	137
Meghalaya	511	134
Nagaland	297	69
Tripura	657	142

Statement - II*Generation during the period April-October, 1986*

System/Board	Generation (MU)	Names of major Projects which have contributed more than 500 MU	
1. B.B.M.B.	7726	Bhakra Nangal Dehar Pong	4289 2476 961
2. Delhi	2910	NTPC Badarpur I.P. Station	1816 1078
3. J & K	655		
4. H.P.	1050	NHPC Baira Siul	608

System/ Board	Generation (MU)	Names of major Projects which have contributed more than 500 MU	
5. Haryana	807		
6. Rajasthan	1856	Kota	517
		RAPS	767
7. Punjab	3843	Bhatinda	1064
		Ropar	1606
8. Uttar Pradesh	12223	Obra 1-13	2925
		Panki	712
		Harduaganj	846
		Rihand	764
		Yamuna Stg.	1163
		Chila	548
		Singrauli (NTPC)	3831
9. Gujarat	7984	Dhuvaran	1746
		Ukai	2182
		Gandhi Nagar	533
		Wanakbori	1901
		Ahmedabad Elec. Co.	500
		Sabarmati	632
10. Maharashtra	18054	Nasik	3036
		Koradi	2489
		Bhusawal	1084
		Parli 1-4	974
		Chandrapur	1705
		Uran G.T.	1420
		Koyna	1894
		Trombay	2829
		Tarapur	1243
		Tata	746
11. Madhya Pradesh	9263	Satpura	2884
		Korba - 2	575
		Amarkantak	909
		Korba West	1286
		Korba NTPC	2667
12. Andhra Pradesh	10325	Kothagudem	1786
		Vijaywada	1867
		NJunasagar	1242
		Srisailem x	1772
		Nagarjunasagar RBC	
		Ramagundam NTPC	2262
13. Karnataka	4227	Sharavathi	2377
		Kalinadi	999
14. Kerala	2586	Idukki	1327
15. Tamil Nadu	9097	Ennore	1281
		Tuticorin	2319
		Kunda 1-5	751
		Neyveli	2737
		Kalpakkam	792
16. Bihar	2103	Patratu	1413

System/ Board	Generation (MU)	Names of major Projects which have contributed more than 500 MU	
17. Orissa	2229	Talcher	713
		Hirakud I	746
18. West Bengal	5343	Bandel	1578
		Santalidih	732
		Kolaghat	615
D.P.L.	510		
		CESC	1555
19. D.V.C.	3341	Chandrapur	1533
		Durgapur	999
		Bokaro	521
20. Sikkim	20		—
21. Assam	546		—
22. Meghalaya	271		—
23. Tripura	40		—
24. Manipur	220		—
Total : (All India) 106, 719			

**Production of Vitamin 'A' from
imported drug intermediate**

3177. PROF MADHU DANDEVATE:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to
state :

(a) whether production of Vitamin 'A' by a
multinational pharmaceutical company from
imported drug intermediate was prohibited;

(b) if so, the action taken against the defaulter
for importing intermediate drug;

(c) whether M/s. Kerala State Drugs and
Pharmaceuticals were permitted to produce
Vitamin 'A' from the same imported drug
intermediate :

(d) if so, whether both companies got the
drug intermediate at the same rate; and

(e) if not the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND
PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA
SINGH): (a) and (b). No multi-national
pharmaceutical company has been granted
industrial approval for the manufacture of

Vitamin 'A' from intermediates. However, when
one case of import of Acitrine by M/s. Roche
came to the notice of this Ministry, Collector of
Customs, Bombay was advised to verify the
licence conditions before releasing the
consignment. Later, it was reported that this
consignment was released after levying penalty
on the party.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Acquisition of land for new coal mine projects

3178. SHRI SAJFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to
state:

(a) the particulars of the villages and towns,
where Government/Coal India Limited
authority contemplate to acquire land for the
purpose of new projects;

(b) the number of people likely to be affected
due to the proposed opening of new coal mine
projects;

(c) the policy Government propose to

formulate for the rehabilitation of persons likely to be displaced due to opening of new projects;

(d) whether that policy contemplates to cover the payment of adequate compensation for properties lost and to provide employment for their survival; and

(e) whether that policy would also cover opening of new avenues of employment by way of setting up coal based ancillary, chemical and other allied industries for which all infrastructure facilities are available there?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a). Firm requirement of land for coal projects can be known only when they have been finally approved by the Government. At this stage it will not be possible to indicate all villages/towns to be ultimately acquired for new coal projects. However, in the statement given below information in respect of

such coal projects where notification has already issued under Section 7 of the Coal Bearing areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957, indicating the intention of the Government to acquire land in due course.

(b) Number of persons affected on account of land acquisition is known only at the time of actual acquisition.

(c) to (e). Govt have already issued comprehensive guidelines for rehabilitation of persons affected by land acquisition for major projects. Provision of alternative house sites with necessary civic facilities for equipping land oustees for employment in the project concerned, preference in employment, financial assistance for taking up alternative useful avocations like poultry farming, animal husbandry, etc. are the chief benefits that are being allowed under the said guidelines to the persons whose lands are acquired.

Statement

Pending proposals for acquisition of land under the Coal bearing Areas [Acquisition and Development] Act, 1957

S. No.	Project	Villages Involved	Area Involved
1.	Pathakhara, West Bengal	Sobhapur, Chhaitarpur, Bagdona (Betul Dist.)	466.16 acres (Mining rights)
2.	Bijuri Extension Block	Lohsara (Shahdol Dist.)	201.85 acres (All rights) 1022.09 acres mining rights)
3.	Indkata-Salanpur	Indkata, Salanpur, Nakrajoria (Dist. Burdwan)	394.00 acres (Mining rights)
4.	North West Orient No. 4	Zunanimunda, Amadarha, Baghrachaka, Zamindari forest (Dist. Sambalpur)	982.82 acres (Mining rights)
5.	IB Block VI (II)	Kudaloi, Lakanpur, Soldia, Kusraloi, Khaalipali, Karl Jori, Khuntamahul, Udda, Tingismal, Khairakuni Reserved forest (Dist. Sambalpur)	7773.75 acres (all rights)
6.	Rajmahal (1 to 9 block)	Telgama, Chitarkethi, Ghatnima, Nimakala, Suarmari, Hijukitta, Raranimra, Chhotasimra, Totaria, Akasni, Kendua, Kusmaha, Chatsimara Chhit, Kendua Titta, mahagama, Latariya (Dist. Godda)	604.04 acres (all rights)
7.	Giddi A Block	Baligari, Misrain Morha, Kurkutta, Giddi, Dari, Garsula (Dist. Hazaribagh)	1646.15 acres (approx) (all rights)
8.	Singra Block 'C'	Manidih, Garbuidih, Saraidah, Lakarkhawari, Karitanr, Tetangabad, Majailadih, Bardubhai, Baluadih, Dubrajpur (Dist. Dhanbad)	1321.28 acres (Mining rights)
9.	Sirka Block Extn. V.	Sirka (Dist. Hazaribagh)	122.00 acres (all rights)

**Defects in Electric Pump Sets and
Layout of Pumping System**

3179. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the measures undertaken to achieve the conservation of electricity have not so far been significant;

(b) if so, the steps taken to rectify the defects in the electric pump sets and layout of the pumping systems;

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any special programmes in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Conservation of electricity is being accorded high priority by the Government. A number of measures have been initiated to achieve this. This is a gradual process and the impact of the measures being taken will be noticed over time.

(b) The following steps have been taken to rectify the defects in the electric pumpsets and layout of the pumping systems:

- (i) A pilot programme for rectification of 24,000 existing pumpsets had been taken up through Rural Electrification Corporation and about 20,000 pumpsets in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu have already been rectified under this programme;
- (ii) Comprehensive ISI standards for efficient pumping system have been published recently and emphasis is being laid on adherence to these standards;
- (iii) Some State Electricity Boards have incorporated stipulations in their power supply conditions to ensure installation of efficient pumping systems and the other State Electricity Boards have been requested by the Government to consider imposing similar conditions for release of new connections to pumpsets.

(c) and (d). Government proposes to take up a one time demonstration project to rectify more inefficient pumpsets subject to funds becoming available in the Seventh Plan.

I.S.D. Facility in Bhubaneswar

3180. SHRI PIYUSH TIRAKY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether I.S.D. has been introduced at Bhubaneswar since 15 October, 1986.

(b) the name of foreign cities with which linked; and

(c) whether out of Rs. 80 crores allocated to Orissa, 20 crores will be earmarked for tribal areas and if so, the names of such areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ISD is available to 15 countries listed below: 1. U.K., 2. Austria, 3. Hong Kong, 4. Singapore, 5. Japan, 6. France, 7. Italy, 8. Australia, 9. Malaysia, 10. Belgium, 11. Netherlands, 12. Turkey, 13. West Germany, 14. U.S.A. and 15. USSR.

(c) Yes Sir. Out of 80 crores allocated to Orissa Rs. 20 crores will be earmarked for Tribal areas. Out of 13 Districts 3 Districts namely Koraput, Mayurbhanj and Sundergarh are entirely Tribal areas. Also parts of 5 other Districts namely Phulbani, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Sambalpur and Keonjhar Districts also have Tribals.

**Indian delegation to Foreign countries for
selection of Satellite Communication and
Microwave Communication Technology**

3181. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Indian delegation toured Europe, UK and United States to select satellite communication and microwave communication technology;

(b) if so, whether it has submitted its report to Government; and

(c) the details regarding their suggestions and recommendations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). A high level delegation toured U.K. and U.S.A. to select technology for a satellite network for the National Informatics Centre only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The delegation selected a technology for the network of the National Informatics Centre which would include production indigenously through transfer of technology.

N.R.I. Investment of Industrial Sector

3182. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications received from Non-Resident Indians (NRI) for setting up industries in various States during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86. State-wise;

(b) the number of applications approved and the expected investment of NRI's;

(c) the number of rejected applications, if any; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a). The information regarding total number of applications, received from NRIs seeking industrial licence under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up industries in various states, during 1984, 1985 and 1986 (upto 30.9.1986), is furnished in the statement given below.

(b) A total number of 152 letters of intent/permission/SIA registrations have been issued to NRIs during 1984, 1985 and 1986 (upto 30.9.1986), for setting up industries in different States.

The total investment by NRIs in the schemes covered by these 152 approvals, as also other approvals given to them for import of capital goods, foreign collaboration approvals, during this period is expected to be Rs. 196.81 crores.

(c) and (d). Out of the applications, mentioned in the statement under part (a) above, 190 proposals have been either rejected or otherwise disposed of, as on 30.9.1986. The proposals have been generally rejected on the grounds of adequate capacity having been already approved, non-availability of raw materials, proposals being not properly formulated, lack of firm tie-up with a foreign collaborator etc.

Statement

Total number of applications, received from NRIs seeking industrial licence under the Industries [Development and Regulation], Act, 1951 for setting up industries in different States.

State	1984	1985	1986 (upto 30.9.86)
Andhra Pradesh	20	41	12
Assam	—	1	—
Bihar	1	2	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	4	1
Delhi	4	5	—
Gujarat	15	12	3
Haryana	11	4	2
Himachal Pradesh	2	2	4
Jammu & Kashmir	1	—	—
Karnataka	8	10	2
Kerala	2	1	—
Maharashtra	13	19	9

State	1984	1985	1986 (upto 30.9.86)
Madhya Pradesh	5	5	6
Orissa	1	—	1
Pondicherry	—	—	1
Punjab	1	9	4
Rajasthan	2	3	5
Tamil Nadu	4	9	3
Uttar Pradesh	16	22	27
West Bengal	1	1	—
More than One States	3	6	4
	111	156	84

Strike notice by DESU Unions

3183. SRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether various unions of Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking (DESU) have threatened direct action if their demands are not met;

(b) whether the strike notice has also been served;

(c) if so, what are their charter of demands and strike notice; and

(d) the action taken by Government to avoid the strike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). According to DESU, the Union/Associations had threatened direct action if their demands relating to payment of House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance as per the Central Govt. pattern consequent upon the decision of the Government on the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission, removal of alleged anomaly in payment of DA and ADA and formulation of fresh pay scales for DESU employees were not met.

(d) The Delhi Electric Supply Committee has already approved the revised rates of City Compensatory Allowance and House Rent Allowance as per the recommendations of the Fourth Pay commission. A committee would examine the issue of payment of DA etc. in terms of the pay revision order of 1982 and make appropriate recommendations, examine and recommend appropriate pay scales for DESU employees and make recommendations relating to the date of application of revised pay scales, staffing etc.

In view of this, the Joint Action Committee of DESU Employees has called off the agitation.

Parallel Telecommunication Network

3184. SHRI AMITABH BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a parallel telecommunications network to supplement the existing network;

(b) if so, which cities are proposed to be covered by this second network;

(c) whether this second network will provide any relief to the primary communication channels like the existing telegraph and telephone systems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d). An interdepartmental Working Group was set up to examine the feasibility of providing very reliable telecommunication network for the business and industrial users. The committee has submitted its report in October, 86. Detailed planning has to be taken up, after decision on feasibility report.

Import of machinery and equipments by Public and Private Industrial Organisations

3185. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Industrial Organisations, both in the public and private, given approval for entering collaboration agreement with various foreign firms including multi-nationals for coal mining machinery and equipments;

(b) whether those companies are resorting to large-scale import of sophisticated machinery and equipments in finished condition taking advantage of the collaboration agreement;

(c) whether utilisation of those machinery and equipments are tapering off the employment avenues and ultimate likelihood of declaring surplus of coal mine workers in general and female workers in particular;

(d) whether this action of import is also leading to non-utilisation of capacity of indigenous mining equipment manufacturers and influx of foreign capital into Indian economy;

(e) whether the sophisticated imported machinery are being utilised in their optimum level; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof and blockade of investment against the machinery remaining idle/un-utilised and partially utilised?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a). Ten industrial organisations in the country, both in public and private, have collaboration with foreign firms for manufacture of coal mining machinery and equipment in India.

(b) No, Sir. These organisations are allowed import of components, raw material and other capital goods as per the approved phased

manufacturing programme and in accordance with import policy in force from time to time.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Supply of coal to Raichur Thermal Power Station

3186. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested to increase the supply of coal to Raichur Thermal Power Station;

(b) if so, the steps taken to supply coal to Raichur Thermal Power Station as per its daily requirement; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Raichur Thermal Power Station is linked with SCCL. There have been less supplies of coal to Raichur as compared to the linkage due to fall in production in SCCL. *Ad-hoc* assistance by way of coal supplies from alternative CIL sources like WCL is being arranged.

Solar Power Plant at Village Salojipalli in Andhra Pradesh

3187. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the details of the solar power plant commissioned at village Salojipalli in Andhra Pradesh and the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The Solar Thermal power plant commissioned at Village Salojipalli in Andhra Pradesh for experimental purposes consists of six numbers of Solar heliostatic concentrators of 9 m diameter each with 50 m² effective reflecting surface. Steam is generated at 500°C and 70 bar pressure through a focally mounted single pass cavity type receiver and is fed into a centrally located reciprocating steam engine which in turn drives an alternator. The

load management and all other controls including double axis tracking is monitored and regulated by computer system. The power plant has been designed to deliver 22 KWe maximum at 800 W/m² insolation and starts working at 550 W/m² insolation with part load output. As this is an experimental power plant, the approximate capital cost is around Rs. 2 lakhs per kilowatt of a capacity. However, the capital cost of such plants will fall with development and will depend on volume of production. The recurring expenditure will be minimal as there is no recurring fuel cost. The cost aspects will be assessed after gaining adequate experience in this experimental power plant.

Refineries in Public Sector

3188. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the refineries established in the country are in public sector;

(b) whether there is any foreign collaboration in any factory;

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) whether any private sector industry has shown interest in joining the public sector in regard to establishing refinery in the country; and

(e) the names of those units which have shown their interest and the decision taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (e), All the oil refineries in India are in the Public Sector. However, in the Cochin Refineries and Madras Refineries there are other share holders also, with Government of India holding the majority of shares. Phillips Petroleum of USA holds 26.43% shares in the Cochin Refinery and the National Iranian Oil Company of Iran holds 1.7% shares in the Madras refinery.

The following private companies have shown interest in participating along with Public Sector Companies in setting up joint venture refineries at Karnal and Mangalore:

1. B.D. Steels Castings Ltd.

2. Shell International
3. The Century Spinning & Mfg. Co. Ltd.
4. M/s. Zurai Agro Chemicals Ltd.
5. National Engineering Company, Jaipur
6. M/s. Straw Products Ltd., New Delhi
7. M/s. Punj & Sons Ltd., New Delhi
8. The Gwalior Rayon Silk Mfg. (Wvg.) Co. Ltd.
9. Mr. Srichand P. Hinduja, UK
10. Golden Tobacco Company
11. M/s. Bajoria Agency Pvt. Ltd
12. Gulf Consolidated Company
13. Essar Investments Ltd.
14. Larsen & Tubro
15. Reliance Industries Ltd.
16. Indian Rayon Corporation
17. United Breweries Group
18. Krishna Steel Industries
19. Dr. B.K. Sinha (France)

No decision is yet taken in this regard.

Shifting of patent office from Calcutta

3189. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the headquarter of the Patent Office is being shifted from Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM)

(a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Installation on 25 lines SAX's, PCOs etc. in Himachal Pradesh.

3190. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any target for the installation of 25 line SAX's, PCOs (long distance and local), combine office (Morse code telegraph), edoptors and junctions (telephone links) in Himachal Pradesh in the Financial year 1986-87;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the

number in each category installed in the first six months of the year:

(c) whether any shortage of staff including the recruitment of regular mazdoors is hampering the installation work; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to expedite the

installation works and achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Targets have been fixed for the installations of PCOs, only 25 line SAXs are opened subject to fulfilment of conditions stipulated under liberalised policy for opening SAXs.

(b)	Total to be opened during the year	Opened during the first six months	
	i) 25 line SAXs 15	5 at	
		1. Sundla	
		2. Padhara	
		3. Oddi	
		4. Pharal	
		5. Uarol	
	ii) PCOs 25	4 at	
	(18 LDPTs 7 local)	1. Kihar	} LDPTs
		2. Thurnewar	
		3. Mangla	} Local
		4. Kotmoror	

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c)

Guidelines to improve quality of cement

3191. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that comprehensive guidelines for improving the quality of cement produced in the country have been drawn up by the National Council for Cement and Building Materials; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Council for Cement and Building Materials (an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of the Ministry of Industry) has circulated to cement units in the country in October 1986 "Guidelines for Quality Improvement in Cement Manufacture". These guidelines are intended to

ensure that the quality of cement manufactured in the country is maintained as per relevant Indian Standard Specifications and to ensure low variability and greater uniformity of the product.

Unauthorised LPG connections

3192. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present more than twenty-five percent LPG connections in use in the country are unauthorised:

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and how these are procured;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made as to how the refills are obtained for such connections; and

(d) whether Government will consider to regularise these connections so that black marketing of refills may be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). While the possibility of

unscrupulous elements colluding to get and operate unauthorised LPG connections cannot be ruled out, it is not fact that more than twenty five percent connections fall in this category.

(c) While no enquiry specifically directed at this aspect of unauthorised connections has been made, whenever the oil companies come across such connections during the course of their inspections/operations, appropriate action is taken.

(d) There is no such proposal.

Coal Production

3193. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the

	1980-81	81-82	82-83	83-84	84-85	85-86
Target	113.50	121.00	133.00	142.00	152.00	154.50
Actual Production	113.90	124.23	130.50	138.22	147.41	154.24

(b) Factors responsible for non-realisation of the coal production target are as follows:-

1. Shortfall in production in SCCL during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 due to constant industrial relations problem.

2. Shortfall in production in the year 1983-84 and 1984-85 in CIL because of poor performance of ECL and BCCL due to problems of power supply, delay in opening of new mines, difficult working and geo-mining conditions etc.

(c) The target of coal production (All India) set for the terminal year of the 7th Plan i.e. 1989-90 is 226 million tonnes

Quality Control measures by Car Companies

3194. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quality control measures are being enforced by the car manufacturing units in the country; and

(b) if so, details therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL

Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the target and actual production of coal, year-wise from 1980-81 to 1985-86;

(b) the factors responsible for slow progress in this sector; and

(c) the target set for the Seventh Five Year Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE):(a) Target and actual production of coal during the year 1980-81 to 1985-86 are as under:-

(In million tonnes)

DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The manufacturers of passenger cars are adopting quality control measures through indigenous R & D as well as import of know-how. Consumer awareness and competitive market forces have also led the manufacturers to pay greater attention to quality. The importance of this aspect has also been emphasised in the deliberations of the Development Council for Automobiles & Allied Industries. As a result of modernisation, leading manufacturers have introduced models of cars which are more efficient.

Contract with Sultanate of Oman for providing Phone connections

3195. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of work completed and foreign exchange earned as on 30th September, 1986 by Telecommunications Consultants India Limited under the contract entered by it with the Sultanate of Oman for providing phone connections there; and

(b) the details of the contract with regard to the number of phone connections to be

provided, the time limit for completion and total value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Telecommunications Consultants India Limited had completed about 30% of survey and design work by 30th September, 1986. The value of the work completed till 30.9.86 was approximately Riyal Omani 11445 (equivalent of Rs. 3,55,939) under the contract.

(b) The contract involves supply and laying of 2000 K.M. of underground cable which will provide about 25,000 phone connections in 36 towns. The contract is required to be completed within 13 months from 8.5.1986. There is maintenance period of 12 months also. Total value of the contract is approximately Rs. 7 crores.

Raising of DMT price by IPCL

3196. SHRI NIHAL SINGH JAIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DMT price was raised by Indian Petrochemicals Limited from Rs. 17,500/-per tonne to Rs. 19,000/-in March 1985 and again to Rs. 21,500/-in October, 1985;

(b) if so, the details of the increase in cost of production that made India Petrochemicals Limited to raise the DMT price; and

(c) the findings of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a). Yes, Sir. However, Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited then offered a discount of Rs. 500/-per tonne making the ex-factory price of DMT Rs. 21,000/-per tonne.

(b) The main reasons for increase in the cost of production of DMT by IPCL include significant rise in prices of major raw-materials, increase in power tariff and on account of maintenance and modernisation of the Plant.

(c) According to the cost study of DMT made by Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, the weighted average fair selling price of DMT works out to Rs. 21,000/-per tonne.

Participation of N.R.I. in Oil exploration

3197. SHRI S. PALAKONDRAYUDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether he met 500 Indian Engineers working in the oil sector at Houston (America) in 1986 and invited them to participate in offshore oil exploration in India; and

(b) if so, the details of the meeting and the number of NRI engineers who accepted the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Levy on surplus power produced by Captive Power Plants in private sector

3198. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to levy a cess on surplus power produced by the captive power plants in the private sector;

(b) the price to be paid and the reaction thereto by the private sector; and

(c) the broad outlines of the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure increase in power production during the Plan Period and by the end of twentieth century?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal presently under consideration of the Central Government.

(c) The steps being taken to augment the availability of power include installation of additional generating capacity, better utilisation of the existing capacity, implementation of the Renovation and Modernisation programme for thermal stations, execution of short-gestation projects, reduction in transmission and distribution losses and implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures.

**Generation of additional power capacity
in Eastern Region**

3199. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MAETIK:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to
state:

(a) State-wise target of generation of
additional power capacity in the Seventh Five
Year Plan;

(b) State-wise outlay for power in the Seventh
Five Year Plan; and

(c) the steps, if any being taken to strengthen
power generation and supply position in the
Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI: (a) and (b). Targets of
additional generating capacity and outlays for
power in the Seventh Plan are given State-wise
in the statement below.

(c) The measures taken to improve the power
supply position in the Eastern Region include
installation of additional generating capacity,
better utilisation of existing capacity,
implementation of the renovation and
modernisation programme for thermal stations,
reduction in transmission and distribution
losses, and demand management and energy
conservation measures.

Statement

State	Target of capacity addition in 7th Plan (MW)	Outlay for power in 7th Plan (Rs. Crores)
Andhra Pradesh	838.50	1104.90
Assam	285.00	485.00
Bihar	478.90	1065.00
Gujarat	1085.00	1437.00
Haryana	488.00	1010.25
Himachal Pradesh	143.50	260.11
Jammu & Kashmir	76.00	278.22
Karnataka	593.25	800.00
Kerala	530.00	396.80
Madhya Pradesh	947.00	2646.00
Maharashtra	1739.50	3048.87
Manipur	6.90	35.97
Meghalaya	—	70.00
Nagaland	1.00	33.50
Orissa	483.50	780.00
Punjab	767.40	1638.00
Rajasthan	385.10	874.20
Sikkim	3.50	33.94
Tamil Nadu	1416.00	2000.00
Tripura	21.00	46.00
Uttar Pradesh	1794.00	3395.00
West Bengal	814.70	1248.00

Amendment to Companies Act, 1956

3200. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend

the Companies Act 1956 and the rules made
thereunder, making it compulsory for the
companies to show in their balance sheets the
amount of foreign exchange spent on imports
and earned on exports;

(b) whether Government are also considering

the need in public interest of making it mandatory on all these companies to show separately the amount spent on foreign jaunts, in the name of 'import' and 'export' promotion, for themselves and their families; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) to (c) While provisions already exist in Schedule IV Part II to the Companies Act, 1956, for disclosure of information in annual accounts relating to the foreign exchange earnings in exports and also value of imports etc., a proposal to amend Section 217 of the Companies Act is under consideration. There is no proposal for making it mandatory on the companies to show separately the amount spent on foreign visits.

[*Translation*]

Upgradation of branch Post Offices in Ghazipur district of U.P.

3201. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of branch post offices in villages of Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh having population of Ten thousand and above;

(b) whether it is proposed to upgrade the branch post offices as sub post offices;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which they are to be upgraded; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There are two villages in Ghazipur district, namely Mehmoodabad and Saidpur, which have population exceeding 10,000. Both these villages are provided with departmental sub post offices. There is, therefore, no proposal for upgradation to be considered in respect of these villages.

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

Communication facilities in Chanderpur and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra

3202. SHRI VILAS MUITEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate communication facilities have not been made available so far in the backward Chandrapur and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra;

(b) the action being taken by the Ministry for the development of communication system in these areas;

(c) whether State Government has submitted any proposal in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

POSTAL

Post Offices: (a) No Sir, Bhandara district is not classified as backward for purposes of postal development. However, in this district as well in the district of Chandrapur which has been classified as backward an adequate number of post offices have been provided.

(b) *Post Offices:* At present, on account of the ban on creation of Posts there is no programme of opening of new Post Offices. The position can be reviewed once the ban is lifted.

(c) *Post Offices:* No, Sir.

(d) *Post Offices:* Does not arise.

TELECOM

PCO/TELEGRAPH OFFICES: (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Closure of Underground Mines of E.C.L. and B.C.C.L.

3203. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether authorities of ECL and BCCL are

making attempts to close down some of the underground mines pursuant to the report submitted by Charry Committee and Sreemani sub-committee etc.;

(b) whether proper survey and assessment be made about the still remaining reserves of coal in the respective underground mines before closing them;

(c) whether those collieries are still bearing potentialities of the mines, if properly developed; and

(d) whether Government are giving second thought over the total issue of closing down some of the underground mines to give due consideration to the sentiments of responsible quarters who still feel the mines are viable?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d). The Charry Committee appointed for making an indepth study of the working of the ECL had suggested closure of 22 mines that were sustaining heavy losses. Out of these 22 mines recommended for closure, the feasibility for reconstruction and development of 10 mines has already been taken up by Coal India Ltd. With regard to the other 12 mines, schemes for rationalisation and redeployment of manpower are being formulated.

The Bannerjee Committee which was appointed to examine the working of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., has already submitted its report and the report is under examination.

Subsidence due to Gas and Fire

3204. SHRI R.P. DAS :
SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain areas under Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. have been declared unsafe due to subsidence gas and fire;

(b) whether Government are aware that the authorities of ECL and BCCL are constructing buildings for residential and office purpose though the general people of the area have been asked to evacuate:

(c) if so, the number of residential quarters and offices constructed in such areas;

(d) the reasons for constructing such buildings in those areas; and

(e) whether this expenditure will amount to ultimate wastage and endanger the safety and security of the people?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (e). Due to unscientific exploitation of coal reserves during pre-nationalisation days certain settlements in Raniganj coalfield area are experiencing instances of land subsidence. The Director General Mines Safety has declared 40 places as unsafe for habitation in the district of Burdwan, West Bengal. The West Bengal Govt. has, through legislation, prohibited construction activities in 25 places out of the 40 identified by DGMS. Certain areas in ECL also have gas and fire hazards. These three problems namely; land subsidence, gas and fire are also encountered in some areas under BCCL.

As per information available, ECL has not constructed any residential or office buildings in areas declared unsafe for such purposes. Information regarding BCCL is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Functions of office of Development Commissioner (Drugs)

3205. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the functions and objectives of the office of Development Commissioner (Drugs); and

(b) the details of development projects undertaken by this office at present and the time by which they will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a). The Office of the Development Commissioner was created as per the Drug Policy of 1978 and the policy statement defined the functions and objectives of the office which included:

- (i) To operate the scheme of pricing under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (Essential Commodities Act);
- (ii) To recommend a policy for release of raw materials (indigenaus, imported and canalised) and to supervise their

distribution so as to ensure that the raw materials allocated to the drug manufacturing units are utilised effectively;

- (iii) To review the list of canalised items and also the position of various bulk drugs and intermediates in the Import and Export Policy and to suggest changes from time to time;

(b) Setting up of projects does not fall within the purview of functions of the Office of Development Commissioner (Drugs).

Delivery of Telegrams

3206. SHRI SAYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telegrams handled by the Department of Telecommunications during 1985-86 and their break-up by originating State;

(b) the number of telegrams included in the (a) above despatched by post; and

(c) the break-up of the telegrams handled and the telegrams despatched by post by language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be placed on the table of the House in due course.

Opening of Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh

3207. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices opened in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has approached the Union Government for opening more post offices in that State particularly in rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the number of post offices going to be opened in that State during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) 758 post offices were opened in Madhya Pradesh during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

(b) Yes Sir. The Postmaster General Madhya Pradesh has received requests from State Government authorities for opening of more post offices, particularly in rural areas.

(c) On account of the continuing ban on creation of posts, at present no programme of opening of new post offices is being implemented in Madhya Pradesh or in other State/Union Territories. However, if the State Government indicates a limited number of proposals which according to them are of a priority nature, the same can be considered in the light of the norms and the Ministry of Finance approached for relaxation of ban in respect of such cases.

Monopoly of Multinational Corporations on essential drugs

3208. DR. V. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the multinational corporations have monopoly on certain essential drugs; and

(b) if so, the names of those multinational corporations and the names of the essential drugs manufactured by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). From the information available for the year 1985-86, the following FERA companies have 75% or more share in the total production of drugs noted against each.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. M/s. Boots | — Ibuprofen, Insulin |
| 2. M/s. E. Merck | — Vitamin E |
| 3. M/s. Wyeth Labs. | — Prednisolone |
| 4. M/s. Sandoz | — Intestopan substance |

Conversion of Telephone Exchange into Electronic Exchanges

3209. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain telephone exchanges in Delhi have been replaced by electronic ones;

(b) if so, the names of exchanges where such replacement has been done with capacity of lines before and after such replacement;

(c) whether Government have been proposing to replace the remaining exchanges of the city into electronic ones;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have converted

certain exchanges into electronic exchanges in some capital cities of some States and Union territories; and

(f) if so, the names of exchanges and States/Union territories and whether the Government have any proposal to effect such conversion in the States/Union territories situated on international borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) S. No.	Exchange replaced		New electronic exchange	
	Name	Capacity	Name	Capacity
1.	Nehru Place (68)	2400	Nehru Place (643)	10000
2.	Karol Bagh (56)	5000	Karol Bagh (572)	10000
3.	Tis Hazari (22)	10000	Tis Hazari (291)	10000
4.	Connaught Place	4200	Kidwai Bhavan (331)	10000
5.	Secretariat (37)	6000	Sena Bhavan (301)	10000

(c) Yes, Sir. After their normal life time of 25 years.

(d) Sl. No	Exchange to be replaced		New electronic exchange	
	Name	Capacity	Name	Capacity
1.	Karol Bagh (56)	5000	Karol Bagh	10000
2.	Shahdara (21)	2100		
3.	Lakshmi Nagar (24)	1200	Lakshmi Nagar	15000
4.	Shakti Nagar (74)	5000	Shakti Nagar	15000
5.	Jor Bagh (61, 69)	12600	Lodhi Road	15000
6.	Delhi Gate (27)	9000	Minto Road	15000

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) S. No.	Exchange replaced		New electronic exchange	
	Name	Capacity	Name	Capacity
1.	Imphal (CBM)	1800	Imphal (PRX)	2000
2.	Gandhinagar (MAX-II)	2300	Gandhinagar (PRX)	3000
3.	Calcutta (34.22)	20000	Calcutta (39,20)	20000
4.	Saifabad Hyderabad	2500	Saifabad (23)	10000

There is no proposal as at present to effect such conversions in the States/Union Territories situated on international borders.

Sanction of Gas Agencies

3210. DR. A. KALANIDHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise break-up of gas agencies sanctioned by Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited separately to the freedom fighters, war widows and physically handicapped during the last three years;

(b) the State-wise, break-up of the gas agencies sanctioned by I.O.C., H.P.C.L. and B.P.C.L. separately to the representatives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the last three years; and

(c) whether any special quota of gas agencies by these companies has been reserved for the wards of M.P.s and M.L.A.s?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the statement given below.

(c) No, Sir.

Statement

State-wise break-up of LPG distributor-ships for which Letters of Intent have been issued by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., under the categories of Freedom Fighters [FF], Physically Handicapped [PH], Scheduled Caste [SC] & Scheduled Tribes [ST]. There is no separate reservation for War Widows and therefore no statistics on them are maintained by the Oil Companies.

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Name of the State	1983-84				1984-85				1985-86			
	FF	PH	SC	ST	FF	PH	SC	ST	FF	PH	SC	ST
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	2	5	-	1	4	5	2	1	4	5	-
2. Assam	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	2	-	-
3. Bihar	1	2	2	-	1	1	3	2	-	1	1	1
4. Gujarat	-	-	-	1	1	5	1	6	-	5	1	2
5. Haryana	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-
6. Himachal Pradesh	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
7. Jammu & Kashmir	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
8. Karnataka	-	1	2	1	1	2	2	-	1	1	-	-
9. Kerala	-	2	-	-	-	2	3	-	2	4	10	-
10. Madhya Pradesh	-	2	-	1	-	3	3	2	-	2	-	1
11. Maharashtra	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	3
12. Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
13. Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Orissa	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
15. Punjab	-	1	4	-	-	2	-	-	1	4	4	-
16. Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
17. Tamil Nadu	-	3	5	-	4	2	-	7	-	4	1	-
18. Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
19. Uttar Pradesh	-	2	2	-	2	6	4	-	2	5	10	-
20. West Bengal	1	4	4	1	3	1	1	3	-	2	4	-

Name of the State	1983-84					1984-85					1985-86				
	FF	PH	SC	ST	ST	FF	PH	SC	ST	ST	FF	PH	SC	ST	
UNION TERRITORIES:															
1. Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2. Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Delhi	-	1	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	5	5	-	-
4. Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Lakshdweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited</i>															
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	2	3	1	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
2. Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
3. Gujarat	1	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-
4. Haryana	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
5. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
6. Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
7. Karnataka	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	3	-	-
8. Kerala	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	1	1	2	-	-
9. Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
10. Maharashtra	-	-	1	1	2	2	7	2	5	2	4	4	4	5	-
11. Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
12. Punjab	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-
13. Rajasthan	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-
14. Tamil Nadu	-	3	7	6	-	-	3	4	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
15. Uttar Pradesh	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	5	-	1	1	4	1	-	-
16. West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
17. Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
18. Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
19. Gos. Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
20. Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

1. Andhra Pradesh	1	4	1	2	-	3	-	-	1	-	2	1
2. Bihar	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
3. Gujarat	-	-	-	1	-	3	3	2	2	-	-	2
4. Haryana	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	-
5. Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
6. Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
7. Karnataka	-	3	3	-	1	4	4	-	-	2	5	-
8. Kerala	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
9. Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	2	1	3
10. Maharashtra	-	-	2	-	-	3	3	1	1	1	1	2
11. Orissa	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
12. Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
13. Rajasthan	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	1
14. Tamil Nadu	2	-	2	1	1	2	-	1	-	2	4	-
15. Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	2	1	-
16. West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	1
17. Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-
18. Goa, Daman & Diu	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-

**Missing of Imported Dewatering Pumps
from Coalfields and Mines**

3211. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of imported dewatering pumps and other sophisticated imported equipment have been missing and a few of them have been misplaced and dislocated from the various coalfields and mines:

(b) whether several groups of employees have been found to be responsible and involved in causing such huge loss to Coal India Limited:

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the details of imports of dewatering pumps made by CIL and its subsidiaries during the last seven years and verified records thereof as on date?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) 6 dewatering pumps were imported by CIL and its subsidiaries during the last 7 years and the same have duly been taken into store accounts.

**Performance of Infrastructure Sector
of Public Undertakings**

3212. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that performance of the infrastructure sector of the Public undertakings during the period from April to September, 1986 has been far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, the extent of shortfall in each case;

(c) whether Government have gone into the main causes for poor performance; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken to achieve the targets and utilisation of the installed capacity of the aforementioned undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) Based on the provisional data received from 38 of the 41 Public Sector Enterprises in the infrastructure sector comprising of steel, coal, power, minerals and metals and petroleum sectors, the financial performance for the period April-September, 1986 and the corresponding period in 1985-86 is given below:-

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the sector	Net profit (+) /loss (-)			
	April - Sept. 1986		April - Sept. 1985	
Steel	(-)	179.75	(-)	53.95
Minerals & Metals	(-)	71.99	(-)	62.60
Coal	(-)	225.02	(-)	231.55
Power	(+)	88.43	(+)	50.49
Petroleum	(+)	799.00	(+)	532.64
Total:	(+)	410.67	(+)	235.03

(c) and (d). The administrative Ministries /Departments review the performance of the enterprises under their administrative control periodically and take appropriate measures to improve performance so that the targets set could be achieved. The measures taken from improving the performance of individual enterprises in these sectors vary from enterprise to enterprise depending upon the specific problems faced by them. Among the long term

measures applicable to the enterprises in general, mention may be made of the following:-

- Technology upgradation
- Modernisation of plant and equipment
- Diversification of product mix wherever considered necessary.
- Capital restructuring wherever considered necessary
- Investment in balancing facilities and captive power plants.

- (f) Training and re-training of personnel
- (g) Adoption of cost control and cost reduction measures
- (h) Improvement in productivity with due emphasis on quality.
- (i) Encouraging labour participation in management.

[Translation]

Sugar Mills running in losses in U.P. and Bihar

3213. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the sugar mills of eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are running in losses amounting to crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to assist them to make good their loss and to boost and encourage the production of sugar; and

(c) the details regarding production and consumption of sugar in the country and the quantity imported during 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a) and (b). The Government do not maintain profit and loss accounts in respect of sugar mills which are mainly in private or cooperative sector. The sugar policy is announced by Government of India from time to time. The profitability or otherwise of a sugar factory depends on a variety of factors which include cane availability, technical and managerial competence of a sugar mill and certain other factors which are not directly regulated by the sugar policy. The ultimate responsibility to ensure efficient running of a sugar mill lies solely with the management. However, to boost and encourage the production of sugar, loans to sugar mills are available from the Government on soft terms for sugarcane development, modernisation and rehabilitation of existing units.

(c) The Sugar Year 1986-87 commenced with effect from 1.10.1986 and ends on 30.9.1987. The production and import of sugar in the country during 1986-87 (upto 31.10.1986) is about 0.81 and 0.53 lakh tonnes respectively, and 8.13 lakh tonnes of sugar was released for internal consumption.

[English]

Telephone connections in Amravati (Maharashtra)

3214. SHRIMATI USHA CHOWDHARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Amravati in Maharashtra is experiencing shortage of telephone connections; and

(b) the number of telephone connections in the district at present the number of applications pending for telephone connections and the plans for expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of telephone connections in Amravati is 5698 and number of pending applications is 1553. Plans have been drawn up to expand the capacity of the exchanges progressively during the Seventh Plan period to clear the present waiting list.

Division of Maharashtra in Zones for Levy Price Fixation

3215. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: SHRI MULIDHAR MANE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have represented that the present monolithic zone for levy price fixation has put a number of cooperative sugar factories in serious financial difficulties;

(b) whether Government propose to divide Maharashtra into three zones for levy price fixation; and

(c) if so, the basis on which the zones are to be demarcated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matter is under consideration.

Postal delivery personnel

3216. SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of Postal delivery personnel in 1983, 1984, and 1985 and 1986;

(b) the quantum of postal traffic handled by them during these years;

(c) whether the post offices are having adequate staff to meet the increased postal traffic and volume of work;

(d) if so, what steps are contemplated to improve services; and

(e) whether Government are considering to provide mopeds and or other two wheeler automobiles to the postal delivery staff to enable them to render prompt and effective services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The total strength of the delivery personnel Postman and Extra Departmental Delivery Agents) and the volume of mail handled during these years was as under:

Year	No. of Personnel	Traffic handled	
1983	1,39,500	1085	Crores
1984	1,42,100	1138	Crores
1985	1,43,300	1198	Crores
1986	1,41,600	1211	Crores

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. Generally there is no shortage of delivery staff in post offices. As may be seen from the figures of 1983, 1984 and 1985, additional delivery staff have been provided to meet the increased volume of mail. However, in 1986 matching provision could not be made due to existing ban orders on creation of posts. Now, orders relaxing the ban to the extent of making appointments to vacancies arising due to promotion, retirement, death, resignation, dismissal/removal or deputation etc. have been issued, and the position is expected to improve.

(e) There is no proposal for providing mopeds or any other two wheeler automobile to the postal delivery staff.

Availability of Consumer Items in Super Bazar

3217. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all consumer items are not always available in the branches of Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to streamline the indenting and procurement procedure in Super Bazar;

(d) whether any Regional Distribution

Centre in trans-Yamuna area as also the branches targetted to be opened in 1986 have been opened; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The Cooperative Store Ltd. (Super Bazar), Delhi has informed that it is dealing in a very large number of consumer goods and that every effort is made by them to make available all important consumer items to the customers. However at times, one or the other item is not available in their retail outlets for reasons, such as, non-supply or short supply from the suppliers, unexpected sales resulting into temporary stock out or other reasons beyond the control of Super Bazar.

(c) For making procurement of goods, Super Bazar has already devised procedures for indenting goods by the branches and Regional Distribution Centres on the basis of their demand. There is a fixed schedule for mid week supply of the indented goods to the branches. The procurement of goods, stock position and supply to branches are reviewed every week by the General Manager of the Super Bazar.

(d) and (e) Super Bazar has proposed to open a Regional Distribution Centre in the Trans-Yamuna Area for which land has been allotted

by the Delhi Development Authority. Necessary steps for settling the prices of the allotted land and taking their possession are under way. Two branches, one at Swasthya Vihar and another at Mayur Vihar in Trans-Yamuna Vihar is likely to be opened shortly.

[Translation]

Profit earned by CCI Cement Factory at Akaltara

3218. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether CCI cement factory at Akaltara is running in profit; and

(b) if so, the net profit earned by it during the year 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a). No, Sir.

(b) : The Akaltara Unit of Cement Corporation of India incurred a loss of Rs. 549.78 lakhs during the year 1985-86.

[English]

Decision to write off accumulated losses of Public Sector Undertakings

3219. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken by Government to write off losses of a number of public sector undertakings;

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

(c) the total amount proposed to be written off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In the Department of Public Enterprises, decision has already been taken to write-off accumulated losses of Jessop & Co. Ltd., amounting to Rs. 50.10 crores being cash losses incurred by the

company upto 31.3.1986 and of Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd., amounting to Rs. 3.66 crores being non-plan loans equal to accumulated cash losses of the company with a view to improving their financial viability.

Exploration of Oil in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

3220. SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exploration by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in Narimanam, Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu has shown that oil and natural gas are available in abundance;

(b) the quantum of oil now taken out daily;

(c) the quantum of gas that is flared up daily now;

(d) whether Government propose to take concrete steps to put the available gas into uses and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a). ONGC have discovered oil and gas at Narimanam but the fields is yet to be fully delineated.

(b) About 20 M³/day

(c) About 4000 M³/day.

(d) and (e) At present, the well at Narimanam is under extended production testing for detailed evaluation of reservoir characteristics. The question of utilisation of gas will arise only if commercial production is established.

S.T.D. Facility in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh

3221. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh does not have the STD facility to Delhi and other major cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to provide STD facilities at this place; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Moradabad subscribers in Uttar Pradesh already have S.T.D. facility to Delhi and other major cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras via Bareilly trunk automatic exchange (TAX).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of Mining Equipments for Second Mine Expansion Project of N.L.C.

3222. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1049 on 11th November, 1986 regarding supply of mining equipment for Second Mine Expansion Project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation and state:

(a) the reasons why Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited had included M.A.N. of West Germany and WMI in the shortlist for supply of spreaders for the second Mine Expansion Project when the Rheinbraun Consulting had not recommended the same;

(b) whether NLC with its past experience about the defective supply of Bucket Wheel Excavator by M.A.N. of West Germany had insisted upon the consultants to enlist support for the firm;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether M.A.N. of West Germany has virtually closed down its open cast mining equipment manufacturing unit there; and

(e) if so, steps being taken to cancel pending awards?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). M/s. M.A.N. of West Germany in collaboration with WMI were one of the parties who responded to Neyveli Lignite Corporation's global tender enquiry for the purchase of spreaders for the second mine expansion project. Initially, M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting had not recommended M.A.N. for

shortlisting for spreaders. However, on the basis of the range and variety of equipment for which M.A.N. had been recommended and had supplied in the past and the fact that M/s. Rheinbraun had qualified M.A.N. for the supply of more sophisticated equipment, NLC decided to keep M.A.N. in the shortlist. This decision was concurred in by Rheinbraun and the West German funding agency KFW.

(d) and (e) : As per available information M.A.N. has undergone reorganisation and has now become M.A.N-GHH. This reorganisation will not affect the manufacture of spreaders for supply to NLC.

[*Translation*]

Distribution of more items under Public Distribution System

3223. SHRI U.H. PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to implement the proposal for distribution of more items in addition to those which are already being distributed through Fair Price Shops, so that black marketing could be checked; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The Central Government has assumed responsibility for procurement and supply of seven essential items viz., wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, controlled cloth, kerosene and soft coke under the Public Distribution System. The State Governments Union Territory Administrations, are in addition, free to add other essential mass consumption goods to these seven commodities by making arrangement for their procurement and supply on their own. Wide commodity coverage of the fair price shops, apart from improving their economic viability, also helps in availability of essential goods to the common mass of people at reasonable prices. Some of the State Governments have already included a number of other essential items for their sale under the Public Distribution System.

[*English*]

Drug Policy

3224. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council for Medical Research and Voluntary Health Association of India have been consulted regarding formulation of the proposed drug policy; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). The views of all concerned would be taken into account while taking any decision in this matter.

Utilisation of amount realised from R.E.C. bonds by Rural Electrification Corporation in Kerala

3225. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has been successful in rural electrification in Kerala;

(b) the prerogatives for the REC's projects; and

(c) the extent to which REC utilised the amount realised from the 65 crore REC bonds which closed in March, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a). As on 30th September, 1986, the Rural Electrification Corporation disbursed a sum of Rs 41.04 crores against RE Schemes in Kerala. The State has achieved 100% village electrification and energisation of 59429 pumpsets.

(b) The Rural Electrification Corporation sanctions loans for the rural electrification projects in the various States based on a viability criteria evolved by it.

(c) The amount realised by the Rural Electrification Corporation through Bonds forms part of the total budget of the Corporation to meet the financial allocations for the various States to execute the rural electrification programme. The actual subscription for the REC Bonds amounted to Rs. 73.87 crores.

Protection to Petrochemical Producers

3226. SHRI KAILASH YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to protect petrochemical producers in the country against dumping of such products in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Running of Illegal Postal Service in areas of Bihar

3227. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some organised gangs have been running illegal postal service in Purnea, Forbesganj, Jogbani, Katihar, Kishanganj etc. areas of Bihar for the last few years; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Reports have been received about running of illegal postal services by some firms/individuals, at Kishanganj, Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Jamshedpur and Gaya.

(b) Necessary departmental inquiries into all these cases were taken up. Action under the Indian Post Office Act was initiated wherever evidence was available.

[English]

Manufacturing defect in Carburettors cause of Pollution

3228. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that vehicular emission in our cities accounts for a large percentage of air pollution mainly due to manufacturing defects of items like carburettors etc.; and

(b) if so, measures being taken to pin the responsibility of such defective manufacture on the various units making such items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). According to the Automotive Research Association of India, it is not correct to say that the vehicular emission levels in our country account for a large percentage of air pollution because of defective manufacture of items like carburettor, fuel injection equipment etc.

Various measures are being taken by the Government to prevent and control air pollution through vehicle exhaust. A Committee of experts under the chairmanship of Director, ARAI, has suggested standards for emissions out of vehicle exhaust. The vehicle manufacturers, in association with the manufacturers of items like carburettors and fuel injection equipment, are also trying to improve upon the emission levels of the vehicles being manufactured by them so that they are of contemporary standards. Proposals for foreign technological tie ups for the modernisation of the technology of carburettors, etc. are also being encouraged by the Government.

Restrictions on setting up Industries in Residential Areas

3229. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take stringent steps not to allow setting up of major industries in residential areas; and

(b) if so, whether Government are implementing the rules regarding issue of licences for major industries in the urban areas with a population of 25 to 30 lakhs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The exemption from Industrial Licensing is not available for creation of fresh capacity by way of establishment of new industrial undertakings, substantial expansion of or manufacture of new articles by existing industrial undertakings:-

i) within the standard urban area limit as

determined in the Census of India (1981) of a city having a population of more than 1 million; or

ii) within the municipal limits of a city with a population of more than 5 lakhs as determined in the said Census.

Applications for Industrial Licenses for setting up capacities in the areas mentioned above are considered on merits.

[Translation]

Transport subsidy for North-Eastern States

3230. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided by the Planning Commission on the advice of Ministry of Industry that the present transport subsidy be increased upto 90 per cent for the North-Eastern States of the country;

(b) whether this increased rate of transport subsidy shall be applicable to the hilly districts of U.P. and Himachal Pradesh also;

(c) if not, the justification of keeping these regions deprived of the benefit of this increased rate of transport subsidy; and

(d) whether his Ministry has assessed the adverse effects on the industrialisation in these regions in the absence of any increase in the transport subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). Keeping in view the disabilities suffered by the entrepreneurs due to long transport leads prevailing in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Sikkim and the North East Region the Government of India vide Notification No. 11/1/85-DBA-II, dated 25.9.86, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library, enhanced the rate of transport subsidy from 75% to 90% in these areas. The modified scheme has not been extended to the hilly areas of U.P. and Himachal Pradesh in view of their nearness to the main regions of the country.

[English]

Committee to study problems of Drug Industry

3231. DR. K.G. ADIYODI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee/working group had been constituted to study the problems of the drug industry;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the committee/working group; and,

(c) whether Government have accepted their recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY. (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a). Government had Constituted the National Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Development Council (NDPDC) in 1983.

(b) and (c) : The recommendations of NDPDC are under consideration of the Government.

Committee on pay scales and interim relief etc. on Public Undertakings

3232. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to go into the pay-scales, interim relief and other matters relating to the public undertakings employees, has completed its report; and

(b) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Due to the demise of Mr. Justice P.N. Shinghal Chairman-designate of the High Power Pay Committee, steps have been taken by the Government to reconstitute the Committee. As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the High Power Pay Committee is expected to submit its report within a period of 12 months from the date of assumption of its office.

Augmentation of Domestic Resources due to fall in oil price

3233. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made as

to what extent oil pool account has swelled due to steep fall in the international prices of crude oil and fertilisers; and

(b) if so, what is the extent to which domestic resources are likely to be augmented during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT):

(a). It is not possible at this stage to estimate the accruals to the pool account of the oil sector due to the fall in the international prices of crude oil till the end of the year. No such assessment has been made in respect of fertilisers.

(b) Does not arise.

Bio-Gas Plants

3234. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to give bio-gas plants to the agriculturists to avoid cutting of trees for firewood;

(b) whether Government are thinking of increasing the subsidy for bio-gas plants; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a). Yes, Sir. A National Project for Biogas Development which caters to family based biogas plants is under implementation. The objectives of the project, inter-alia, include promotion of biogas technology which reduces cutting of trees for firewood and produces good quality manure.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Heavy Engineering Corporation, Hatia (Bihar)

3235. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the persons whose land was acquired at the time of setting up of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Hatia in Bihar.

(b) whether compensation has been paid to the persons whose land was acquired and the number of persons, out of them, provided with jobs and the arrangements made for the persons who are still unemployed;

(c) the arrangements made for the persons displaced as a result thereof; and

(d) the number of Adivasi persons working there at present, category-wise and the number of children of these persons who are getting education in the schools run by the factory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) (a) 3090 families.

(b) Compensation has already been paid to the persons whose land was acquired. Till date 4150 affected persons have been provided employment. As per existing practice. Hatia displaced affected persons in whose family none is provided with jobs are given employment in Class IV posts, as and when recruitment takes place.

(c) The arrangements are as under:

- i) Rehabilitation of displaced persons by the State Government in six major Satellite village.
- ii) Provision of lower Primary Schools and Community Halls by the State Government.
- iii) Setting up of Community Development Department in 1974 by HEC for taking care of facilities such as roads, schools, tube wells, Drinking wells etc.

(d) The details are as under:-

CATEGORY	ST
Group 'A'	48
Executive Trainees	16
Group 'B'	8
Group 'C'	2121
Group 'D'	1748
Sweepers	259
Master Roll	5
Total	4205

476 numbers of Adivasi children are getting education in HEC Schools.

[English]

Production of molasses from Sugarcane

3236. SHRI K. RAMCHANDRA REDDY
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of molasses produced by crushing a ton of sugarcane; and

(b) the cost of molasses in the open market and the price at which Government purchase molasses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a). As per the norms generally adopted, the Molasses recovery from Sugarcane averages around 4 percent.

(b) The sale price of Sugar Mill Molasses is controlled under the Molasses Control Order, 1961, a currently it is Rs. 60/- per tonne for Grade 'A' quality

[Translation]

Supply of poor quality of Atta to Consumers

3237. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Consumers getting poor quality 'Atta' appeared in Indian Express of 16 October, 1986;

(b) whether the wheat supplied from the Central Pool is cleaned before giving it to wheat flour mills; and

(c) if not, the action taken by Government to ensure supply of good quality atta to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):
(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Government does not supply wheat directly to the flour mills (chakkies), though the chakkies are also free to buy wheat in the open sales organised by Food Corporation of India. Cleaning of the wheat in undertaken wherever necessary to conform to PFA standards.

[*English*]

Mining Operations for Coal in Surendranagar District (Gujarat)

3238. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government consider mining operations for coal in Surendranagar district uneconomical;

(b) whether Union Government have informed the State Government to exploit these resources themselves; and

(c) whether the Union and State Governments have arrived at an understanding in this regard to prevent any further pilferage of these resources?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). In February, 1980 the State Government of Gujarat came up with a request for grant of mining lease in favour of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited for exploitation of coal in certain villages in District Surendranagar. They, inter-alia, requested to allow the aforesaid State Undertaking to sell the coal to be mined by them on cost plus profit basis. The proposal was considered in the light of Central Government's policy regarding grant of mining lease for exploitation of small deposits of coal in isolated small pockets in the States by the State Governments through their public undertakings but the same was not agreed to.

Post Offices in Jabalpur District

3239. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a post office is functioning in every Panchayat of Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh, as per the Government's policy and if so, the total number of post offices in Jabalpur district; and

(b) if not, the reasons for which a post office could not be opened in every Panchayat so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The network of post offices in rural areas has been developed on the basis of a minimum population of 2,000 in normal rural areas and 1,000 in backward/tribal areas, a minimum revenue of 25% of cost in normal areas and 10% in backward/tribal areas and a minimum distance of 3 Kms. from the nearest post office. The concession granted to villages which are gram panchayat headquarters is that such village are exempted from the condition of minimum population. On this basis, subject to distance and revenue conditions being fulfilled, by and large, gram panchayat villages have been provided with post offices. If the current ban on creation of posts is lifted, the cases of remaining gram panchayat villages can also be considered in the Light of prescribed norms. The total number of post offices at present functioning in Jabalpur district is 403

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Central Industrial Unit at Navada in Bihar

3240. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken so far on the demand for setting up a central industrial unit at Navada (Bihar); and

(b) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Distribution of rice in Southern States

3241. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider distribution of Parmal and other better quality rice produced in Northern States through the public distribution system in the Southern States; and

(b) if not, what other measures are proposed to be taken to lift the surplus stock of rice from Northern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a). Food Corporation of India procures and supplies common, fine and superfine varieties of rice of quality which conforms to the standards laid down under the PFA Act, for the public distribution system throughout the country

(b) Does not arise.

Industrial Stagnation

3242. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial stagnation has of late set in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b). According to C.S.O Index of Industrial Production, the rates of growth in industrial production during the last few years have been as under:-

1980-81	4.0%
1981-82	8.6%
1982-83	4.1%
1983-84	6.1%
1984-85	6.8%
1985-86	6.2%
1986-87	5.7%

(April-August)

Government have been taking a number of steps to stimulate industrial production through appropriate changes in industrial licensing and import policies as well as through monetary and fiscal measures and improvement in infrastructure.

Marketing of Electrical Goods with I.S.I. Markings

3244 SHRI RAM DHAN: Will the Minister

of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many electrical goods for which I.S.I. marking is compulsory are being marketed without I.S.I. marking in the country;

(b) if so, how many cases of violation have been detected during the last three years; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a). There is no electrical product required to be marketed under compulsory ISI Certification Marks Scheme of ISI at present. However, miner's cap lamp batteries and flame-proof electrical equipment for use in mines are required to carry ISI mark as per the orders of Director General, Mines Safety. The Government of India had issued a Household Electrical Appliance (Quality Control) Order, 1976 in which the conformity of the household electrical appliances to Indian Standards was made compulsory. This order was, however, revised in 1981 and presently covers 40 electrical items. Under this revised order, the State Governments are the implementing authorities and they are required to appoint the appropriate authority for implementing this order.

(b) Statistics about cases of violation of the above Quality Control Order are not available with Indian Standards Institution.

(c) Indian Standards Institution has identified a few electrical items of mass consumption for bringing them under compulsory ISI Certification Marks Scheme. The same is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

New Telephone Connections

3245. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of new telephone connections given during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) whether some targets were also fixed in this regard for the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the details of the progress made in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The State-wise details of new telephone connections given during 1984-85 and 1985-86 are given in

statement below.

(b) Yes, Sir. The details of the target are given in statement below.

(c) The details of the progress made in this regard is given in statement below.

Statement	New Connections given during		Targets for 1986-87	Progress made upto 30.9.1986
	1984-85	1985-86		
State (Including Telecom, Circles/Telecom. Districts.				
Andhra Pradesh	16198	19546	12,000	6,545
Including Hyderabad and Vijayawada.	3788	3765	5,000	1,231
Bihar Including Patna District.	18,709	21,009	34,000	13,083
Gujarat Including Ahmedabad, Baroda, Rajkot and Surat Districts.	757	604	2,500	591
J & K Lakshadweep.	14,584	19,226	12,000	5,185
Karnataka Including Bangalore District.	7,213	14,268	8,100	4,243
Kerala Including Calicut, Ernakulam and Trivandrum Districts.	10,795	8,253	9,500	2,297
Madhya Pradesh Including Indore and Bhopal Districts.	60,640	62,746	43,100	19,969
Maharashtra Including Bombay, Pune and Nagpur Districts.	2,068	2,568	3,600	1,667
North East Including Gauhati Distt.				
North West Including Amritsar, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Chandigarh Distts.	8,763	17,121	7,400	4,436
Orissa	3,672	3,163	2,000	683
Rajasthan Including Jaipur District.	6,911	5,553	5,000	3,515
Tamil Nadu Including Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai Districts.	25,259	29,610	18,100	11,586
Uttar Pradesh Including Agra, Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi and Allahabad Districts.	15,184	15,294	10,200	3,934
West Bengal Including Calcutta Districts.	9,529	11,138	13,500	1,142
Delhi	25,435	33,498	34,000	16,502
Total:-	2,29,505	2,67,362	2,20,000	96,018

[English]**Increase in prices of Maruti cars**

3246. SHRI H.B. PATIL.
SHRI SODE RAMAIAH:
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of Maruti Cars have been increased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that foreign imported components of Maruti cars and vans are far beyond what was stipulated and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The prices of Maruti Vehicles were last increased in June, 1986. The increase was mainly because of appreciation of Yen and increase in customs and excise duty.

(c) No, Sir.

Memorandum regarding paper mills in West Bengal

3247. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Memorandum was submitted to the former Minister of Industry on 25 June 1986 by an all-Party delegation of MLAs from West Bengal regarding problems faced by the paper mills in the State; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and action, if any, taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The points made by the delegation were as follows:-

- (i) The critical problem of raw-material shortage being faced by all the large paper mills in West Bengal will have to be sorted out by evolving an effective National Policy whereby raw-materials needed can be made freely available irrespective of State boundaries.
- (ii) To overcome technological obsolescence adversely affecting the viability of the large Paper Mills, it is necessary to implement a programme of modernisation with adequate financial support from All India Financial Institutions.
- (iii) The package of assistance already agreed upon in the case of Bengal Paper Mills should be implemented by all the Banks concerned so that the unit can reopen without further delay.
- (iv) Titagarh Paper Mills should be nationalised by Government of India in the public interest.
- (v) United Bank of India should withdraw the case it has filed before the Calcutta High Court so that India Paper Pulp Company can secure Institutional Finance by hypothecation of its assets.
- (vi) Freight equalisation scheme for coal and steel should be abolished or should be extended to other raw materials for industrial use.

The delegation was informed as follows:-

- (i) The State Government should furnish details of raw material requirements, supplies being drawn from neighbouring States and the extent of shortfall being experienced for considering the matter further. Moreover import of pulp and waste paper is permitted under OGL free of customs levies and the paper mills could resort freely to these sources to augment the availability of raw materials.
- (ii) The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India has been specifically established for the purpose of revival of sick industries and the efforts of the Banks are directed towards revival of such units in West Bengal. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction would also start functioning shortly and would be a major instrument for speedy revival of sick units.
- (iii) The Financial Institutions are already taking action to implement the package

of assistance agreed upon in the case of Bengal Paper Mills.

- (iv) The Financial Institutions are engaged in working out necessary package of measures required for revival and rehabilitation of Titaghur Paper Mills.
- (v) Most of the other matters referred to by the delegation pertain to the role of Financial Institutions and Banks falling within the administrative jurisdiction of Ministry of Finance and should be taken up with that Ministry appropriately.

The State Government have since communicated the details of forest leases which have not been renewed by the different State Governments which were previously assigned to the paper mills in West Bengal. The matter has been taken up with the State Governments concerned for their comments/views.

**Welding defects cause of L.P.G.
Cylinder Blast**

3248. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA:
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the *Newstime* of 20 October 1986 according to which defective welding is a major cause of bursting of LPG cylinders;

(b) if so, what is the correct position; and

(c) remedial steps proposed to be taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT):
(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). LPG cylinders for oil marketing companies are required to be manufactured according to ISI specifications and are purchased by the companies after suitable quality control checks. Before filling at the LPG bottling plants, cylinders are visually inspected for defects. Also, periodical statutory pressure tests of LPG cylinders are conducted to ensure safety.

**Guidelines for allotment of Telephone
Connections**

3249. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Indian Telegraphs Act, 1885,

(b) if so, the nature of the proposed amendments;

(c) the title of the rules that govern allotment of telephone connections;

(d) whether there are any other administrative instructions or guidelines which govern the allotment of telephones; and

(e) if so, the date on which these instructions or guidelines were issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Amendments are being considered to take care of several requirements like new technical developments, radio frequency interference from electrical appliances, obstruction for line-of-sight operation of radio relay systems, raising the penalties provided under the act etc.

(c) The Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Revised and consolidated administrative instructions and guidelines were last issued on 17.1.80 and 14.3.80 respectively and supplementary instructions as required have been issued from time to time.

Clearance to Talcher Thermal Plant

3250. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether Talcher Thermal Plant has been cleared by Ecology and Environment Department and if so, when it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): The proposed Talcher Super Thermal Power Project awaits formal approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

[*Translation*]

**Transport subsidy for development
of Industries**

3251. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to
state:

(a) the names of the backward areas in the
country in which transport subsidy is given by
the Union Government for the development of
industries;

(b) the amount of subsidy given and the
criteria adopted for granting this subsidy;

(c) whether it is a fact that this subsidy is not
given in difficult inaccessible desert areas which
have been declared as 'No Industry' districts;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government will make changes in
their policy and provide this facility in the
backward districts of desert areas and assist in
promoting industries there; and

(f) if so, by what time and how?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (f). In order to compensate for the high
transport costs prevailing in the hilly, remote
and inaccessible areas, the Government of India
in 1971 introduced the Transport Subsidy
Scheme. The Scheme covers the States of
Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Hilly
areas of Uttar Pradesh comprising Dehradun,
Nainital, Almora, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri
Gharwal, Pithoragarh, Uttar Kashi and
Chamoli; North Eastern Region comprising the
States of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland,
Tripura, Manipur and Union Territories of
Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh; Sikkim;
Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Lakshadweep and
Darjeeling district of West Bengal.

Since the inception of the scheme upto
31.10.1986 an amount of Rs. 1055 lakhs has been
reimbursed to the States/Union Territories.

There is no proposal to extend this scheme to
desert areas declared as 'No Industry' districts as
they do not suffer from cost disadvantages in the
matter of transport to the extent areas currently
covered under the scheme do.

[*English*]

**World Bank assistance for Rural
Electrification programme**

3252. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to
state:

(a) the total assistance given by the World
Bank so far for rural electrification programme
in the country;

(b) the percentage of this assistance given to
each State;

(c) whether it has been ensured that the States
have utilised the World Bank assistance for the
purpose for which it was given; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a). The total
assistance given by the World Bank so far for
Rural Electrification Programme in the country
is \$ 396.061 million.

(b) A statement indicating the percentage of
the total World Bank loan assistance given to
each State is given below.

(c) and (d). To ensure the utilisation of the
World Bank assistance provided to the States for
the rural electrification programme, monitoring
is done by Rural Electrification Corporation
regularly and by the World Bank from time to
time.

Statement
State-wise percentage World Bank Assistance

(Amount in Million Dollars)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Amount	Percentage
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49.658	12.54
2.	Assam	5.587	1.41
3.	Bihar	32.968	8.32
4.	Gujarat	24.977	6.31
5.	Haryana	5.152	1.30
6.	Karnataka	22.097	5.58
7.	Kerala	10.630	2.68
8.	Madhya Pradesh	61.654	15.57
9.	Maharashtra	38.152	9.63
10.	Orissa	7.361	1.86
11.	Punjab	31.960	8.07
12.	Rajasthan	21.585	5.45
13.	Tamil Nadu	17.251	4.36
14.	Uttar Pradesh	46.961	11.86
15.	West Bengal	20.013	5.05
Total (States)		396.006	99.99
Central Institute for Rural Electrification, Hyderabad/REC		0.55	0.01
		396.061	100.00

"Sales" of Rejects

3253. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has found that many of the "sales" organised by manufacturers or retailers are transacting rejects from the manufacturers; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make it obligatory for manufacturers to stamp the rejects to prevent the cheating of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a). The MRTP Commission does not maintain a separate record of cases where 'rejects' are offered for sale. However, during the period 1.8.1984 to 31.10.1986, the Commission ordered investigation in 99 cases in which allegations of selling old, soiled, out of fashion or sub-standard goods as new goods were made.

(d) There is no such proposal with the Department of Company Affairs.

Steps to make industries quality conscious and efficient

3254. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to make industries more cost efficient and quality conscious in the context of the remarks made by the Prime Minister at the opening of the National Conference of Productivity on 29 October;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have also decided not to take over sick units any more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) and (b). It is always the endeavour of Government to make industries more cost-efficient and quality-conscious. Government have recently constituted a Commission on Economic Efficiency, Productivity and Exports

under the Chairmanship of Shri L.K. Jha, M.P., which will, *inter alia* suggest measures for improving capacity utilisation, efficiency and productivity in industry both in the private and the public sectors.

(c) The general policy of the Government is not to take over sick units.

**Extension of P.D.S. facilities
to Tea Gardeners etc.**

3255. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the eighth meeting the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System has recommended for the extension of P.D.S. to cover tea garden workers, migrant labour and fisherman; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Summary Record of Discussions of the Eighth Meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System, which contains this recommendation, has been forwarded to all the States/Union Territories for followup action. The workers of tea gardens and fishermen are already having the facility of supply of essential commodities under the PDS and for migrant labour, the States were asked to issue temporary ration cards to them.

**Capacity Utilisation in Public
and Private Sectors**

3256. SHRI BHATTAM SRI RAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be

pleased to state:

(a) the products in which both public and private sectors are operating simultaneously; and

(b) the rates of capacity utilisation of the respective companies in the two sectors in those products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Some of the major industries in which both public and private sectors are operating simultaneously include: Aluminium, Zinc, Cement, Nitrogenous Fertilisers, Phosphatic Fertilisers, BHC (Tech.), D.D.T., Paper & Paper Board, Caustic Soda, Industrial Explosives, Auto Tyres, Bicycle tyres, PVC Resins, LDPE, Winding Wires, PVC VIR cables, Aluminium conductors, Leather footwear, Penicillin, Streptomycin, GLS & other lamps, Fluorescent Tubes, Electric Fans, Bicycles, Wrist watches, Machine Tools, Power & Distribution transformers, Structural, Agricultural Tractors, Power driven pumps, Air/Gas Compressors, Road Rollers, Earth Moving equipment, Cars, Jeeps, Scooters, Three-wheelers, Railway wagons, Motor Starters & Contactors, Sulpha Drugs, Steel castings, Steel forgings, Boilers, Sugar Machinery, Mining Machinery, Metallurgical machinery Chemical machinery, Paper & Pulp machinery, Printing Machinery, Rubber machinery, Cranes, House service meters.

(b) Capacity utilisation figures for the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 of Central public sector companies are given in Chapter 19 of volume I of Public Enterprises Survey for 1984-85 published by Bureau of Public Enterprises, already placed on the Table of the House in February 1986. A statement showing overall capacity utilisation figures in selected industries, inclusive of both public and private sectors for the year 1985 is given below.

Statement

Overall Capacity Utilisation in selected Industries During 1985

Sl. No.	Industry	Capacity Utilisation (%)
1.	Aluminium	72
2.	Zinc	73
3.	Cement	74

Sl. No.	Industry	Capacity Utilisation (%)
4.	Nitrogenous Fertilisers	72
5.	Phosphatic Fertilisers	78
6.	BHC (Tech.)	60
7.	D.D.T.	66
8.	Paper & Paper Board	61
9.	Caustic Soda	80
10.	Industrial Explosives	82
11.	Auto Tyres	75
12.	Bicycle tyres	86
13.	PVC Resins	69
14.	LDPE	84
15.	Winding wires	69
16.	PVC/VIR cables	37
17.	Aluminium Conductors	39
18.	Penicilin	33
19.	Screptomycin	44
20.	GLS & other lamps	98
21.	Fluorescent tubes	94
22.	Electric fans	112
23.	Bicycles	70
24.	Wrist watches	64
25.	Machine Tools	77
26.	Power & Distribution transformers	78
27.	Structurals	29
28.	Agricultural tractors	89
29.	Power Driven pumps	65
30.	Air/Gas Compressors	140
31.	Road Roller	55
32.	Earth Moving Equipment	37
33.	Cars	57
34.	Jeeps	136
35.	Scooters	57
36.	Metallurgical machinery	99
37.	Three Wheelers	63
38.	Railway wagons	31
39.	Motor Starters & Contractors	53
40.	Sulpha Drugs	49
41.	Steel Castings	53
42.	Steel Forgings	50
43.	Boilers	132
44.	Sugar Machinery	57
45.	Mining machinery	73
46.	Chemical Machinery	65
47.	Paper & Pulp machinery	37
48.	Printing machinery	82
49.	Rubber Machinery	74
50.	Cranes	32
51.	House Service Meters	73
52.	Leather Footwear	63

**Demand and Supply of
Telephone Connections**

3257. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) the gap between demand and supply of
telephone connections in different States upto
30th September, 1986, exchange-wise;

(b) the number of new telephone connections
under different categories provided in different
States during 1986, exchange-wise;

(c) the number of new telephone connection
under different categories likely to be issued
during the remaining period of the current year,
exchange-wise;

(d) the present backlog, exchange-wise; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to
clear the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The gap

between demand and supply (Waiting List) of
the telephone connections in different States as
on 30th September, 1986 is given in Annexure.
Exchange-wise information is not available.
(There are more than 11,000 exchanges in the
country).

(b) The number of new telephone
connections provided in different States during
1986-87 are given in the statement below.
Exchange-wise information is not available.

(c) The number of new telephone connections
likely to be issued during the remaining period of
1986-87 is given in the Annexure. Exchange-wise
information is not available.

(d) The details of the present backlog
(Waiting List) are already given in the Annexure
against (a) above. Exchange-wise information is
not available.

(e) The existing telephone exchanges are
being expanded wherever feasible and new
exchanges are being installed to clear the
backlog, depending upon the availability of
resources.

Statement	Waiting list as on 30.9.1986	Working connections provided upto 30.9.1986	No of new telephone connections likely to be provided during the remaining period of current year 1986-87
Andhra Pradesh including Hyderabad and Vijayawada Districts.	60,959	6545	5455
Bihar including Patna Distt.	10,752	1231	3769
Gujarat including Ahmedabad, Baroda, Rajkot and Surat Districts.	1,05,223	13083	20917
J & K	9,155	591	1909
Karnataka including Bangalore District.	57,400	5185	6815
Kerala including Calicut, Ernakulam and Trivandrum Districts.	781,905	4243	3857
Madhya Pradesh including Indore and Bhopal Districts.	34,173	2297	7203
Maharashtra including Bombay, Pune and Nagpur Districts.	2,85,547	19969	23131
North East including Gauhati Distt.	9,310	1667	1933
North West including Amritsar, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Chandigarh Districts.	71,574	4436	2964
Orissa	5,404	683	1317
Rajasthan including Jaipur Distt.	35,889	3515	1485
Tamil Nadu including Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai Districts.	77,133	11586	6514
Uttar Pradesh including Agra, Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi and Allahabad districts.	46,754	3934	6266
West Bengal including Calcutta District.	37,351	1142	12358
Delhi	1,65,000	16502	17498

[*Translation*]

**Proposal to give more incentives
to Small Industries**

3258. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give more incentives to small and medium industries;

(b) if so, whether Government have prepared any scheme for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). A number of incentives in the shape of capital investment subsidy, transport subsidy, excise and tax concessions, financial assistance on easy terms etc. are provided to small and medium industries under various schemes operated by Central/State Governments, financial institutions and other promotional agencies. These schemes are kept under constant review keeping in view the felt-needs of these industries.

[*English*]

**Reduction in marking
fee for Vanaspati**

3259. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the reasons for reducing the marking fee for vanaspati from Rs. 20/- to Rs. 12/- per tonne with effect from 1st October, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Taking into consideration the various representations from the two Associations of Vanaspati Manufacturers, the interest of the consumers and the practical experience gained during the intervening period, the Indian Standards Institution decided to reduce the marking fee to Rs. 12/- per tonne.

**Posting of Staff in Post Offices
in Himachal Pradesh**

3260. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the

Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of post offices were opened in Himachal Pradesh during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether in most of these post offices, requisite staff has not been posted; and

(c) if so, the time by which the staff is likely to be posted in all those post offices where no staff has been posted so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. A total number of 182 new post offices were opened in Himachal Pradesh under the Sixth Plan.

(b) and (c). In extra-departmental post offices opened in rural areas the requirement of extra-departmental employees for different duties is worked out not only with reference to the work involved but also taking into account the estimated income of the office so that the prescribed minimum percentage of income to cost is maintained. In this process, it is possible that while in some post offices separate personnel may be engaged for the counter duties, mail conveyance and delivery, in some other post offices, duties may be combined and a lesser number of extra-departmental employees posted. This is the normal pattern of staffing in extra-departmental offices. In Himachal Pradesh also the number of extra-departmental employees may vary from post office to post office depending upon the circumstances of each case. There is therefore, no question of requisite staff not being posted or additional staff being engaged.

Raising Paper Making Capacity

3261. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the paper making capacity of the country;

(b) if so, the existing capacity for the manufacture of paper in various paper mills in the country;

(c) the anticipated demand of paper and paper board by the end of Seventh plan and also

by the turn of the century; and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the production target; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e). As on 1.1.1986, the installed capacity for manufacture of paper and paper board in the country is 26.55 lakh tonnes. The production achieved during 1985 was 15 lakh tonnes, which more or less matches consumption. The demand for paper and paper board is expected to increase to 18 lakh tonnes by 1989-90, and 28.31 lakh tonnes by 2000 A.D.

In order to cater to the long term requirement, Government encourages setting up of additional capacity for paper and paper board consistent with the availability of raw-material. As on 1.4.86 an additional capacity of 32.57 lakh tonnes has been approved by way of Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent/Registration with DGTD/SIA.

Regularisation of casual workers in Postal Department

3262. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of casual workers employed in the Postal Department;

(b) whether any steps has been taken to regularise them; and

(c) if so, the number of such employees regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The total number of Casual workers employed in the Department are about 16,000.

(b) As per orders of the Department of Personnel, Casual Labourers who have put in 240 days of service during each of the preceding year, become eligible for absorption in group 'D' cadres. However, due to the ban orders enforced in 1984, it has not been possible to absorb Casual workers during the last two years.

(c) Question does not arise in view of what has been stated at (b) above.

Utilization of World Bank Loan

3263. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have not utilised the World Bank loan for oil exploration in certain parts of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the details of the exploratory work being undertaken with the World Bank assistance in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT): (a) and (b). No, Sir. ONGC have been utilizing World Bank Loans for selected projects. Some of the reasons for shortfall in expected utilization are: softening of prices of equipment and services in the international market, changes in scope of projects and delay in approvals.

(c) Details are as follows:-

- (i) Completion of 2 onshore exploratory wells, drilling of additional 6 wells offshore and 2 wells onshore in Krishna-Godavari basin.
- (ii) Completion of ongoing seismic survey in Gulf of Cambay and drilling of 4 exploratory wells in Cambay basin.

Retrenchment of Employees in Indian Telephone Industries

3264. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of employees are likely to be retrenched as a result of computerisation in the Indian Telephone Industries;

(b) if so, the number of employees likely to be so retrenched;

(c) whether they will be provided with

suitable job and their emoluments protected; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

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

Industrial proposals from Kerala

3265. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial proposals from Kerala received for consideration by Government during the last three years;

(b) the total investment involved therein; and

(c) the number of proposals sanctioned so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). During the years 1984 to 1986 (upto 19.11.1986), 109 Industrial Licence applications were received under the provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, for the grant of Letters of Intent for locating industries in Kerala. Out of these, 39 proposals were approved, 68 rejected and the remaining 2 were at various stages of consideration.

Information, according to the actual project cost involved, in each case is not maintained centrally in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in the Ministry of Industry.

Bursting of LPG Cylinders in Bangalore

3266. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases bursting of LPG cylinders reported in Bangalore city since January, 1986;

(b) the general causes for these bursts;

(c) whether any compensation was given to

those who died or injured due to LPG bursts; and

(d) if so, the total amount given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT): (a) There has been no case of bursting of LPG cylinder in Bangalore since January, 1986.

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

Imported and indigenous raw material components of Maruti Udyog Ltd.

3267. DR. DATTA SAMANT Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of imported raw material of Maruti Udyog Ltd., for the years 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(b) the efforts the Maruti Udyog Ltd. has made to reduce the import of raw material components?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a). In 1984-85, the total value of imported components used by Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL) was Rs. 87 crores and indigenous components was Rs. 15 crores. In 1985-86, the total value of imported components was Rs. 194 crores and indigenous components was Rs. 46 crores.

(b) Maruti Udyog Limited has placed great emphasis on indigenisation to reduce the import of components. Some of the steps being taken by MUL in this regard are:-

(i) Promoting manufacturers of components in India by providing technical information, assisting in technology transfer, providing financial aid for tools, interacting with component manufacturers and their associations to explain Maruti's plans and policies etc.

(ii) Ensuring that establishment of all in-house manufacturing facilities is on time.

(iii) Establishment of joint venture with Maruti's equity participation for indigenisation of certain critical components.

- (iv) Developing systems to ensure quality control and timely payment to vendors.

**Production of Crude Oil in Panchgram
in Assam**

3268. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission announced starting of production of Crude Oil in Panchgram sector in Cachar district of Assam from 2 October, 1986;

(b) whether no production has started so far; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT): (a) to (c). Commercial production has not started in Panchgram. The well Badarpur-I was only put on trial run from 1st October, 1986 by way of production testing

Price fixation of Natural Gas

3269. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received a representation from government of Assam about early fixation of price of natural gas at concessional rate, vast quantities of which are produced in Assam's Oilfields and which are being daily burnt-up; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Issue of pricing of natural gas for various uses is under Government's consideration.

[*Translation*]

**Public Call Office facilities in Post Office
of Jhunjhunu District**

3270. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be

pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in Jhunjhunu district where Public Call Office (PCO) facility is available and the number of post offices where this facility is yet to be provided;

(b) the time by which PCO facility will be provided in the rest of post offices; and

(c) the time by which the Telephone Exchange in Jhunjhunu which is under construction will be ready and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a). Out of 379 Post Offices in Jhunjhunu district, Public Call Office (PCO) facility is available in 77 Post Offices.

(b) The Department of Telecommunication does not have any policy for providing Public Call Offices in all the Post Offices. Under the present policy, the department plans to provide telecom. facility on fully subsidised basis at one principal village in every inhabited geographical area bounded by a hexagon of 5 kms. side. Accordingly, PCO may be opened either in a Post Office or at a location in private premises depending upon their accessibility and convenience to the public.

(c) The Telephone Exchange building at Jhunjhunu is nearing completion. Electronic Exchange is expected to start functioning at Jhunjhunu during the year 1987.

[*English*]

Harnessing of Solar Energy in Orissa

3271. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the present available resources for electricity in Orissa, the tribal and remote areas will not get electricity in foreseeable future;

(b) whether make up and accelerate the growth, Government would undertake these areas in Orissa in a phased manner to provide electricity by harnessing the solar energy; and

(c) if so, the details of the scheme if already under consideration and if not, whether this will be considered?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) (a) to (c) : Taking into consideration that from the present available resources many of the tribal and remote villages in Orissa may not get electricity in foreseeable future, a programme has been taken up for initial electrification of some of those villages in Orissa by solar energy, Eight villages have already been provide with solar powered lighting and televis on. 200 soiar powered street lighting units have been supplied for installation in differcnt villages in Orissa. Further, a proposal for a 20 KW hybrid power plant at Lulung is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Traning Institutes in Madhya Pradesh

3272. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of training institutes set up by Union Government in the field of power and the locations thereof ; and

(b) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up in near future such traning institutes in Madhya Pradesh keeping in view the comprehensive power programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) : The following five Training institutes in the Power Sector have been set up by the Central Government :—

- (1) Thermal Power Stations Personnel Training Institute, Nagpur.
- (2) Thermal Power Stations Personnel Training Institute, Durgapur.
- (3) Thermal Power Stations Personnel Training Institute, Badarpur, (New Delhi).

(4) Thermal Power Stations Personnel Training Institute, Neyveli.

(5) Power System Training Institute, including Hot Line Training Centre at Bangalore.

(b) There is no proposal at present to set up a training institute of the Centra₁ Government in Madhya Pradesh in the field of electricity,

[*English*]

Constructions of Godowns and Hiring of Private Places by FCI

3273. SHRI K.R. NATARAJAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has allowed private and Government agencies in States and Union Territories to construct godowns for the use of FCI ;

(b) if so, the number of godowns constructed by Government and private agencies, State-wise break-up during the last three years ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that FCI has hired private places for use as godowns instead of using the godowns constructed by private and Government agencies ;

(d) whether private and Government agencies contractors are yet to receive huge amount of arrears from FCI ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) A statement showing State-wise and agencies-wise breakdown of the storage capacity constructed by Food Corporation of India and public sector agencies on behalf of the Corporation during the last three years is attached. No private party constructed godowns for the Corporations use during this period.

(c) The Corporation hires storage capacity constructed by private parties/

public sector agencies for its use. However, when additional storage capacity is required or after the expiry of the guarantee period if the terms and conditions offered by these parties are not suitable or operational considerations come in the way, the Corporation hires storage capacity from other parties.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement
The break-down of storage capacity constructed by FCI and other Public Sector Agencies on behalf of FCI during 1983-84 to 1985-86

(Figures in Lakh tonnes)

S. NO.	STATE/U.T.	FCI	CPWD	CWC	HPL	RITES	NBCC	NPCC	ESPI	TOTAL
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.03	...	...	...	0.50	0.60	0.15	0.25	2.53
2.	Bihar	0.03	0.42	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.45
3.	Gujarat	0.71	...	...	...	...	0.30	...	0.45	1.46
4.	Haryana	1.21	1.20	...	0.30	...	...	...	...	2.71
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.46	0.15	...	0.22	...	...	...	...	0.83
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.07	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.12
7.	Karnataka	0.66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.66
8.	Kerala	1.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.03
9.	Madhya Pradesh	...	0.05	...	0.43	...	...	...	...	0.48
10.	Maharashtra	1.05	...	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	1.10
11.	NEF Region	...	...	...	...	...	0.02	...	...	0.02
12.	Orissa	0.02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.02
13.	Punjab	0.40	2.17	0.65	...	...	...	...	0.64	3.86
14.	Rajasthan	1.16	0.10	...	...	...	...	0.48	...	1.74
15.	Tamil Nadu	0.74	...	...	...	...	0.12	...	...	0.86

S.No.	STATE/U.T.	FCI	CPWD	CWC	HPL	BITES	NBCC	NPCC	ESPI	TOTAL
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0.20	0.65	0.45	...	0.06	...	0.07	...	1.43
17.	West Bengal	0.52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.52
18.	Delhi	0.25	0.05	...	...	...	...	0.20	...	0.50
Total :		9.54	4.84	1.15	0.95	0.56	1.04	0.90	1.04	20.32

ABBREVIATIONS :

FCI — Food Corporation of India

CPWD — Central Public Works Department

CWC — Central Warehousing Corporation

HPL — Hindustan Prefab Limited

BITES — Rail India Technical & Economic Services

NBCC — National Building Construction Corporation

NPCC — National Project Construction Corporation

ESPI — Engineering Projects India Limited

STD Facilities in Amalapuram and East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh

3274. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for providing STD facilities to Amalapuram and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) if so, the time by which STD facilities will be provided there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Kakinada the District Headquarter of East Godavari District and Rajahmundry are already having STD facilities. There is a proposal to provide STD facilities to Dowlaiswaran, Peddapuram, Ravulapalam, Samalkot and Tuni during the current Five Year Plan. As regards Amalapuram there is no plan at present to provide STD facilities.

(b) and (c). Amalapuram is a manual type of Telephone exchange and is likely to be automatised towards the end of Current Five Year Plan due to limited availability of Switching equipment. STD facility to Amalapuram will be feasible thereafter.

Telephone Service in Lakhimpur Kheri

3275. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to defective working of Lakhimpur Kheri telephone exchange, a number of connections have been surrendered ; and

(b) if so, the steps to improve the functioning.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. Only 4 telephone connections have been closed on subscriber's request during recent past out of 776 working connections.

(b) Though working of the exchange is satisfactory, even then in order to improve the services further, following steps are being taken :—

(i) Proper fittings of distribution points at subscribers office.

(ii) Provision of Overhead cables to reduce overhead alignments in congested localities.

(iii) Periodical routine testing of exchange equipment and rectification of faults.

Spurious goods manufactured by small scale units

3276. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that spurious goods of poor quality are manufactured by some of the small scale units who put the stamp and name of established big units ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check such malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Government have not received any specific complaints of the type referred to in part (a). Under the Trade Marks & Merchandise Act, legal remedies are available to the owners of brand names against infringement of the quality and standard of their product.

Power Tariff in different States

3277. SHRI CHITA MAHATA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the details of power tariff per unit in different States during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : The estimated average rates of electricity for various categories of consumers in different States and Union Territories as on 1.4.1984, 1.4.1985 and 1.4.1986 are given in the statement below :

Statement*

Domestic Lights & Fans
(30 Kwh/Month)

(Estimated Average Rates
in Paise per Unit)

(As on 1st. April)

S. Name of the SEB/UT No. Electricity Deptt / Licensee/Govt. Undertaking		1984	1985	1986
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	51.67	51.67	51.67
2.	Assam	60.00	60.00	60.00
3.	Bihar	62.33	62.33	62.33
4.	Gujarat	60.56	60.00	65.00
5.	Haryana	45.00	45.00	45.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	44.83	44.83	45.67
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	33.08	33.08	33.08
8.	Karnataka	44.00	44.00	55.00
9.	Kerala	47.66	47.66	47.66
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Urban	46.50	47.00
		Rural	44.50	45.00
11.	Maharashtra	Bombay & Pune		38.50
		Other areas	37.25	37.50
12.	Meghalaya	49.00	50.00	50.00
13.	Orissa	57.50	57.50	56.00
14.	Punjab	52.00	52.00	53.84
15.	Rajasthan	46.00	46.00	58.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	55.00	55.00	55.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	57.00	59.00	59.00
18.	West Bengal	55.60	55.00	57.00
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	58.00	58.00	58.00
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.00	50.00	50.00
21.	Chandigarh	32.25	32.25	36.65
22.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	47.55	47.55	60.00

1	2	3	4	5	
23.	Delhi	D.E.S.U.	29.00	29.00	29.00
		N.D.M.C.	29.00	29.00	29.00
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Goa	40.00	40.00	40.00
		Daman & Diu	60.00	60.00	60.00
25.	Lakshadweep		60.00	60.00	60.00
26.	Manipur		45.00	45.00	45.00
27.	Mizoram		48.00	48.00	48.00
28.	Nagaland		64.00	64.00	64.00
29.	Pondicherry		55.00	55.00	55.00
30.	Sikkim		36.33	36.33	46.67
31.	Tripura		60.00	60.00	60.00
32.	Ahmedabad		60.69	68.12	77.91
53.	Bombay	B.E.S.T.	63.77	73.08	77.01
		Suburban	71.88	77.74	74.50
		Tatas	—	—	—
34.	Calcutta (C.E.S.C.)		48.83	50.80	50.80
35.	D.V.C.	Bihar area	—	—	—
		West Bengal area	—	—	—
36.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.		50.00	52.00	52.00

Commercial Lights & Fans
(200 Kwh/Month)
(As on 1st April)

(Estimated Average Rates
in paise per unit)

S. No.	Name of the SEB/UT/ Electricity Deptt./ Licensee/Govt. Undertaking	1984	1985	1986
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96.50	96.50	96.50
2.	Assam	73.00	73.00	73.00
3.	Bihar	83.50	83.50	83.50
4.	Gujarat	84.20	84.25	90.07
5.	Haryana	99.75	100.75	106.25

1	2	3	4	5	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	74.50	74.50	82.00	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	58.90	58.90	58.90	
8.	Karnataka	105.00	105.00	156.25	
9.	Kerala	60.50	60.50	60.50	
10.	Madhya Pradesh	90.50	90.50	101.50	
11.	Maharashtra	Bombay & Pune	82.50	82.75	
		Other areas	—	—	104.80
12.	Meghalaya	80.00	81.00	81.00	
13.	Orissa	71.75	71.75	95.00	
14.	Punjab	90.00	90.00	105.00	
15.	Rajasthan	66.00	66.00	96.00	
16.	Tamil Nadu	Madras	95.00	106.00	115.00
		Other areas	90.00	101.00	110.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	87.00	89.00	89.00	
18.	West Bengal	78.00	78.00	80.00	
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	51.75	51.75	51.75	
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.00	50.00	50.00	
21.	Chandigarh	70.00	70.00	88.00	
22.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	77.55	86.05	92.75	
23.	Delhi	D.E.S.U.	50.00	50.00	91.00
		N.D.M.C.	53.00	53.00	92.00
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Goa	70.50	74.75	82.75
		Daman & Diu	76.75	76.75	83.50
25.	Lakshadweep	60.00	60.00	60.00	
26.	Manipur	—	—	—	
27.	Mizoram	60.00	60.00	60.00	
28.	Nagaland	74.00	74.00	74.00	
29.	Pondicherry	135.00	135.00	135.00	
30.	Sikkim	40.00	40.00	64.00	
31.	Tripura	77.00	77.00	77.00	

1	2	3	4	5
32. Ahmedabad		97.09	99.22	137.24
33. Bombay	B.E.S.T. Suburban Tatas	137.77	155.58	162.01
		136.74	142.60	189.76
		—	—	—
34. Calcutta	(C.E.S.C.)	98.50	101.00	96.00
35. D.V.C.	Bihar areas W. Bengal area	—	—	—
		—	—	—
36. Durgapur Projects Ltd.		50.00	57.00	57.00

Agricultural 5 HP 10% L.F.
(272 Kwh/Month)

(Estimated Average Rates
in paise per Unit)

As on 1st April.

S. Name of the SEB/UT/ No. Electricity Deptt./ Licensee/Govt. Undertaking		1984	1985	1986
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.50	9.50	9.50
2.	Assam	30.00	30.00	30.00
3.	Bihar	36.00	36.00	36.00
4.	Gujarat	33.50	33.50	36.51
5.	Haryana	28.68	28.68	32.35
6.	Himachal Pradesh	21.94	21.94	21.94
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	11.50	11.50	11.50
8.	Karnataka	7.66	7.66	11.49
9.	Kerala	15.22	15.22	15.22
10.	Madhya Pradesh	16.00	16.00	16.00
11.	Maharashtra	22.98	22.98	15.31
12.	Meghalaya	30.00	30.00	21.00
13.	Orissa	22.22	22.22	22.49
14.	Punjab	13.50	13.50	13.50
15.	Rajasthan	22.00	22.00	31.00

1	2	3	4	5	
16.	Tamil Nadu	15.00	11.49	11.49	
17.	Uttar Pradesh	41.36	41.36	41.36	
18.	West Bengal	35.00	35.00	35.00	
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	
21.	Chandigarh	17.76	17.76	17.76	
22.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	54.13	54.13	54.19	
23.	Delhi	D.E.S.U.	21.00	21.00	21.00
		N.D.M.C.	—	—	—
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Goa	25.00	25.00	25.00
		Daman & Diu	45.00	45.00	45.00
25.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	
26.	Manipur	—	—	—	
27.	Mizoram	—	—	—	
28.	Nagaland	50.00	50.00	50.00	
29.	Pondicherry	19.00	19.00	16.85	
30.	Sikkim	40.00	40.00	64.00	
31.	Tripura	35.00	35.00	35.00	
32.	Ahmedabad	55.24	64.07	67.61	
33.	Bombay	B.E.S.T.	—	—	—
		Suburban	20.00	20.00	20.00
		Tatas	—	—	—
34.	Calcutta (C.E.S.C.)	—	—	—	
35.	D.V.C.	Bihar area	—	—	—
		West Bengal area	—	—	—
36.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	42.00	42.00	42.00	

Small Industries 5 HP 10% L.F.
(272 Kwh/Month)
As on 1st April

Estimated Average
(Rates in paise per
Unit)

S. Name of the SEB/UT/ No. Electricity Deptt. Licensee/Govt. Undertaking		1984	1985	1986	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	56.84	56.84	56.84	
2.	Assam	57.00	57.00	57.00	
3.	Bihar	100.82	100.82	112.00	
4.	Gujarat	58.25	66.89	86.45	
5.	Haryana	36.40	36.00	65.00	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	34.00	34.00	44.00	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	22.70	22.70	22.70	
8.	Karnataka	50.00	50.00	86.03	
9.	Kerala	26.25	30.77	30.77	
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Urban	47.50	47.50	58.00
		Rural	43.50	43.50	58.00
11.	Maharashtra	45.25	45.50	60.00	
12.	Meghalaya	68.00	70.00	70.00	
13.	Orissa	47.95	47.95	57.00	
14.	Punjab	41.00	41.00	55.00	
15.	Rajasthan	40.00	40.00	69.00	
16.	Tamil Nadu	Madras	65.00	76.00	85.00
		Other areas	60.00	72.00	80.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	61.16	62.48	86.57	
18.	West Bengal	61.50	61.50	63.50	
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	43.00	43.00	43.00	

1	2	3	4	5	
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.00	27.00	27.00	
21.	Chandigarh	23.00	23.00	31.00	
22.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	56.74	61.62	67.03	
23.	Delhi	D.E.U.S.	38.00	38.00	78.00
		N.D.M.C.	—	—	78.00
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Goa	45.00	50.00	50.00
		Daman & Diu	55.00	55.00	55.00
25.	Lakshdweep	40.00	40.00	40.00	
26.	Manipur	25.00	25.00	25.00	
27.	Mizoram	25.00	25.00	25.00	
28.	Nagaland	62.00	62.00	62.00	
29.	Pondicherry	60.00	60.00	72.00	
30.	Sikkim	40.00	40.00	64.00	
31.	Tripura	40.00	40.00	40.00	
32.	Ahmedabad	73.46	83.81	92.62	
33.	Bombay	B.E.S.T.	100.77	123.08	138.50
		Suburban	93.94	99.80	138.76
		Tatas	—	—	—
34.	Calcutta (C.E.S.C.)	78.00	80.00	80.00	
35.	D.V.C.	Bihar area	—	—	—
		W. Bengal	—	—	—
36.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	42.33	45.50	45.50	

**Medium Industries 50 KW, 30% L.F.
(10950 Kwh/Month)**

As on 1st April

Estimated Average
Rates in paise per
Unit)

S. No.	Name of the SEB/UT/ Electricity Deptt./ Licensee/Govt. Undertaking	1984	1985	1986
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.05	55.05	55.05
2.	Assam	57.00	57.00	57.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	98.82	98.82	110.00
4.	Gujarat			
	(May to Oct	66.33	75.13	93.66
	(Nov. to April		79.86	98.39
5.	Haryana	54.16	55.16	85.50
6.	Himachal Pradesh	34.76	34.76	59.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	22.70	22.70	22.70
8.	Karnataka	50.00	50.00	78.67
9.	Kerala	21.21	22.72	22.72
10.	Madhya Pradesh			
	(Urban	58.75	58.75	62.70
	(Rural	54.92	54.92	
11.	Maharashtra	55.25	55.50	80.54
12.	Meghalaya	64.85	66.85	66.85
13.	Orissa	54.09	54.09	65.50
14.	Punjab	45.75	45.75	64.35
15.	Rajasthan	61.57	55.00	83.00
16.	Tamil Nadu			
	(Madras	65.00	76.00	85.00
	(Other areas	60.00	71.00	80.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	61.16	62.48	81.25
18.	West Bengal	—	—	—
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.00	27.00	27.00
21.	Chandigarh	30.26	30.26	40.35
22.	Dadra & Nager Haveli	52.17	64.04	62.17
23.	Delhi			
	(DESU	38.00	38.00	78.00
	(NDMC	—	—	78.00
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu			
	(Goa	55.00	60.00	63.00
	(Daman			
	(& Diu	60.00	60.00	63.00
25.	Lakshdweep	32.74	32.74	32.74

1	2	3	4	5	
26.	Manipur	25.00	25.00	25.00	
27.	Mizoram	24.46	24.46	24.46	
28.	Nagaland	62.00	62.00	62.00	
29.	Pondicherry	60.00	68.00	72.00	
30.	Sikkim	46.86	46.86	64.00	
31.	Tripura	40.00	40.00	40.00	
32.	Ahmedabad	85.15	93.64	105.43	
33.	Bombay	B.E.S.T.	100.77	123.08	129.05
		Suburban	92.19	98.05	136.61
		Tatas	—	—	—
34.	Calcutta	(C.E.S.C.)	78.00	85.16	85.16
35.	D.V.C.	(Bihar area	—	—	—
		(W. Bengal area	—	—	—
36.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	44.78	46.78	46.78	

**Large Industries 1000 KW 50% L.F. (Estimated Average
(365000 Kwh/Month)
(As on 1st April)**

**Rates in paise
per unit)**

S. No.	Name of SEB/UT/ Electricity Deptt./ Licensee/ Govt. Undertaking	1984	1985	1986	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65.56	66.82	69.15	
2.	Assam	55.19	55.19	55.19	
3.	Bihar	86.10	86.10	97.28	
4.	Gujarat	74.42	(May to Oct.	73.20	1.0073
			(Nov. to April	77.57	105.09
5.	Haryana	53.65	54.65	90.50	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	34.00	34.00	57.00	

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.40	20.40	20.40
8.	Karnataka	44.67	44.67	71.28
9.	Kerala	33.28	34.20	34.20
10.	Madhya Pradesh	66.27	66.27	84.12
11.	Maharashtra	(Bombay & Pune 76.20 (Other areas 62.55	86.45 72.80	107.33 94.10
12.	Meghalaya	50.17	48.60	48.60
13.	Orissa	64.96	64.96	87.28
14.	Punjab	47.41	47.41	62.89
15.	Rajasthan	63.00	63.00	85.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	(Madras 60.89 (Other areas 55.89	72.50 67.50	85.12 80.12
17.	Uttar Pradesh	70.75	74.07	97.37
18.	West Bengal	75.92	80.91	86.45
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	42.00	42.00	42.00
21.	Chandigarh	31.74	31.74	43.32
22.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	71.43	70.55	61.89
23.	Delhi	(DESU 75.86 (NDMC —	75.86 —	100.80 —
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	(Goa 50.80 (Daman (& Diu 64.67	55.80 64.67	68.80 72.67
25.	Lakshdweep	—	—	—
26.	Manipur	—	—	—
27.	Mizoram	—	—	—
28.	Nagaland	62.00	62.00	62.00
29.	Pondicherry	54.89	64.50	70.50
30.	Sikkim	26.06	26.06	38.88
31.	Tripura	—	—	—
32.	Ahemadabad	81.20	90.79	102.55
33.	Bombay	(B.E.S.T. 75.19 (Suburban 78.63 (Tatas 67.11	100.77 84.19 77.61	106.14 116.69 100.46
34.	Calcutta (C.E.S.C)	72.86	95.00	103.50
35.	D.V.C.	(Bihar area 58.59 (W. Bengal area 58.09	56.59 58.09	56.59 58.09
36.	Durgapur Projects Ltd.	41.84	43.84	43.84

Steps to strengthen public distribution system

3278. SHRI GURU DAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the criticism made by the World Bank about Public Distribution System in India ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by Government to strengthen the Public Distribution System in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :

(a) and (b). The World Development Report 1986 published by the World Bank, has mentioned that the Indian Government, through the Food Corporation of India and other state agencies, runs one of the largest food distribution systems in the world. The system has succeeded in providing greater price stability for consumers than would have existed otherwise. The Report, however, refers to the high cost of holding the buffer stocks of about 30 million tonnes of grains which is equal to more than 2 years of sales from the fair price shop system.

(c) In actual operation of the public distribution system, there exists a dual responsibility of the Central Government and the State Governments. While the responsibility of the Central Government

is to procure, store, allocate and transport upto central godowns, seven commodities viz., wheat, rice, sugar, kerosene and edible oils, the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories is to lift these commodities from the central godowns and distribute them to consumers in urban and rural areas through a network of fair price shops. Central Government has been, from time to time, impressing upon State Governments/Union Territories Administrations to revamp the public distribution system by strengthening the infrastructural facilities and also to expand the commodity coverage of fair price shops with a view to improving their viability.

Import of Crude Petrol

3279. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the value and quantity of crude and petroleum products imported, year-wise from 1983-84 to 1985-86 ; and

(b) the price of petroleum per barrel in the international market, year-wise from 1983-84 to 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) The quantity and value of crude oil and petroleum products imported during the years 1983-84 to 1985-86 is given below :—

	1983-84		1984-85		1985-86*	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Crude Oil	15.97	3541	13.64	3430	15.14	3687
Petroleum Products	4.33	1271	6.09	1915	3.87	1274

*Provisional.

(b) The official selling prices of certain crude in the international market during the past three years ranged as under :—

Year	Price Range (\$/bbl)
1983	26 - 31.09
1984	26 - 31.09
1985	23.5-29.5

Subsidence due to coal mining operation

3280. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mouza Ramjileanpur, district Burdwan under Eastern Coalfield Ltd.; is the anticipated victim due to subsidence arising out of gas, fire etc. due to coal mining operation ;

(b) whether Union Government have undertaken a pilot project on experimental basis to combat the subsidence ;

(c) the amount earmarked for such pilot project and the expenditure incurred for the purpose as on date ;

(d) whether this experiment is yielding any encouraging results ;

(e) whether management contemplates to have similar project to fight the subsidence arising out of gas, fire and mining operation covering the entire area declared unsafe ;

(f) if so, problem time of completion for those projects and the total financial requirement ; and

(g) the amount earmarked in Seventh Five Year Plan as a measure of perspective planning and for immediate expenditure in the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (g). Due to unscientific exploitation of coal reserves during the pre-nationalisation days certain settlements in Raniganj coalfield

have experienced instances of land subsidence. The Government of West Bengal, Asansol-Durgapur Development Authority and Eastern Coalfields Ltd. have taken steps to combat the problem.

A pilot project is being conducted at Ramjibanpur (ECL) for stabilisation of water filled voids. The project involves application of innovative methods like stowing of sand and water slurry through boreholes and testing the efficacy of those measures by geo-physical methods. Further extension of the stabilisation technology being tried out at Ramjibanpur to other areas would be considered after assessing its efficacy.

The sanctioned cost of the Ramjibanpur is Rs. 44.84 lakhs. An allocation of Rs. 6 lakhs has been made for the year 1986-87 and a similar amount for 1987-88.

Employment to dependants of deceased in ECL and BCCL

3281. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases still pending as on 30.9.1986 with the authority of Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited in respect of providing employment to the direct dependants of those who died while in service, incapacitated due to accident leading to death of permanent disablement while on duty and medically found for continuing the job ;

(b) the reasons for delay ;

(c) whether this delay runs counter to the provisions of the subsisting tripartite agreements ; and

(d) the action Government propose to take for speedy settlement of those cases ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 170 cases in E.C.B., and 718 cases in B.C.C.L. were pending as on 30.9.1986.

(b) Delays usually occur on account of inadequate or faulty documentation.

Delays also arise due to non-availability of vacancies suitable to the dependents, specially when such dependents are females, and because of doubts as to the identity of the claimants or the genuineness of the relationship with the deceased claimed by them.

(c) No, Sir. As per National Coal Wage Agreement-III there is no time period fixed for disposal of such cases, but as per instructions issued by CIL for implementation of the said agreement, cases are to be finalised within 90 days of receipt of application from the nominee/legal heir of the deceased, provided all papers submitted are in order.

(d) The companies have issued instructions that all applications received in this regard from the dependents should be scrutinised at the time of receipt itself so that delay do not take place on account of incompleteness of application-forms or lack of necessary details therein.

Allocation of Foodgrains, Rice and Wheat in West Bengal

3282. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the current demand of foodgrains, rice and wheat separately (in tonnes) in West Bengal for distribution through public distribution system ;

(b) the total allocation made by the Centre ; and

(c) the actual supply made by the Food Corporation of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The monthly demand from the Government of West Bengal has been at 1,50,000 tonnes of rice and 1,30,000 tonnes of wheat for public distribution system during the current year.

(b) and (c). The total allotment and

offtake of rice and wheat during the period January to November, 1986 in respect of West Bengal is as under :—

	(In thousand tonnes)	
	Allotment	Offtake
Rice	1375	603*
Wheat	1386	557*

*offtake upto September, 1986 only.

Steps to promote Khadi and Village Industries

3283. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps for the promotion of khadi and village industries ;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked therefor during the Seventh Plan ;

(c) the amount allocated to different States for this purpose ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the 7th Plan, Rs. 540 crores have been earmarked for the development of Khadi and Village Industries programmes. This excludes Non-Plan expenditure.

(c) and (d). The Government provides funds to the KVIC by way of grants and loans. KVIC, in turn, finalises its programmes and allocations are made in consultation with the State Khadi & Village Industries Boards and the voluntary institutions of each State.

Termination of service of SC/ST and women workers in ECL and BCCL.

3284. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workmen both in Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited who lost their job upto 1 October, 1986 on the ground of alleged unauthorised absence—"Lost lien."

(b) out of the total workmen thus terminated how many of them belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women workers separately ;

(c) whether these terminations were done after due compliance of the standing orders and other laws ; and

(d) whether the vacancies thus created have been filled in having given due regard to the "reservation quota" for the purpose of employment ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The number of workmen losing their jobs on ground of unauthorised absence, i.e. "Lostlien" in the concerned two coal companies, is as follows :

Coal Companies

		Eastern Coal- fields Ltd. (1.4.84 to 4.10.1986)	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (1.4.83 to Sept. 1986)
(i) SC Workers	...	281	726
(ii) ST Workers	...	201	339
(iii) Female Workers	...	59	45
(iv) Others	...	464	132
		1005	1242

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since both the concerned Coal Companies are carrying huge manpower, with low output per manshift, there is no question of filling up of all the vacancies thus caused. Moreover, the names of the employees, losing their lien, are kept in the Badli list and they are offered jobs from time to time as Badli workers. It be added that Coal Companies follow reservation policy and instructions of the Goyt. in all their recruitment.

Power Generation Capacity (Hydel and Thermal) of Damodar Valley Corporation

3285. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total capacity of power generation both hydel and thermal of Damodar Valley Corporation ;

(b) the average generation actually takenplace during the last three years *vis-a-vis* rated capacity utilisation, year-wise ;

(c) the commitment of supply in term of MW which covers most of the public and private sectors ;

(d) the average shortfall in fulfilling the commitment ; and

(e) whether the effect of such shortfall has been determined particularly in the areas of coal, steel, aluminium and other engineering industries including small units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA RAHTAGI) : (a) At present, Damodar Valley Corporation has a total installed (derated) capacity of 1439 MW

consisting of 1335 MW Thermal and 104 MW of Hydel.

(b) The average generation and the percentage capacity utilisation during the last 3 years were as under :—

Year	Average Generation	Capacity Utilisation
1983-84	721.25 MW	46.56%
1984-85	742.81 MW	47.95%
1985-86	737.40 MW	47.60%

(c) The commitment of supply in terms of Million Units to major sectors during the last three years was as under :—

Year	Railways	SAIL	Other Steel	Coal	Mixed & others
1983-84	633.18	1281	816.18	1573.8	1515.24
1984-85	631.45	1277.5	813.95	1569.5	1511.1
1985-86	631.45	1277.5	813.95	1569.5	1511.1

(d) The average shortfall in energy sold against commitment during the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 was 8.27%, 4.6% and 2.73% respectively.

(e) While no specific study has been carried out, from time to time, the industries have drawn attention to their individual supply position. In order to improve the generation, a variety of measures which *inter-alia* include the renovation and modernisation of the existing units and adding to the existing capacity through short gestation schemes have been undertaken.

Railway Mail Sorting offices in Himachal Pradesh

3286. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Section-I working in the Railway Mail sorting office at

Hoshiarpur (Punjab) and catering to the needs of Himachal Pradesh and Hoshiarpur district of Punjab has since been restored after its closure for sometime in August, 1986 ; and

(b) if so, the date with effect from which it has been restored and whether some additional direct mail bags between various stations in Hamirpur, Una and Kangra districts would also be introduced as per demand in view of the interest of the community between these districts and Hoshiarpur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). Set. No. 1 of Hoshiarpur Railway Mail Service has been restored with effect from 11-9-1986.

Introduction of direct mail bags for various stations will be considered keeping in view, public convenience, statistical justification and operational requirements.

**Commitment for Payment of Non-
Refundable Contribution by
Himachal Pradesh**

3287. PROF. NARAIN CHANDRA PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Posts has received the commitment of the Himachal Pradesh Government for the payment of non-refundable contribution (NRC) to cover the loss suffered by the Department of Posts on the upgradation of a number of EDBOs/EDSOs to the status of D.S.O.S. for a period of ten years ;

(b) if so, the names of the EDBOs/EDSOs for the upgradation of which the Himachal Pradesh Government has given the commitment, district-wise alongwith the amount in each case ; and

(c) the action taken by the Department of Posts to upgrade these Extra Departmental Post Offices, when the loss is being offset by the contribution from the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)

Yes Sir. However, the period of commitment to pay non-refundable contribution (NRC) is reported to be until such time the upgraded post offices become self-supporting. Further, the correspondence in this regard is between Himachal Pradesh Government and the Regional Director Postal Services, Himachal Pradesh. The Department of Posts has not directly come into the picture.

(b) The names of EDBOs/EDSOs in Himachal Pradesh district-wise for which NRC has been offered are given in the statement below together with the amount of NRC as calculated by the Regional Director, Simla.

(c) The ban imposed by the Government on creation of posts is applicable even in cases where an extra-departmental post office is to be upgraded to the level of a departmental sub-post office on the basis of NRC. It is therefore proposed to obtain detailed reports in all the cases from Regional Director Simla along with verified NRC figures and thereafter such of these cases which are considered to merit relaxation of ban may be taken with the Ministry of Finance.

Statement

Sl. No.	District	EDBO/EDSO	NRC as assessed by R.D. PS Shimla (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Shimla	Summerkot	23,790.88
2.	Shimla	Arhal	22,264.24
3.	Shimla	Deori Khamapi	24,996.40
4.	Shimla	Mandal	22,624.00
5.	Shimla	Jakhri	17,637.12
6.	Lahul Spiti	Sagnan	20,699.08
7.	Kinnaur	Katagaon	28,273.56

1	2	3	4
8.	Mandi	Palichowki	15,304.92
9.	Mandi	Panagana	16,956.00
10.	Mandi	Gopalpur	17,644.16
11.	Mandi	Gaggal	16,809.72
12.	Mandi	Janjajeli	18,723.80
13.	Kulu	Jaree	15,262.92
14.	Kulu	Larenkelo	17,318.52
15.	Kulu	Bhutti	16,704.72
16.	Kulu	Bhang	12,160.72
17.	Kangra	Muhal	12,161.16
18.	Solan	Alanwala	16,498.68
19.	Solan	Patta Mahalong	13,116.95
20.	Solan	Manlig	12,847.80
21.	Solan	Baddi	18,445.92
22.	Chamba	Bhalai	11,058.24
23.	Chamba	Garola	11,244.60
24.	Hamirpur	Didwin Tikker	9,543.36
25.	Hamirpur	Basaral	13,216.48
26.	Hamirpur	Awadevi	3,457.12
27.	Hamirpur	Hreta	15,006.72
28.	Hamirpur	Dhaneda	18,773.48
29.	Hamirpur	Parol	7,592.72
30.	Una	Pubowal	7,232.00
31.	Una	Bhera	6,754.40
32.	Bilaspur	Harlog	17,916.24
33.	Bilaspur	Jejwin	6,291.48
34.	Bilaspur	Kaurawr	2,855.72
35.	Bilaspur	Chharol	12,699.60
36.	Bilaspur	Banikohlor	17,321.52
37.	Bilaspur	Behal	16,743.60

Construction of Office Buildings and Residential Colonies in N.W. Postal Circles

3288. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any funds were allocated for the construction of office buildings and residential colonies in N.W. Postal Circle during the last three years, including the current financial year ;

(b) if so, the break-up of allocations for each constituent State, year-wise, separately ;

(c) the actual expenditure in respect of each year, separately for each State ;

(d) whether any funds have lapsed for want of timely sanction/speedy construction of the projects in any State in any year ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof ?

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

Installation of Single Channel UHF System

3289. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2671 on 5th August, 1986 regarding VHF/UHF Telecom. Link between Bilaspur and Rishikesh and State :

(a) the names of 60 proposals of the installation of single channel UHF system, as requested by the North Western (N.W.) Telecom. Circle alongwith their State-wise, breakup ; and

(b) whether the Bilaspur-Rishikesh

UHF system would also be included in the list of proposals in view of the inability of any other means of communication spanning the Gobind Sagar Lake between Bilaspur and Rishikesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The list of 60 proposals of single VHF system in North Western Circle State-wise are given in the statement below.

(b) There is no proposal at present.

Statement

List of Single Channel VHF Systems proposed by North-West Telecom.

Circle

PUNJAB

S.No. Name of the Route

1. Derababa Nanak—Batala
2. Fatehgarh Churian—Batala
3. Shri Hargobindpur—Batala
4. Chogwan—Amritsar
5. Chola Sahib—Patti
6. Gharyala—Patti
7. Khadoor Sahib—Taran Taran
8. Majitha—Amritsar
9. Naushra-Panwan—Taran Taran
10. Tarsika—Jandiala Guru
11. Kalanaur—Gurdaspur
12. Kot Trekhan—Moga
13. Mahal Kalan—Barnala
14. Sahna—Barnala
15. Chemkaur Sahib—Ropar
16. Saile Majri—Kurali

- | 1 | 2 |
|----------------------------|---|
| 17. Nurpur Bedi—Ropar | |
| 18. Anandpur Sahib—Nangal | |
| 19. Bhuna Hari—Patiala | |
| 20. Ghanaur—Patiala | |
| 21. Chemkaur Sahib—Morinda | |
| 22. Lambi—Malout | |
| 23. Junir—Mansa | |
| 24. Phul—Rampur Phul Mandi | |
| 25. Sangat—Bhatinda | |
| 26. Talwandi—Sabo Raman | |
| 27. Mahalpur—Hoshiarpur | |
| 28. Banga—Jalandhar | |
| 29. Sultanpur—Kapurthala | |
| 30. Ahmedgarh—Ludhiana | |
| 31. Balachaur—Nawanshahar | |
| 32. Saroya—Nawanshahar | |
| 33. Aur—Nawanshahar | |
| 34. Rurka Kalan—Goraya | |
| 35. Shahkot—Jalandhar | |
| 36. Nurmahal—Jalandhar | |
| 37. Samrala—Khanna | |
| 38. Sahnewal—Ludhiana | |
| 39. Raikot—Ludhiana | |

HIMACHAL PRADESH

1. Thanedar—Nithar
2. Shimla—Sairi
3. Kasauli—Barotiwala
4. Kasauli—Arki

- | 1 | 2 |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 5. Chamba—Khajiar | |
| 6. Dalhousie—Bakloh | |
| 7. Dalhousie—Salooni | |
| 8. Dharamshala—Nagrota Surian | |
| 9. Dharamshala—Gopalpur | |
| 10. Palampur—Chadiar | |
| 11. Palampur—Thural | |
| 12. Hamirpur—Sujanpur | |
| 13. Hamirpur—Bhota | |
| 14. Hamirpur—Kakkar | |
| 15. Bilaspur—Nainadevi | |
| 16. Una—Chintpurni | |
| 17. Kulu—Naggur | |
| 18. Kulu—Raison | |
| 19. Sundernagar—Nihri | |
| 20. Sundernagar—Dharamsala | |
| 21. Sudhar—Madanpur | |

HARYANA

Nii

**Expenditure on International
Telecommunications Services**

3290. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the annual expenditure incurred by his Ministry on International telecommunications services via satellite and the names of satellite members ;

(b) whether for telephone calls, the cables offer better links than the satellite communication line ;

(c) whether satellite communications can be made secure by transmitting data in code ; and

(d) if so, whether any plan has been or is being formulated in this behalf and its financial implications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The annual expenditure incurred for providing international telecommunications services on Satellite, Submarine Cables and High Frequency Medium for 1985-86 was approximately Rs. 43 crores. About 90% of the communication is via international satellites. The names of 112 member countries of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (INTELSAT) are given in the statement below.

(b) Both Cables and Satellites offer good quality circuits for telephone calls.

(c) Telecommunications services operated through Satellites for public services do not provide for use of special codes for making them secure.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

List of Intelsat Countries

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 11. Bolivia |
| 2. Algeria | 12. Brazil |
| 3. Angola | 13. Burkina Faso |
| 4. Argentina | 14. Cameroon |
| 5. Australia | 15. Canada |
| 6. Austria | 16. Central African Republic |
| 7. Bahamas | 17. Chad |
| 8. Bangladesh | 18. Chile |
| 9. Barbados | 19. China People's Republic of |
| 10. Belgium | 20. Colombia |
| | 21. Congo |
| | 22. Costa Rica |
| | 23. Cote D'Ivoire |
| | 24. Cyprus |
| | 25. Denmark |
| | 26. Dominican Republic |
| | 27. Ecuador |
| | 28. Egypt |
| | 29. El Salvador |
| | 30. Ethiopia |
| | 31. Fiji |
| | 32. Finland |
| | 33. France |
| | 34. Gabon |
| | 35. Germany, Fed. Rep. of |
| | 36. Ghana |
| | 37. Greece |
| | 38. Guatemala |
| | 39. Guinea |

40. Haiti
41. Honduras
42. Iceland
43. India
44. Indonesia
45. Iran, Islamic Republic of
46. Iraq
47. Ireland
48. Israel
49. Italy
50. Jamaica
51. Japan
52. Jordan
53. Kenya
54. Korea, Republic of
55. Kuwait
56. Lebanon
57. Libya
58. Liechtenstein
59. Luxembourg
60. Madagascar
61. Malawi
62. Malaysia
63. Mali
64. Mauritania
65. Mauritius
66. Mexico
67. Monaco
68. Morocco
69. Netherlands
70. New Zealand
71. Nicaragua
72. Niger
73. Nigeria
74. Norway
75. Oman
76. Pakistan
77. Panama
78. Papua New Guinea
79. Paraguay
80. Peru
81. Philippines
82. Portugal
83. Qatar
84. Rwanda
85. Saudi Arabia
86. Senegal
87. Singapore
88. Somalia
89. South Africa
90. Spain
91. Sri Lanka
92. Sudan
93. Sweden
94. Switzerland
95. Syria
96. Tanzania
97. Thailand

98. Trinidad and Tobago
 99. Tunisia
 100. Turkey
 101. Uganda
 102. United Arab Emirates
 103. United Kingdom
 104. United States of
 105. Uruguay America
 106. Vatican City State
 107. Venezuela
 108. Viet-Nam
 109. Yemen Arab Republic
 110. Yugoslavia
 111. Zaire
 112. Zambia

World Bank Loan for Oil India Ltd.

3291. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a World Bank team visited India earlier this month in a bid to break the impasse holding up the release of 150 million dollar loan to Oil India Ltd. (OIL) ;

(b) if so, the difficulties coming in the way of an agreement ;

(c) whether these have since been resolved ; and

(d) whether the World Bank has now agreed to release the loan for OIL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) A World Bank post appraisal mission visited India recently for reviewing the Petroleum Project of Oil India Limited. There was no impasse.

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

(d) Negotiations for loan are indicated in December, 1986.

Price per Litre of Petrol, Diesel and Kerosene

3292. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the prices per litre of petrol, diesel and kerosene year-wise from 1984 to 1986; and

(b) total additional revenue collected through price hike, year-wise from 1984 to 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The selling prices per litre of petrol, diesel and kerosene during the last 3 years ex-Delhi are given hereunder :

(Rs./Litre)

Effective Dates	Petrol	Diesel	Kerosene
1.4.84	6.09	3.200	1.89
1.6.84	6.12	3.22	1.92
17.3.85	7.01	3.47	2.18
26.3.85	-do-	3.39	2.11
1.2.86	7.54	3.58	2.34
6.2.86	7.43	3.50	2.25
to date			

(b). The approximate additional annual generation of fund due to increase in prices are as under :

Price increase on	Annual Impact (Rs. in crores)
17.3.85	909
26.3.85 (reduction)	(176) (loss of revenue)
1.2.86/6.2.86	563

Contracts for Supply of Bottlers for Farakka Super Thermal Power Project

3293. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the names of foreign firms which have been given various contracts like supplying of boilers and other machinery for Farakka Super

Thermal Power Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : The information is given below :—

Name of the Package	Contractor
Stage—I (3×200 MW)	
1. Hydrogen Generation Plant	: Electrolyser Corporation Ltd. Canada
2. Lt Indoor Transformer	: Nichimen Corporation, Japan
3. 33 KV Switchgear	: Siemens, West Germany
4. 132 KV & 33 KV XLPE Cables & Accessories	: Asca Kabel, Sweden
5. Data Acquisition System	: Bailey Controls Company, USA
6. 400 KV SF6 Circuit Breaker	: AEG Telefunken, West Germany
7. 400 KV Shunt Reactor	: Nichimen Corporation, Japan
8. 400 KV Bus Post Insulator	: NGK Insulators, Japan
9. 120 KN and 160 CN Disc. Insulators	: Itelio Solatari, Italy
Stage—II (2×500 MW)	
1. Steam Generator including Electrostatic Precipitator	: Supply—Ansaldo Component I SpA. Italy
	: Erection—Ansaldo SpA, Italy

[*Translation*]

Allocation of Sugar in U.P.

3294. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sugar demanded by Uttar Pradesh Government during the last three years and upto October, 1986, month-wise ;

(b) the quantity of sugar allotted and actual supply made against the demand, month-wise ; and

(c) the reasons for supply of less quantity of sugar to that State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Monthly Levy Sugar quotas are allotted on the basis of uniform norms and not on the basis of demand/request received from the State Governments. From October, 1983, when the monthly levy quota was last revised upwards, Uttar Pradesh Government is being allotted levy sugar quota of 50,466 tonnes per month for distribution through Public Distribution System. Besides this, additional levy sugar quota for the festivals has also been allotted.

[*English*]

Automatisation/Microwave System in Alipurduar

3295. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Alipurduar in the district of Jalpaiguri (West Bengal) was assured by the authorities a change from its oldest and rejected equipments to Automatisation/Microwave system, to be stalled in 1981 last ;

(b) whether the most delicate equipment to Automatisation Microautomation of telephone exchange at Alipurduar is

getting rusted in the godown of the exchange ; and

(c) the reasons for delay in installing the automatic exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Replacement of existing manual exchange by electronic exchange at Alipurduar was targetted for 1986-87. Microwave system between Alipurduar and Cooch Bihar has been commissioned in 1986-87.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Installation of 600 line electronic exchange at Alipurduar is delayed due to :—

- (1) Non-completion of exchange building.
- (2) Non-receipt of full compliment of Power Plant.

Closure of Branch Post Offices in Rural Areas of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts

3296. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the post office branches in the rural areas of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts of the backward Konhen region of Maharashtra have been recently closed down on grounds of financial losses ; and

(b) if so, whether the decision would be reviewed and postal branches closed down revived ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. No post offices in the rural areas of Ratnagiri/Sindhudurg districts have been closed recently.

(b) Does not arise.

Study on effect of working of Lok Adalats and Administrative Tribunals on Courts

3297. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases dealt with during last one year by Lok Adalats and Administrative Tribunals ;

(b) whether work load in the courts and strength of the Judges has been reduced with the introduction of Lok Adalats and Administrative Tribunals ;

(c) if so, whether Government have undertaken any study on this issue ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The number of cases settled and disposed of by Lok Adalats and Administrative Tribunals is approximately 3,33,388 and 5,686 respectively.

(b) Work load in Courts has been reduced. However the sanctioned strength of Judges in High Courts has not been reduced.

(c) and (d). The study relating to judicial reforms had been entrusted to the Law Commission. Two reports on Judicial reforms have been received by the Government of Lok Nayalaya and Tax Courts which are under study.

Measures to rejuvenate recently set up projects manufacturing light commercial vehicles

3298. SHRI P.M. SAYEED :

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have adopted some measures to rejuvenate the four

recently set up projects manufacturing light commercial vehicles, if so, the details thereof ;

(b) the details of the difficulties being faced by these projects ; and

(c) the estimated benefit that is likely to accrue to the purchaser of fully indigenised light commercial vehicle after the measures thus adopted by Government are actually made applicable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Government have already extended certain fiscal concessions, particularly with reference to customs and excise duties, to the manufactures of fuel efficient commercial vehicles. However, the main difficulty being experienced by these four manufacturers of light commercial vehicles is the high cost of production arising primarily on account of the steep appreciation in the value of the Yen. Consequent high selling prices of these vehicles vis-a-viz their competitors have affected their production and sales. Discussions with the vehicle manufacturers are in progress with a view to stimulate the demand for commercial vehicles.

In this context, Government is also encouraging both upgradation of technologies and faster indigenisation of the manufacture of components.

Foreign collaboration in high technology

3299. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign collaborations in high technology areas approved during the last three years alongwith their details; and

(b) in how many cases rights under patents protected in India were involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government approved 673,752 and 1024 foreign collaboration proposals in the years 1983, 1984 and 1985 respectively. Details of all approved collaborations showing the names of Indian and foreign firms, items of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published on a monthly basis by Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly news letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

(b) Statistical information in respect of cases where rights under patents are protected in India is not maintained centrally.

Memorandum by Indian Drug manufacturers Association

3300. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint Memorandum was submitted to Government by the Indian Drug Manufacturers Association and other allied Associations regarding pricing of drugs and other related matters ; and

(b) if so, the details of the Memorandum and reaction of Government on these demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the Memorandum is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library see No. LT 3382/86]. Government would give due consideration to the various suggestions given in the Memorandum.

National Project for Improved Chullah

3301. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where a National project for improved chullahs was taken up ;

(b) the number of improved chullahs either installed or demonstrated ;

(c) the response to the project ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The National Project on Improved Chullahs has been taken up in all States/Union Territories.

(b) 22 lakhs improved chullahs have already been constructed/installed throughout the country upto end of October, 1986.

(c) and (d). The response to the project is very encouraging. Village women and rural populations in general are particularly welcoming the project, often enthusiastically. Accordingly a large number of States/U.Ts have exceeded the targets allocated to them, and the national targets have been substantially exceeded in both 1984-85 and 1985-86. Inspections carried out by the implementing agencies and technical back up units, sanctioned or created to assist nodal departments in implementation of the programme, also reveal that chullahs are by and large performing satisfactorily, (although the performance varies from area to area) and that beneficiaries are happy to operate the improved chullahs as they are free from black smoke and also save fuelwood. The project has been converted into a National Programme with effect from 1st April, 1985 in view of good response and heavy demand from all over the country. The programme has also been included in the minimum needs programmes by

the Planning Commission during the 7th Plan.

[*Translation*]

Sugar Mills in Maharashtra in Co-operative Sector

3302. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision had been taken in 1983 for setting up two sugar factories in cooperative sector in each district of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, the districts where sugar factories have been set up or are proposed to set up ;

(c) the proposals received from Chandrapur, Bhandara and Garhchiroli districts of Maharashtra for granting the licence

and the time by which decision will be taken on them ; and

(d) the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No such decision was taken at Government of India level.

(b) In view of position stated at (a), question does not arise.

(c) Two applications—one each from the districts of Chandrapur and Bhandara have been received and rejected. A statement giving the details of these applications is given below. No application for grant of an industrial licence for establishment of a new sugar factory in Distt. Garhchiroli has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

*The details of applications received for grant of industrial licence from Chandrapur and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra States :—

Sl. No.	Name of the proposed sugar factory	Date of receipt of application in the Deptt. of I.D.	Date on which the prima-facie rejection letter issued to the society.
1.	Niyojit Mahalaxmi Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., At Sindewahi, Taluka—Sindewahi, Distt. Chandrapur, Maharashtra.	8.10.1985	11.12.1985
2.	The Bhugaon (Mendha) Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Taluka—Sakoli, Distt. Bhandara	8.1.1986	31.3.1986

**Foodgrain Storage capacity in
Uttar Pradesh**

3303. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the existing storage capacity for foodgrains available in the Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) the details of efforts made so far to increase the capacity, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) As on 1.9.1986, the covered storage capacity available with the Food Corporation of India in Uttar Pradesh for storage of foodgrains was 29.28 lakh tonnes, of which 11.58 lakh tonnes was its own and 17.70 lakh tonnes hired.

(b) The efforts made by the Corporation to increase the storage capacity in Uttar Pradesh include construction of storage capacity and hiring of additional storage capacity from various sources. As a result, the total capacity available with the Corporation in Uttar Pradesh increased from 21.99 lakh tonnes as on 1.4.1983 to 29.28 lakh tonnes as on 1.9.1986 as indicated below :—

As on	Covered storage capacity (lakh tonnes)
1.4.1983	21.99
1.4.1984	22.38
1.4.1985	28.43
1.4.1985	28.78
1.9.1986	29.28

Setting up of Sugar Mills in Punjab

3304. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that sugarcane is produced in Punjab like other main crops such as wheat, rice and cotton, etc;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme to set up sugar mills in Punjab with a view to promote more production of sugarcane in the State ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Central Government do not propose areas or States for setting up sugar mills. The applications for grant of new licences submitted by entrepreneurs through the State Governments with their recommendations are considered subject to favourable agro-climatic conditions and techno-economic feasibility. No application for grant of letter of intent/industrial licence is pending before the Government for setting up of new sugar mills in the State of Punjab at present.

[English]

**Implimentation of Recommendations
of Kapoor Committee**

3305. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations made by the DV Kapoor Committee for conserving energy have been considered by Government so far ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government have accepted any of the recommendations so far ;

(d) if so, the number of the recommendations accepted ; and

(e) the time by which all the recommendations made by the Kapoor Committee will be fully implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (e). The recommendations made by the D.V. Kapoor Committee for conserving energy are by and large acceptable to the Government and the action already initiated by the Government towards implementation of its energy conservation strategy is in conformity with the same. As the task involves sustained inter-action between a number of Departments and agencies as well as the establishment of new mechanisms and practices, steps to translate the strategy into distinct action plans are at various stages of examination interministerial consultations. In the meantime, studies, surveys and energy audits etc. have been sponsored by the Government. A pilot scheme involving rectification of about 24,000 electric pumpsets has been completed and the outcome so far has been encouraging. Educational and awareness campaigns through TV and films etc. are also being prepared. Since most of the recommendations are basically indicative of the directions in which Govt's efforts towards conservation of energy have to be hanelised, their implementation will be a continuing process. As such, it is not possible to indicate a time limit by which all the recommendations could be considered to have been fully implemented.

Collaboration between India and Canada on High Technology

3306. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Canadian Companies have been showing keen interest in collaborating with their Indian counterparts in the high technology fields ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a high level delegation headed by Minister of Indus-

tries and Trade and Technology of Canada Visited India during September, 1986 ;

(c) with whom the delegation held discussions during their stay here ;

(d) whether any agreement in this regard has been reached between the two countries ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHA LAM) : (a) Government had approved 15 foreign collaboration cases with Canadian firms in the year 1985.

(b) Minister of Industry, Trade and Technology of the Government of Ontario had visited India in September 1986.

(c) The delegation met, among others, the Minister of State in the Department of Industrial Development and held general discussions on transfer of technology to India and setting up joint ventures in India and in the third countries.

(d) No agreement on industrial cooperation was signed during this visit.

(e) Does not arise.

Use of Electronic voting machines in Assembly elections and revision of electoral rolls

3307. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether electronic voting machines would be used during legislative Assembly elections in Kerala, Haryana and West Bengal ; and

(b) whether electoral rolls have been revised in these States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) A preliminary decision has been taken by Government to introduce electronic voting machines in elections. Final decision is yet to be taken in consultation with political parties. It is not possible to state whether the electronic machines would be put to use in the elections to the assemblies in Kerala, Haryana and West Bengal at this stage.

(b) The Election Commission has advised that the work of revision of electoral rolls is in progress in these States and is likely to be completed in January, 1987.

ONGC's Agreement for sub-sea Completion in Bombay High

3308. SHRI G. S. BASAVARADU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had decided for sub-sea completion for the first time in Bombay High ;

(b) whether the job has been awarded to some contractors and if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) to what extent the additional yield oil per annum will be gained from these two locations and what are the details of the agreement reached between the ONGC and the contractors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The details are as follows :—

M/S. VETCO OF SINGAPORE : Design, Engineering Fabrication and Installation of template, wellheads & X-MAS tree, control system and umbilicals for controls.

VALUE OF CONTRACT US\$ 11155854.
M/S. SUMITOMO OF JAPAN : Design, Engineering Fabrication and Installation of pipelines.

VALUE OF CONTRACT US\$ 2664700
+ Y 236934000

The project envisages production of 0.5 million tonne per annum of crude oil.

[Translation]

Working of Telephones under Delhi Telephone Exchanges

3309. SARI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephones under Shahdara, Delhi Gate and Idgah Telephone Exchanges under Delhi Mahanagar Telephone Nigam generally remain out of order ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to provide better telephone service to the subscribers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. However, continuous attempt is being made to improve the performance further.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) A time bound programme has been drawn and is being implemented to improve the service further from all the telephone exchanges in Shahdara, Delhi Gate and Idgah (51). The service from other 3 exchanges feeding Idgah area (Viz. 52.77 and 73) is quite satisfactory and usually there are very few complaints from these exchanges. In Shahdara area, the Laxmi Nagar (24) exchange is proposed to be scrapped on commissioning of 15000 lines digital electronic exchange by March '87. Other Strower Exchanges

which are worn out/life expired in Shahdara, Delhi Gate and Idgah will be progressively replaced depending upon availability of resources.

Appointment in place of officials Died in Telegraph Offices in Delhi

3310. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officials in working in different telegraph offices in Delhi who died during the period from 1984 to October, 1986 and the details thereof ;

(b) the facilities provided by Government to the dependents of these officials and number of persons given appointment in place of these officials and the number of such persons who have not been given employment as yet, and

(c) the reasons for not giving employment to the dependents of all such deceased officials and the time by which the remaining persons will be given employment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :

(a) 38

1984	—	6
1985	—	20
1986	—	12

(b) The following facilities are provided to the dependents of the deceased Government employees :

1. Funeral charges of Rs. 100/-
2. Immediate relief in the form of advance limited to three months pay or Rs. 1,500/- which ever is less.
3. Relief of Rs. 1,500/- from Circle Office.

4. Full benefit of C. G. E. I. S.

5. The concession of out of turn allotment of quarter to the dependents of the deceased Government employees if such employee is already in possession of the Government accommodation.

6. Under Deposit Link Insurance Scheme, double payment of GPF upto Rs. 10,000/-

	7. Number of Cases Settled/Appointment given	Rejected	Pending
1984	3	3	—
1985	7	6	7
1986	Nil	Nil	12

(c) (i) few cases have been rejected because they do not fulfil the conditions of eligibility laid down by the Government for the purpose of employment.

(ii) Pending cases are due to non-pletion of formalities, and will be settled as per their merits as and when formalities are completed.

Delivery of Telegrams

3311. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telegrams sent by hand from Central Telegraph Office New Delhi, to various Departmental Telegraph Offices and vice-versa during the period from January, 1986 to October, 1986 ;

(b) the reasons for sending them by hand and whether this practice was adopted due to shortage of telegraphists ;

(c) the details of the staff whose duty is to deliver telegrams by hand and the

details of the staff whose are actually engaged for this work ;

(d) whether any facility is provided to telegram messengers for delivering telegrams by hand ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The total number of telegrams sent by hand during January, 1986 to October, 1986 is as follows :

- (i) CTO New Delhi to Local DTO—
1.02 Lakhs.
- (ii) Local DTOs to CTO New Delhi—
1.02 Lakhs.

(b) By hand transfer of telegrams is restored to on the following occasions :—

- (i) during night hours whenever the telegrams are not delivered as a rule between 22.00 hrs. and 06.00 hours.
- (ii) interruption of local telegraph lines ;
- (iii) absenteeism of operative staff ;

The by hand practice is not on account of shortage of telegraphists.

(c) No separate staff is earmarked for sending of by hand traffic. Telegraphs Assistants, Telegraph Overseers, Telegraphmen Outdoor and Despatch riders are utilised for sending the traffic by hand. The staff is drafted from the existing strength of the Telegraph Office.

(d) The usual facilities are provided to staff deployed for by hand operation. No special facilities are provided.

(e) No special facilities are required to be provided since the persons involved in the work are functioning within the ambit of their normal working.

[English]

Price Increase of Rice and Foodgrains sold through P.D.S.

3312. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that keeping in view the increase in the prices of paddy, wheat and cereals, government propose to increase the rates of rice and other different items being sold through Public Distribution System ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) There is no proposal at present for Government to raise the Central Issue Prices of wheat, rice and other items to be sold through the Public Distribution System.

(b) Does not arise.

Development Scheme for Ernakulam Telephones

3313. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) when will the Max-II type equipment be installed at Kizhakkal Balan and North Parur Exchanges in Ernakulam district ; and

(b) the development schemes proposed for Ernakulam Telephones in near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)

(i) Max-II type exchange at Kizhakkal is expected to be installed during 7th Plan.

(ii) Parur is already being served by a Max-II exchange.

(b) The information is given in the statement below.

Statement

Development works proposed to be undertaken during 7th Plan in Ernakulam, subject to availability of equipment, funds, materials, etc.

Name of Exchange & Type	Proposal
1) Ernakulum Jnit I (Cross bar) Unit II (do)	1) Expansion 4000 to 5000 -do- 6000 to 7000
2) Willington Island MAX—I	2) -do- 13000 to 1500
3) Kalamassery MAX—I	3) -do- 2100 to 3300
4) Palarivattam MAX—II	4) Replacement by 1000 lines electronic exchanges (RLU)
5) Penampilly Nagar	5) (RLU) 1000 lines electronic exchanges
6) Digital Tax at Ernakulum	6) 1) 2000 lines 2) Expansion by 1000 lines
7) Tax at Ernakulum (Cross bar)	7) 1600 to 2000 (i) 1100 local (ii) 650 transit
8) SPC Telex at Ernakulum	8)
9) Trikkakara	9) 400 lines MAX—II
10) Udayamperoor electronic ILT	10) 120 to 320 lines

Uniform Retirement Age in Judiciary

3314. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide for uniform retirement age of the judges the Supreme Court as also other judges down to the judicial officers of lower courts ;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The age of superannuation is 65 in the case of Supreme Court Judge and 62 in the case of a High Court Judge. The age of superannuation in the case of Judges of the Subordinate Judiciary varies from State to State as under Article 233(1) and 234 of the Constitution, the appointment of a person to the subordinate courts and his service conditions are regulated by the Governor of the concerned State.

**Employment to persons evicted for
Hindustan Paper Corporation
Newsprint Project, Kerala**

3315. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people evicted at Vellore in Kerala for the Hindustan Paper Corporation Newsprint Project ;

(b) whether it was stipulated that the persons evicted would be provided employment ;

(c) if so, the number of people employed so far ;

(d) the number of evictees waiting for employment ; and

(e) the steps taken to provide employment to all of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) :

(a) to (e). 232 families have been evicted at Vellore in Kerala for the Hindustan Paper Corporation Newsprint Project and there is no agreement to provide them employment. However, so far 272 persons belonging to evictees and/or their dependents have been employed in Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. Maximum possible concessions and preferences were given to persons belonging to this category

in the past and efforts will be made to accommodate persons of this category in future appointments also depending upon their qualification and suitability for the posts notified by the Company.

**Cases of Theft and false claims of TA
and LTC in BHEL**

3316. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases of theft and of false claims of TA and LTC have been detected in the various units of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited during the last three years ;

(b) if so, their number and the amount involved and the action taken in regard thereto ;

(c) whether all complaints on the above counts have been looked into, if so, their number at each unit and the number of complaints which have been investigated ; and

(b) the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of such cases during the last three years is 740 and the amount involved is Rs. 25 lakhs approximately. Employees found guilty have been punished according to rules.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The number of complaints looked into and found correct after investigation in each Unit is given in the statement below.

Statement

Number of complaints regarding theft and false claims of TA & ITC in various Units of BHEL during 1983, 1984 and 1985

S.No.	Unit	Complaint detected/ looked into	Complaints investigated and found correct
1.	Bhopal	10	10
2.	Jhansi	3	3
3.	Hardwar	20	14
4.	Trichy Complex*	358	357
5.	Hyderabad	311	287
6.	Corporate R&D	6	4
7.	Bangalore based Divisions	5	5
8.	Power Group, Corp. Office, Industry Sector & R.O.D.	27	10
		740	690

[*Translation*]

**Setting up of Electronic Telephone
Exchange to Shivpuri**

3317. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether almost all the equipments
required for setting up an Electronic
Telephone Exchange in Shivpuri have been
received ;

(b) if so, the date on which these were
received ; and

(c) the time by which the Electronic
Exchange in Shivpuri will start working ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
Equipment for the exchange has been
received. Power Plant items are awaited.

(b) The last packing case of exchange
equipment was received in October, 1986.

(c) The exchange is expected to be
commissioned during 1987-88,

Starting of Work of HBJ Gas Pipeline

3318. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) when the work of laying Hazira Bijapur Jagdishpur gas pipeline was to be started and the reasons for such an inordinate delay in starting this work ;

(b) the present position regarding progress of this work indicating the time bound scheme chalked out for completing this work ; and

(c) whether as per the agreement reached between Gas Authority of India and French Company SPIE CAPAG, Government will have to pay penalty at the rate of Rs. 30 lakh per day for the period the work is delayed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). The composite contract for execution of the HBJ Project has been awarded to the Spie Capag—led consortium on 10.5.1986. Work on all the segments is in progress and the pipeline is scheduled to be completed in all respects by July 1989.

(c) The agreement provides for payments by Gas Authority of India Limited for delays, caused by their failure to comply with obligations in the contract. The contractor also can be penalised under the contract for delays on his part. There has been no delay on the part of GAIL and hence no penalty is payable.

Setting up of Industries on H.B.J. Pipeline Route in Madhya Pradesh

3319. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the areas in Madhya Pradesh through which Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur Gas pipeline is passing and the places in the said State where industries based on natural gas are proposed to be set up indicating the date

on which the work relating to said gas pipeline was started and the time by which this gas pipeline will be laid upto Bijapur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : The HBJ Pipeline passes through the following districts in Madhya Pradesh : Jhabua, Ratlam, Dhar, Ujjain, Shajapur, Rajgarh, Guna, Shivpuri, Datia and Gwalior. A gas based fertilizer plant is proposed to be set up at Guna (M.P.). The work on the pipeline started after the composite contract was awarded on May 1986, and the pipeline upto Bijapur is expected to be completed by March 1987.

[*English*]

Prices of Soaps and Detergents

3320. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the new soaps and detergents introduced by the Multinationals in the country during the last three years ;

(b) whether prices of these products are regularly rising ;

(c) whether the indigenous concerns producing these items are working to their full capacity ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) whether Government are considering any proposal to declare soaps and detergents as essential commodities and take steps to reduce the prices of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The following are some of the new brands of toilet soaps and synthetic detergents introduced in the country.

Toilet Soaps

Skip, Aramusk, Ponds Dream Flower, Ponds Harbal Soap, Ponds Cold Cream Soap, Clearsil and Dettol.

Synthetic Detergents

Sunlight (Power), Check (Tablet)

(b) Most of the above brands have been introduced recently. However, a statement indicating prices of some of the popular brands in the last three years is given in the statement below.

(c) and (d). A multi-national concern is dominant only in the manufacture of toilet soap in the country. The bulk of soap production in the country is in the form of laundry soap which is reserved exclusively for the small scale sector. So far as production of detergent is concerned the same is shared between the organis-

ed and the small scale sector in the ratio of 50 to 50. Indian concerns in the organised sector have not been able to achieve optimum capacity utilisation in production of soaps and detergents on account, inter-alia, of inadequate marketing set up and inputs and labour and management problems.

(e) Soap has been declared as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. There is no control on prices of soaps and detergents. However, imports of raw materials such as linear alkyl benzene of synthetic detergents are arranged through STC to ensure that production does not suffer and prices are kept within reasonable limits. Also fatty acids are supplied to small scale units through allocation to States at subsidised prices. A scheme has been introduced for supplying cheaper varieties of toilet soaps under the Public Distribution System @ Rs. 1.50 per tablet.

Statement

Brand	Wrapper Prices (Local Taxes Extra)		
	1.1.84	1.1.85	1.1.86
Sunlight Tablet (150 Gm)	2.01	2.17	2.36*
Sunlight Half Bar (250 Gm)	3.07	3.32	3.62*
Lifebuoy (150 Gm)	2.35	2.52	2.50**
Lux Toilet (100 Gm) Standard	2.43	2.70	2.68**
Rexona (100 Gm)	2.45	2.72	2.70
Liril (85 Gm)	3.75	—	—
(75 Gm)		3.50	3.68
Pears (85 Gm)	5.00	5.60	6.50
Surf 1 (Kg)	20.05	20.05	21.65
Rin (125 Gm)	2.47	2.52	2.67
Wheel (150 Gm)	1.92	2.12	2.27
Sunlight Detergent Powder (500 Gm)	6.35	6.35	7.60

*The change was on account of the change in the excise duty slab from 5.25% to 15%.

**Benefit of Excise reduction passed on immediately to Consumer.

Delivery of Telegrams

3321. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the telegrams sent by post and by hand respectively in C.T.O.s located at Jaipur, New Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta during the last three years ;

(b) the types of modern equipments provided in those offices during recent years and at what cost ;

(c) whether their working is fully satisfactory and how far it has improved efficiency ;

(d) the number of telegrams lost locally and in transit in these CTOs during the last three years, the major causes of losses and how they have been plugged in ; and

(e) the number of telegrams posted from above CTOs, from one to another, during the last one year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e). The required information is being collected and shall be placed on the table of the House in due course.

Commission on Industrial Productivity

3322 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :

DR. V. VENKATESH :

SHRI SATYENDRA

NARAYAN SINHA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Commission headed by Shri L.K. Jha, M.P. has been set up to study and suggest measures for improving industrial productivity and efficiency ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes Sir. Government of India have constituted a Commission on Economic Efficiency, Productivity and Exports under the Chairmanship of Shri L.K. Jha, M.P.

(b) The term of the Commission would be initially for a period of 2 years and its functions will be advisory in nature. The Commission shall :—

(i) Suggest measures for improving capacity utilisation, efficiency and productivity in industry both in the private and the public sectors ;

(ii) Analyse the existing policies in the global perspective and suggest measures to be adopted for improving the performance of exports and the balance of payment position ;

(iii) Examine any allied issues in the field of economic policy that may be referred to it by the Government.

Supply of LPG Cylinders to Ladakh

3323. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of acute shortage of fire-wood LPG has become very popular and proved cheaper in the Ladakh region of J&K ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Indian Oil Corporation was allowed to supply LPG on adhoc basis only since 1984 while Hindustan Petroleum has been allowed to supply LPG on a regular basis in Ladakh about a month back ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ladakh had been demanding to allow both the companies to compete in the region so that regular supply of LPG

cylinders could be ensured in view of non-existence of refilling facilities ;

(d) whether Government would allow IOC also to supply LPG to Ladakh region on a regular basis ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The usage of LPG as domestic fuel is becoming popular in Ladakh region.

(b) Indian Oil Corporation has been marketing LPG in Leh under an ad-hoc arrangement since 1984. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation has commissioned a regular LPG distributorship at Leh in October 1986.

(c) to (e). At present the demand for LPG in Ladakh is not adequate to sustain more than one distributorship on a viable basis.

Cost of Hard Coke in Leh

3324. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the landed cost of hard coke at Leh ; and

(b) whether Government are considering any proposal to subsidise the freight charges of hard coke for Ladakh in order to bring down its landed cost for the benefit of the people of Ladakh ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The landed cost of Hard Coke at Leh is about Rs. 2950 per tonne.

(a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Raids on Sweets Shops in Delhi

3325. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of weights and Measures of Delhi Administration raided several shops in the capital on the eve of Diwali and found short weighing of sweets etc., as reported in the Indian Express of 31st October, 1986 ;

(b) if so, the number of shops found short weighing ; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). According to the report received from the Delhi Administration, 77 shops were found giving shortweight of sweets. Legal actions have been initiated against the defaulters.

[Translation]

Lignite deposits in Kapurdi, Rajasthan

3326. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kapurdi in Rajasthan has large deposits of lignite ;

(b) whether a survey has been conducted in the Kapurdi area for lignite ;

(c) the area where lignite deposits have been found as per the survey report ; and

(d) whether Government propose to set up a lignite based thermal plant there ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited has carried out investigations for lignite in Kapurdi block and at Jalipa block south of Kapurdi. These investigations indicate reserves of around 70 million tonnes in Kapurdi area and 40 million tonnes in Jalipa. These reserves occur in the top and middle lignite horizons. Investiga-

tions are going on to assess the Mining potentiality of the bottom lignite horizon.

(d) Several technical and economic issues are still to be resolved before considering the establishment of a lignite based power plant at Kapurdi.

Microwave Telephone System in Rajasthan

3327. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Rajasthan where microwave telephone system will start functioning during the current year ;

(b) the area in which telephone lines will be connected with microwave lines ;

(c) whether Government are aware that the pace of the work of microwave line is very slow ; and

(d) the time by which Ganganagar, Suratgarh, Loonkarsar and Bikaner, will be linked with Jaipur and Delhi through microwave ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) During the current year, Jodhpur has been linked to Jaipur via Ajmer through a Wideband Microwave link. No other Microwave link is planned for commissioning during this year.

(b) In the coming years of the 7th Five Year Plan, the following Wideband and Narrow Band Microwave schemes have been planned for commissioning in Rajasthan :

1. Jaipur—Bikaner Wideband
2. Bikaner Suratgarh—Ganganagar Narrowband
3. Jaipur—Sikar—Junjunu Narrowband

4. Ajmer—Bhilwara Narrowband

5. Jodhpur—Nagour Narrowband.

(c) No, Sir. The works on the various schemes are progressing as per plans and the schemes will be commissioned progressively during this plan.

(d) Ganganagar, Suratgarh and Bikaner are tentatively targeted to be linked with Jaipur during 1987-88. Jaipur is already linked to Delhi on wide Band Microwave and Coaxial links. At present, there is no proposal to link up Loonkarsar with any microwave system.

[English].

Drilling at Kaikalur in Andhra Pradesh

3328. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drilling at Kaikalur-3 in Andhra Pradesh was discontinued by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission due to recent floods ;

(b) if so, the estimated loss on this account ; and

(c) if not, the details of the drilling and the amount spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The well was drilled to a depth of 2129 metres and it is still under testing.

Legal status for Lok Adalats

3329. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to confer 'legal status' on Lok Adalats and to recognise legality of their verdicts ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when the decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). The Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes has made a proposal to the Government to enact legislation the subject of Legal aid. This included conferment of legal status on Lok Adalats and enforcement of their decisions as if they are decrees passed by courts. The proposal is being studied and a decision will be taken soon.

Bargi Hadro Electric Project

3330. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bargi Hydro Electric Project (2×45 MW) has been pending with CEA/CWS for clearance since 1982 ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in clearance of the same ; and

(c) the time by which the project is expected to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). The project report in respect of the power component of the Bargi multi-purpose Project (2×45 MW) was received in the Central Electricity Authority (C.E.A.) in October, 1982 and has been examined ; it could, however, be processed further in the C.E.A. only after the irrigation component is cleared.

Utilisation of full Potential of Ganga Water for Generating Hydro-Power

3331. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether ten thousand mega-watts of electricity can be generated by making use of Ganga water ;

(b) the reasons for not utilising the full potential of Ganga water for generating hydro-power ;

(c) whether hydro-power can be generated from the point of confluence of Bhagirathi and Alakananda upto the sea at Calcutta ; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). The hydro-electric potential of the Alakananda, the Bhagirathi and the main Ganga below the confluence of the Alakananda and the Bhagirathi at Dev Prayag has been tentatively estimated at 2208 MW, 1414 MW and 1525 MW respectively (total 5147 MW) at 60% load factor.

The hydro-electric potential is being developed keeping in view factors such as the availability of financial resources, the anticipated power demand in the Region, techno-economic feasibility and gestation periods of individual projects and the irrigation and flood control benefits, if any, expected to be derived. In addition to three hydro-electric projects, namely, Maneri Bhal Stage I, Garhwal-Rishikesh-Chilla and Ganga Canals (with a total installed capacity of 279.2 MW), which are in operation; four hydro-electric projects with a total installed capacity of 2104 MW are under construction/have been sanctioned by the Planning Commission.

Post Offices/T/Distance/Kilometre

3332. SHRI K. RAM CHANDRA REDDY will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS/ be pleased to state :

(a) whether 50 percent of the villages and habitations in the country are without post offices ;

(b) whether there is a ban on locating post offices in villages ;

(c) when the ban is likely to be lifted ;
and

(d) whether Government propose to provide post offices at a distance of a kilometre for all villages and havitation by the end of the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) :
(a) There are 5,79,134 villages in the country which are served by 1,28,313 post offices established in rural areas. The pattern of postal organisation in rural area is as follow :—

A certain number of villages are grouped together and a post office (extra-departmental in most cases and departmental in some cases) is opened at a central village. In this postal service as provided to all the villages. The village postmen/delivery agents attached to rural post offices visit the other villages on a day to day basis. Besides delivering postal articles and paying money-orders, they also sell postage stamps and stationery register postal articles and collect correspondence for despatch. This bring the position, even though some villages have post offices and other do not, postal service is available to the entire rural sector in the country.

(b) and (c). No Sir. There is no ban on locating post offices in villages. There is, however, a ban imposed by the Ministry of Finance and in force since 1984 on creation and filling up of posts. As opening of new post offices generally involves creation of new posts, no programme of opening of new post offices is being implemented at present except in a few cases where it is possible to do so by re-deployment of available manpower. There is no indication available at present as to when the ban on creation of posts is likely to be lifted.

(d) No Sir. There is no policy at present of providing a post office within one kilometre of every village. The policy

followed so far is that subject to the minimum requirement of population and revenue being satisfied, a new post office may be opened at distance of not less than 3 kilometers from the nearest existing post office.

[*Translation*]

Utilisation of Gas Going Waste

3333. SHRI KANWAR RAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Gas worth rupees 50 lakhs is going waste every day ;
and

(b) if so, the arrangement being made to save that gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) :
(a) and (b). Gas is at present being flared due to a variety of reasons.

The following steps are being taken to reduce flaring of natural gas :

- Additional compression facilities are being provided in the Western Offshore region.
- Plans are being made for gathering the small quantities of associated natural gas which being flared in isolated fields in Gujarat region for which consumers have also been identified.
- In the Eastern region, Oil & Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited have committed gas to new consumers.
- Gas authority of India have also undertaken a study on connecting various oil fields in Assam by a network of pipelines to form a grid.
- Fallback consumers are being developed to utilise gas when regular consumers fail to lift committed quantities.

*(English)***Harnessing of Wind Power**

3334. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made to assess the wind power potential in the country ; if so, when and by whom it was made ;

(b) which are the areas in South India that have been identified as having good potential wind speed ;

(c) whether steps have been taken to promote the harnessing of the wind power for the generation of electricity ; if so, the estimated expenditure on the project and capacity ; and

(d) whether any windmill is intended to be set up in the State of Kerala and if so, its likely location ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Handbook on Wind Energy Data for India has been published under a project of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. Wind monitoring projects have also been taken up initially in six States to provide detailed and reliable information for planning large wind energy projects. Such projects will be extended to cover more States during the Seventh Plan period.

(b) Based on available information good wind conditions exist for generation of electricity from wind along the Southern Coast line of Tamil Nadu and the Palghat Gap near Coimbatore. Many other inland areas in the Southern States are suitable for water pumping windmills which can operate at relatively low wind speeds.

(c) Yes, Sir. Five wind farms with an aggregate capacity of 3.3 MW have been set up at M. ndvi (1 MW) and Okha (550 KW) in Gujarat ; Tuticorin (550 KW) in

Tamil Nadu ; Puri (550 KW) in Orissa ; and Deogarh (550 KW) in Maharashtra. Over 3.5 Million units of electricity have already been generated from these projects and fed to the respective state grids. The total expenditure on the five projects is estimated to be Rs. 6.00 crores. Further wind farm projects of aggregate capacity 2.2 MW are under installation.

(d) The setting up of similar wind farm projects in State of Kerala can be considered when availability of adequate wind speeds has been established. However, a few water pumping windmills have been set up in the State for demonstration and field trials.

Central Industrial Projects in Andhra Pradesh

3335. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Industrial Projects in Andhra Pradesh for which Central approval has already been given but the work has not yet commenced ;

(b) the details of these projects together with location thereof ;

(c) the time by which the work is expected to be started ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal to develop Small Scale Industries in Tribal areas in A.P.

3336. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Union Government for the development of small scale units/industries in the tribal areas in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the names of small scale units/industries to be set up in the tribal areas ;

(c) the extent to which such industries will improve the financial and other living conditions of tribals ; and

(d) the amount earmarked by the Union Government and the time by which it will be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected.

Petrol Pumps allotted to Andhra Pradesh

3337. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of petrol pumps in Andhra Pradesh

is much lower than the neighbouring States of Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the number of petrol pumps allotted in Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring States during the last three years ; and

(d) the number of such pumps out of them allotted in Mehbobnagar district in Andhra Pradesh ?

- THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DATT) : (a) No, Sir. As on 30th Sept. '86, there were 1081 Retail Outlets in Andhra Pradesh compared to 287 in Orissa ; 834 in Karnataka ; and 791 in Madhya Pradesh. Only Maharashtra had 1396 Retail Outlets and Tamil Nadu 1290.

(b) Retail Outlets are established on the basis of surveys conducted by the oil industry taking into consideration volume/distance norms.

(c) The required information is given below :—

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Andhra Pradesh	21	40	23
Orissa	5	15	20
Maharashtra	14	30	49
Karnataka	16	32	42
Tamil Nadu	35	41	66
Madhya Pradesh	10	22	27
	101	180	227 = 508

(d) Out of the Retail Outlet dealerships allotted in Andhra Pradesh, 5 have been allotted in Mahboobnagar District.

**Performance of Coal India Ltd. and
Bharat Coking Coal Limited**

3338. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of Coal India Ltd. and two of its subsidiaries Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Western Coalfields Ltd., and

(b) if so, the details of the performance of Coal India Limited, Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Western Coalfields Limited in 1984-85 and 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Government of India regularly reviews the performance of coal companies. The performance of Coal India Limited and two of its subsidiaries, namely Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Western Coalfields Ltd. during 1984-85 and 1985-86 was as under :—

PRODUCTION (Million tonnes)		
	1984-85	1985-86
Coal India Limited	130.81	134.11
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	21.84	21.08
Western Coalfields Ltd.	46.05	48.88
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (Rs. Crores)		
Coal India Ltd.	787.87	842.73
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	135.13	166.62
Western Coalfields Ltd.	275.94	281.40
PROFIT EARNED/LOSS SUFFERED		
Profit (+)/Loss (—)	(Rs. Crores)	
	1984-85	
Coal India Ltd.	(—)	78.03
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	(—)	90.12
Western Coalfields Ltd.	(+)	6.94

The figures of profit and loss indicated for Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. and Western Coalfields Ltd. are after adjustment from the Coal Price Regulation Account.

The audited accounts for 1985-86 are being finalised.

Disruption of Telecommunication Services

3339. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telecommunication services especially the teleprinter and telex services were disrupted in the country recently ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b). The functioning of telecommunication service is generally satisfactory.

However, telecommunications services especially the teleprinter and telex services were temporarily affected in the country recently due to 'Work to-Rule' agitation by a group of telecommunication staff.

Transfer of Gas Connections in Delhi

3341. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware in regard to the hardships being experienced by the customers due to the introduction of a new system by the Indian Oil Corporation under which the customers have to deposit the cylinders with the Gas Distributors at the time of shifting their residence from one locality to another in the capital ;

(b) whether the new distributor takes his own time in supplying cylinder to the customer and in this the customer faces difficulties ; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter to remove the hardships being faced by the customers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). Under the procedure now in vogue a customer moving from one locality to another in the same town is not required to surrender his LPG cylinder/pressure regulator. The customer can begin getting refill supplies after presentation to and registration with the new distributor of the Transfer Termination Voucher issued by the previous distributor.

Production and Import of Soda Ash

3342. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of soda ash imported during 1984-85 and 1985-86 with details of name of country, rate of import and the total amount involved ;

(b) the agency through which the import was made, how it was distributed amongst actual users and the rate at which it was distributed ;

(c) whether Government are considering proposals to increase the production of soda ash in the country to check the import and make it available at cheaper rate ; and

(d) if so, the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Imports of Soda Ash are allowed under Open General Licence (OGL) to the actual users. The importers are required to register their contracts with DGTD before effecting imports. According to the available information, the quantity of Soda Ash registered for imports with DGTD against contracts during 1984-85 and 1985-86 was as follow :

1984-85	72,390 MTs
1985-86	2,01,501 MTs

As per available information, the c.i.f. price of light Soda Ash has ranged between us \$ 110 to US \$ 155 per MT during that period. Bulgaria, Kenya, Romania and USA are the main countries from where the imports have been made.

(c) and (d). Government has recently delicensed manufacture of Soda Ash (Standard Solvay process) to increase production.

Cost of production of Cement

3343. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of production of cement in India is higher than in foreign countries ;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to ascertain the causes and if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any foreign technology has been sought to reduce the cost of production of cement in the country ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The cost of production of cement is a function of various factors including the scale of operation and the cost of various inputs like raw material, fuel and power. Hence, comparison of international costs and prices will be relevant only if such factors operating in Indian plants are similar to those prevailing abroad.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Foreign technology in the form of consultancy has been permitted from foreign collaborators such as M/s. Mitsubishi Mining & Cement Co. Ltd. (MMCC), Japan, M/s Onoda Engg. and Consultancy Co. Ltd., Japan, M/s Lafarge of France, M/s Rugby Cement Consultants, UK, M/s. Blue Circle Industries, U.K., M/s. Holder Bank and Consultancy Limited, Switzerland etc. for introduction of pre-calcinators to dry process kilns, conversion of wet to semi-dry/dry process and optimisation of production. This will result in higher production with lower out-put cost. Besides, introduction of sophisticated equipments like Stacker Reclaimer, Vertical Roller Mill, sophisticated instruments and Electronic Controls and Low Temperature salt technology is expected to maximise production at a lower cost.

Under utilisation of installed capacity by industry main cause of Unemployment and shortage of Goods

3344. SHRI ANANTA. PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have come to the conclusion that under utilisation of installed capacity by the Indian industry is the main cause for widespread unemployment and shortage of goods in the country and also the price rise ; and

(b) if so the steps Government propose to take to curb this tendency in the managers of Indian Industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). While the level of capacity utilisation has a bearing on employment, prices and availability of goods, it cannot be regarded the main cause for unemployment, shortages and price rise. However, optimum utilisation of capacity continues to be a major objective of Government's Industrial Policy and several measures have been taken for raising production through better utilisation of capacity. This is being secured, *inter alia*, through suitable changes in industrial licensing and import policies as well as through monetary and fiscal measures and improvement in infrastructure.

Development of New Technologies for Telecommunication Net York

3345. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme has extended and approved a project for development of new technologies for the Indian telecommunication net work ;

(b) if so, the objectives of the projects ; and

(c) the amount of assistance rendered, target for completion of the project and the actual stage of the project in detail ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To expand Indian Telecommunication Network both in quality and quantity by way of research, experimentation engineering and field testing of new technologies, in the following areas :—

1. Data & Telematic Services ;
2. Satellite Communication ;
3. Wideband Radio Relay Systems ;
4. Integrated Services Digital Network.

(c) (i) \$ 999,200

(ii) 1990

(iii) The project has been approved recently. Nomination of Project Director and Subject Coordinators have been done. Implementation of the Programme will be taken up as per schedule approved.

Absorption of Imported Technology

3346. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that not a single technology package imported into the country has been absorbed though the country is importing technology under licence to produce ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Expansion of Thodupuzha Telephone Exchange

3347. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the present capacity of Thodupuzha Telephone Exchange ;

(b) the number of applications for telephone connections pending as on date, category-wise list ;

(c) whether there is any proposal for immediate expansion of the exchange ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The present capacity of Thodupuzha exchange is 800 lines.

(b) As on 1-11-1986 the number of applications pending (category-wise) are :

OYT	—	46
Special	—	48
General	—	325
Total :		<u>419</u>

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c).

Allocation for off-shore and on-shore Oil Exploration

3348. SHRI T. BUSHEER-: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the places identified for off-shore and on-shore oil exploration in the country ; and

(b) the amount allocated for the same in the current plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Exploration is proposed to be undertaken in the following basins during the VII Plan period :—

ONSHORE

1. Cambay
2. Kutch-Saurashtra
3. Upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
4. Rajasthan
5. Assam-Arakan
6. Nagaland and Cochar
7. Bengal
8. Himalayan Foothills & Ganga Valley
9. Krishna-Godavari
10. Cauvery
11. Mahanadi
12. Category IV basins

OFFSHORE

1. Bombay High
2. Kutch-Saurashtra
3. Kerala-Konkan
4. Krishna-Godavari
5. Cauvery
6. Bengal
7. Andaman Mahanadi/NEC

(b) About Rs. 2833 crores in 'VII Plan.

Stepping up of Export of Engineering Goods

3349. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of engineering companies are not

stepping up export despite their technical and managerial capability to enter the international market in a big way ;

(b) if so, the details regarding the performance of such companies ; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Indian Engineering companies have not been able to penetrate the international market in the significant way, mainly due to their disadvantages in terms of price competitiveness, and technological status.

According to a study conducted by the Engineering Export Promotion Council, 62 top engineering companies have exported only to the extent of Rs. 25.93 crores during 1983-84. There is considerable scope for improvement in this regard.

(c) Government are aware of the export potential of the Indian Engineering industries. Some of the engineering industries such as castings and forgings have been identified as thrust areas for exports.

Government have taken various measures to step up exports by way of supplying the essential inputs at international prices through IPR Scheme, and also permitting the imports of technology by way of equipments required for modernisation of the Plant and Design Drawings to update the Indian products to International Standards.

Evaluation of growth rate of Industrial Production and Quality

3350. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation of continuous decline in growth rate in industrial production and also in the quality ;

(b) if so, the results of such evaluation and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what directions have been issued by his ministry in this respect to the manufactures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Analysis and monitoring of industrial production trends are done on regular basis. According to C.S.O. index of industrial production, the rates of growth during the past few years were as follows:

Year	Rate of Growth (percent)
1980-81	4.0
1981-82	8.6
1982-83	4.1
1983-84	6.1
1984-85	6.8
1985-86	6.2
1986-87 (April-Aug)	5.7

Government have been stressing the need for improving productivity and upgrading quality of products. To spread the concept of quality maintenance and to inculcate a sense of quality awareness in the minds of both producers and consumers, the month of November 1986 is being observed as 'Quality Maintenance and Improvement Month'. During this month, special campaign to achieve higher standards of quality, productivity and consumer service is being organised throughout the country.

Setting up of Multi-fuel Thermal Plant at Kunjatabailu Karnataka

3351. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARSIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a multi-fuel thermal plant at Kunjatabailu near Mangalore in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether the proposal is expected to be implemented by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement the above proposal; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Karnataka authorities had proposed the setting up of a multi-fuel Thermal Power Plant (2×210 MW) at Kunjatabailu near Mangalore at an estimated cost of Rs. 445 crores.

(c) to (e). The proposal was examined in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in consultation with the other appraising agencies. The proposed site has not been found compatible on environmental consideration. The Karnataka Power Corporation have, accordingly, been advised to prepare a revised feasibility report for an alternative site. The revised report has not yet been received in the C.E.A.

Units Installed in Raichur Thermal Power Project, Karnataka

3352. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARSIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units installed in Raichur Thermal Power Project, Karnataka;

(b) how many of these units can produce power by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the total MW of power to be generated from these units on commissioning ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). Two units of 210 MW each, have been installed at Raichur Thermal Power Project, Karnataka. The first unit was commissioned in March, 1985 and the second unit in March 1986 and both the units are generating power. Each unit can generate 210 MW of power.

Wool Washing Plant in Rajasthan

3354. SHRI VIRDHJI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 3148 given on 18th March, 1986 regarding plant for washing wool in Rajasthan and state the details of the proposal for setting up a scouring plant in Rajasthan for washing and cleaning the wool ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM). The proposal to set up a scouring plant for wool in Rajasthan with an estimated cost of Rs. 46.00 lakhs has been received from Rajasthan Khadi Gramodyog Sanstha Sangh, Bajaj Nagar, Jaipur—a Federation of All India Khadi Institutions working in Rajasthan. The Federation has already got one acre of land at Industrial Area, Bikaner to set up the plant. Since it is the first such plant to be set up in woollen khadi sector, technical opinion has been sought from International Wool Secretariat (IWS), Bombay, who are rendering technical guidelines to all the organisations engaged in wool/woollen khadi production in the country. On clearance from IWS, which is still awaited, steps will be taken to set up the plant.

Teleprinter Facility in Hindi in Rajasthan

3355. SHRI VIRDHJI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the district headquarters in Rajasthan where teleprinter facility in Hindi has not been provided ;

(b) whether the facility has not been provided in Barmer and Jaisalmer district headquarters ; and

(c) if so, the time by which teleprinters in Hindi will be installed at the aforesaid places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :

(a) Telegraph offices at Sawaimadhapur, Jhalawar, Bundi, Dholpur, Jhunjhunu, Jaisalmer, Sirohi, Jalore, Chittorgarh and Tonk are not provided with Hindi Teleprinter facility. However, More facility exists for transmission and reception of Hindi telegrams.

(b) Yes, Sir. At present, Telegraph Office at Barmer and Jaisalmer district headquarters are not provided with Hindi Teleprinter facility.

(c) Hindi teleprinter facility at Barmer is likely to be provided by the end of March 1987. In the rest of the places, Hindi Teleprinter facility will be provided as and when the traffic load justifies the same.

Industries causing air and water pollution

3356. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have identified the industries both in Government as well as in private sector situated in and around metropolitan cities which are causing air and water pollution ;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any guidelines to be followed

by such industries to control air and water pollution ; and

(c) the outcome of the steps taken by Government so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Some of the State Governments and Union Territories such as Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Delhi Admn. have carried certain studies in regard to industries causing environmental pollution. Steps taken by these States in this regard are :—

Maharashtra : Thirty five chemical industries in the State have been identified as hazardous and these industries are being persuaded to shift such operations from crowded localities.

Rajasthan : Ten industries were identified as hazardous and detailed instructions have been issued to the identified industries to prevent pollution of the environment.

Karnataka : Investigation on the emission of gases from the units have been carried out and action is being taken under the relevant provisions of the Air Pollution Act against the erring units.

Delhi Admn. : One hundred and twelve industrial units have been identified as carrying out dangerous operation under the Factories Act. Of these, 105 which were inspected prosecutions against 80 industrial units have been launched.

The Central Pollution Control Board has prepared an inventory of hazardous industries in different parts of the country based on the information collected from the State Pollution Control Boards.

Several State Governments have set up expert committees/groups to investigate the safety and pollution control measures in the industries located in the urban areas of the States. The States which

have set up such expert groups include the following :

- | | |
|-------|--------------------|
| (i) | Assam |
| (ii) | Gujarat |
| (iii) | Haryana |
| (iv) | Karnataka |
| (v) | Kerala |
| (vi) | Madhya Pradesh and |
| (vii) | Maharashtra |

Based on the investigations which are in various stages of progress, the respective State Governments have directed their industries for ensuring necessary safety measures.

Bottling Facility in L.P.G. Surplus Eastern Region

3357. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that while the Western Region is glutted in LPG it still continues to be a scarce commodity in the rest of the country ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the LPG surplus Eastern Region suffers from inadequate bottling facility ; and

(c) if so, remedial steps being taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) For obvious reasons, LPG production is not uniform in all regions of the country ; at present more LPG is produced in the Western region than in the other regions. LPG produced at various locations is utilised for catering to the requirements throughout the country.

(b) At present the LPG bottling capacity in the Eastern region is more

than the production of LPG in that region.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Generation of Power by Small and Big Hydro-Electric Projects

3358. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of small and big hydro-electric projects in the country and the places where these are located ; and

(b) the quantity of electricity generated by these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) : The required information is given in the Statement below.

Statement

Small and Big Hydro Electric Stations in the Country (As on 31-10-1986)

State/Organisation	No. of big power stations	No. of small hydro stations	Generation (MU) (1985-86)
Northern Region			
1. Common/Central Projects			
(a) Bhakra Beas Management Board	6	—	10570
(b) N.H.P.C.	1	—	678
2. Haryana	1	—	—
3. Himachal Pradesh	2	10	576
4. Jammu & Kashmir	3	6	863
5. Punjab	7	1	1487
6. Rajasthan	3	—	923
7. Uttar Pradesh	13	23	4582
TOTAL NORTHERN REGION	36	40	19679
Western Region			
1. Gujarat	1	—	291
2. Madhya Pradesh	2	—	415

State/Organisation	No. of big Power Stations	No. of small hydro Stations	Generation (MU) (1985-86)
3. Maharashtra	12	2	5235
TOTAL WESTERN REGION	15	2	5941
Southern Region			
1. Andhra Pradesh	9	2	5744
2. Karnataka	10	—	7310
3. Kerala	9	—	5357
4. Tamil Nadu	19	—	2944
TOTAL SOUTHERN REGION	47	2	21355
Eastern Region			
1. Bihar	3	—	235
2. Orissa	4	—	2169
3. West Bengal	1	7	121
4. D.V.C.	2	1	405
5. Sikkim	1	3	30
TOTAL EASTERN REGION	11	11	2960
North-Eastern Region			
1. Central Projects			
(a) NPHC (Loktak)	1	—	413
(b) NEEPCO (Kondong)	1	1	166
2. Assam	—	1	—
3. Manipur	—	3	—
4. Meghalaya	3	2	354

State/ Organisation	No. of big Power Stations	No. of small hydro Stations	Generation (MU) (1985-86)
5. Nagaland	—	1	—
6. Tripura	—	3	65
7. Arunachal Pradesh	—	22	—
g. Mizoram	—	1	—
TOTAL N.E. REGION	5	34	998
TOTAL ALL INDIA :	114	89	50933

NOTE :—Does not include generation from certain micro/mini hydel stations located in isolated areas.

Letters of Intent and Industrial Licences for 'No Industry' districts in Bihar

3359. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters of intent and industrial licences issued during Sixth Plan period for 'No Industry' districts in Bihar; and

(b) the nature of industries set up and their locations and the cost of each project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) 'No-Industry Districts' were identified in November, 1981. During the years 1982 to 1986 (upto September, 1986), a total number of 17 letters of intent and 5 industrial licences (including 3 carry-on-business licences) were granted under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act for setting up of units in 'No-Industry districts' of Bihar.

(b) Details, such as name & address of the undertaking, location (including the

name of district), item(s) of manufacture and capacity, etc. in respect of all letters of intent and industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliamentary Library regularly. Generally, it takes about 3 to 4 years for an industrial project to fructify. Actual gestation period, however, varies from project to project. Thus, the industrial projects for which the above letter of intent and industrial licences have been granted would presently be at various stages of implementation.

Information regarding actual investment/cost involved in projects for which letters of intent/industrial licences have been granted is not maintained centrally in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in the Ministry of Industry.

Allocation of Edible Oils and Sugar to Bihar

3360. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the month-wise quantity of edible oils and sugar allotted to Bihar during

the past six months ; and

(b) the quantity out of allotted quota not lifted by the State Government during these months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI

AZAD) : (a) and (b). A statement indicating the allocation of edible oils and levy sugar made by the Central Government to Bihar during May-October, 1986 and quota lifted/unlifted by the Government of Bihar during this period is given below.

Statement

(Figures in M. Tonnes)

	Edible Oils		Levy Sugar	
	Allocation	Lifting	Allocation	Unlifted
May, 1986	550	23	31,583.00	—
June, 1986	550	443	31,583.00	1,472.90
July, 1986	550	927	31,583.70	1,760.10
August, 1986	700	550	31,583.00	298.10
September, 1986	1100	300	36,629.30	4,323.70
October, 1986	700	1400	36,628.50	—

Losses in Coal India Limited

3361. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal India Limited is functioning in heavy losses ; and

(b) the year-wise losses incurred by it during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Coal India Limited had been incurring losses till 1980-81. It earned a profit of Rs. 34.20 crores in 1981-82.

Losses suffered by Coal India Limited during the last three years were as under :

Year	Losses suffered (Rs. in crores)
1983-84	242.68
1984-85	78.03
1985-86	Accounts not yet finalised

[English]

Use of Telephone Accessories Purchased from Open Market

3362. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA) : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Telecommunications will freely permit use of

telephone accessories purchased from the open market for use with telephone supplied by it ;

(b) if so, whether separate rules exist for use of telephone answering machines, cordless telephones, push button automatic diallers etc. ; and

(c) whether in regard to telephone set also, subscriber can have the choice of installing any set he can get from the market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Subscriber owned devices which have been type approved by Department of Telecommunications such as Automatic Answering and recording devices, Push Button and Dial type Telephones, Loud speaking telephones, STD Barring devices, Auto-dialling device with one automatic repeat attempt, Number storage devices, Device providing information on call duration, calling time and called number for use on PABX extentions have been permitted as attachments to telephones. Cordless telephones with a maximum range of 100 metres are also permitted to be attached to the telephones.

(b) All type approved devices mentioned above except Cordless telephones can be installed by subscribers themselves without permission and licence fee. For Cordless telephone, however, prior permission and licence from Department of Telecommunications is required.

(c) One basic telephone instrument will be provided by the Department. Type approved telephone set can be used by the subscriber as a second instrument.

Growth Rate of Capital Goods Industry

3363. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline in the growth rate of capital goods industry ;

(b) if so, the corrective measures being taken or proposed ; and

(c) whether the increase in import duty on capital goods has resulted in raising capital costs without benefiting capital goods industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The growth rate of capital goods industry during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 (April-June) were 3.4 percent, 3.3 per cent and (—) 0.9 per cent respectively.

(b) Various measures have been taken for continued growth in production of capital goods industries. These include enhancing their capabilities to face international competition through suitable changes in industrial, trade and fiscal policies, encouraging schemes of modernisation and technology upgradation and providing assistance for adequate availability of inputs.

(c) Increase in import duty, while having a bearing on capital costs, has the effect of safeguarding reasonable interests of the domestic industry by providing scope for increasing production and strengthening self-reliance.

Decentralisation of KVIC operations

3364. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have directed the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to decentralise its operations ;

(b) if so, whether this would help artisans to obtain raw materials at their doorsteps ; and

(c) whether Government are also considering bifurcation of the functions of Khadi and Village Industries Commission and Khadi and Village Industries Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) KVIC programmes are already being implemented through 27 State KVI Boards, 1138 registered institutions and over 31,000 cooperative societies. Steps are also being taken to further decentralise its activities.

(b) Not necessarily.

(c) The question of bifercation of functions of Khadi and Village Industries Commission and All India Khadi and Village Industries Board does not arise as the latter is an advisory body only.

Taking over of Sick Units

3365. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the sick industrial units which have so far been taken over by Government and the production of each unit since take over ;

(b) the particulars of the sick industrial units which are still lying as sick units and whether Government propose to take them over during the remaining period of Seventh Plan ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A statement indicating

particulars of 55 units taken-over under the I (D&R) Act 1951 as 1.1.1982 is given below. Out of these, 34 units have been nationalised, while six units have been denotified and have passed into liquidation. In accordance with the policy guidelines issued in 1981, banks and financial institutions are responsible for monitoring arrangements in respect of sick units. As such details of the production of each of these units since take over are not centrally maintained in this Ministry.

(b) and (c). In accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers as also in conformity with the provisions of the statutes governing nationalised banks, it will not be possible to divulge the names of the sick units assisted by banks. The Seventh Plan Document has recognised that the policy for sick units has to provide, wherever necessary, for sanctions against inept or fraudulent management and that sick units with no prospect of becoming viable should not be kept alive artificially at heavy cost. The document has suggested that special institutional arrangements are needed to deal with the complex problem of industrial sickness. Accordingly, the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has since been enacted, which inter-alia, provides for the setting up of a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, which would consider schemes for revival of sick units on merits.

Statement

List of Industrial undertakings as on 1st January 1982 whose Management has been taken over under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951

1. M/s. Andhra Scientific Co. Pvt. Ltd., Machilipatnam(AP)
2. M/s. Indian Rubber Mfrs. Ltd. Calcutta
3. M/s. Carter Pooler & Co. Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta
4. M/s. Ganesh Flour Mills Company Limited, Delhi
5. M/s. India Machinery Co. Ltd., Howrah

6. M/s. Containers & Closures Limited, Calcutta
7. M/s. Sri Janki Sugar Mills & Company, Dehradun
8. M/s. Krishna Silicate & Glass Works Ltd., Calcutta
9. M/s. Associated Industries (Assam) Ltd.
10. M/s. India Belting & Cotton Mills, Ltd., Hooghly
11. M/s. Amritsar Oil Works, Amritsar
12. M/s. Eastern Distilleries (P) Ltd., Calcutta
13. M/s. Motor & Machinery Mfrs. Ltd. Calcutta
14. M/s. Vijay Mfg. Co. (P) Ltd. Bombay
15. M/s. Gluconate Limited, Calcutta
16. M/s. Engel India Machine & Tools Ltd., Calcutta
17. M/s Plyboard Industries Ltd., Pampore, Srinagar
18. M/s. Britannia Engineering Co., Calcutta
19. M/s. Bengal Potteries Ltd. Calcutta
20. M/s. Pulgaon Cotton Mills Ltd., Bombay
21. M/s. Cauvery Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Cauverynagar
22. M/s. Western India Spg. & Mfg. Co. Ltd. Bombay
23. M/s. Priyalaxmi Mills Ltd. Baroda
24. M/s. Sri Subhlaxmi Mills Ltd. Cambay
25. M/s. Indore Textiles Ltd. Ujjain
26. M/s. Somasundaram Super Spg. Mills, Ramanathapuram
27. M/s. National Rubber Mfr. Ltd. Calcutta
28. M/s. Sri Rama Sugars & Industries Ltd. Bobbili (A.P.)
29. M/s. Kottayam Textiles Ltd. Ettumanoor (Kerala)
30. M/s. Prabhuram Mills Ltd. Chengemur (Kerala)
31. M/s. Malabar Spg. & Wvg. Mills Ltd., Calcutta
32. M/s. National Rubber Mfr. Ltd. (Kalyani Unit)
33. M/s. Alope Udyog Vanaspati & Plywood Ltd. Calcutta
34. M/s. Inchek Tyres Ltd., Calcutta
35. M/s. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur
36. M/s. Sri Durgā Cotton Spg. & Wvg. Mills Ltd. Calcutta
37. M/s. Aluminium Corpn. of India Ltd., Calcutta
38. M/s. Bengal Immunity Co. Ltd., Calcutta

39. M/s. Apollo Tyres Ltd., Chelukudi
40. M/s. Dr. Paul Lohman (India) Ltd. Calcutta
41. M/s. Sri Ram Sugar & Industries Ltd. (Sitanagaram Unit)
42. M/s. Brentford Electric (India) Ltd., Calcutta
43. M/s. Lily Biscuits Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta
44. M/s. Lily Barly Mills Pvt. Ltd. Calcutta
45. M/s. Mahadev Textiles Mills, Hubli
46. M/s. Apollo Zipper Co. Pvt. Ltd. Calcutta
47. M/s. India Health Institute & Laboratory Ltd. Calcutta
48. M/s. National Iron & Steel Company Ltd., Calcutta
49. M/s. Sree Saraswati Press Ltd., Calcutta
50. M/s. Shivraj Fine Art Litho Works, Nagpur
51. M/s. Seth Govindram Sugar Mills, Ujjain
52. M/s. Jaora Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Jaora, Dist. Ratlam
53. M/s. Motipur Sugar Factory Ltd. Motipur, Bihar
54. M/s. Orissa Textiles Mills Ltd. Chowdwar, Orissa
55. M/s. Mohini Mills Ltd., Belgharia, W. Bengal

Setting up of Petrochemical Units

3366. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up petrochemical units in the country during the remaining period of Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the location of units ;

(c) whether it is a fact that these units would be set up in the backward areas of the country ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The details regarding the number of units, their size and location are yet to be decided by the Government.

Export of production in excess of licensed capacity

3367. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 119 dated 11 November, 1986 regarding exemption to industries from capacity utilisation restriction and state :

(a) whether the units granted exemption from capacity utilisation restriction have not fulfilled their commitments regarding export of production in excess of licensed capacity ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). As the exemption from capacity restriction allowed was of a general nature for augmenting exports, no unit-wise assessment of export performance was required to be made.

[*Translation*]

**Setting up of industries in
Garhchiroli District**

3368. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned any industries for being set up in Garhchiroli district of Maharashtra which is a 'no industry district'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). During 1983 to 1986 (upto Sept.) 4 Letters of Intent and one DGTD registration have been issued for setting up of industries in Garhchiroli District of Maharashtra.

The details of LIs/DGTD registrations regarding name of the undertaking etc. are published by Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly News Letter', copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

[*English*]

**Appointment of Judges in Karnataka
High Court**

3369. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports that the

vacancies in the Karnataka High Court are still unfilled resulting in accumulation of pending cases ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). The Government is aware of the vacancies of Judges in the Karnataka High Court. The matter of filling these vacancies at the earliest is engaging the earnest attention of the Government in consultation with the present Chief Justice of the High Court.

Import of Coal

3370. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action plan has been finalised to meet the energy crisis in the country ;

(b) the quantity of coking and non-coking coal decided to be imported for the year 1986-87 ; and

(c) the countries which have agreed to export coal to India and the comparative landed price of imported coal and that of indigenous coal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Action plans for meeting the energy requirements of the country are drawn up by all the agencies responsible for producing energy. This is, however, an ongoing exercise and the detailed plans are executed according to the availability of energy resources and funds.

(b) and (c). According to information available, the Steel Authority of India Limited has imported approximately 1.05 million tonnes of coking coal during the period April-September 1986 ; i.e., 0.96 million tonnes from Australia and 0.09

million tonnes from Poland. Besides, in 1986-87 TISCO is expected to import about 0.5 million tonnes of coking coal. The average landed prices at the various steel plants of indigenous coking coal and the prime imported coal during the year 1985-86 are given below :—

Plant	(rupees per tonne)	
	Indigenous	Imported
Bhilai Steel Plant	728	1044
Durgapur Steel Plant	448	1123
Rourkela Steel Plant	615	1131
Bokaro Steel Plant	590	1054

The import of non-coking coal, is not envisaged during 1986-87 for any of the power station.

[*Translation*]

Fake Money Orders

3371. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether fraudulent sending and receiving of fake money orders has been going on for a long time ;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter ;

(c) whether some people have been arrested in this connection so far ;

(d) if so, the action being taken against them ; and

(e) the amount of loss suffered by Government on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A few instances of payment of take money orders have come to notice occasionally.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) Police/departmental action was taken promptly in all such cases.

(e) The amount of Loss suffered by the department during the last three years is Rs. 18.92 lacs.

Supply of soft coke to States

3372. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the quota of soft coke allotted to each State ;

(b) whether Government are not supplying soft coke to States according to the fixed quota ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to regular supply of soft coke to the States ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Soft coke allocation to different States/Union Territories is being made by the Department of Coal on a monthly basis for a period of six months at a time. The Statewise quotas allotted for the period October '86 to March '87 are given in the statement below.

(b) and (c). The major soft coke consuming States are West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. There have been cases of less supplies as compared to the allotted quotas in the consuming States which is due to shortfall in production of soft coke as compared to the target and due to delay in making financial and other necessary arrangements by some of the State sponsored agencies. The coal companies have been asked to step up production and supply of soft coke. Whenever reports of shortage are

received from any State, immediate necessary action is taken.

Statement

Name of the State	Monthly allocation (Figures in tonnes)
Bihar	60,000
Delhi	10,000
Haryana	1,500
Himachal Pradesh	1,000
Orissa	2,300
Punjab	1,600
Rajasthan	3,000
U.P.	30,000 (19,000 by rail and 11,000 by road)
West Bengal	*90,000
Assam	1,000
Sikkim	1,000
Arunachal Pradesh	100
Mizoram	250
Karnataka	220
Nagaland	500
Chandigarh	1,000
Tripura	500
Manipur	100
Meghalaya	100
Gujarat	4,000
Maharashtra	2,500
Madhya Pradesh	5,000

These allocations are only for distribution to domestic consumers.

(*This would include 10,000 tonnes raw steam coal from BCCL).

News item captioned "N.T.P.C. beset by Problems"

3373. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Indian Express dated 5th October, 1986 under the caption "N.T.P.C. beset by problems" ;

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

(c) the amount of the National Thermal Power Corporation outstandings against each State ;

(d) whether Government propose to realise this amount soon ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The projects of NTPC have generally been commissioned on schedule. Government is extending all possible assistance to NTPC in overcoming the delays in the Rihand and Farakka projects. All projects of NTPC are funded fully. The Central Transmission Project of NTPC was approved in 1984 ; subsequently, NTPC revised the configuration of the transmission lines and has now taken up the issue of recovery of transmission charges under the revised scheme with the States concerned. NTPC is also preparing, along with its project reports, plans for the maintenance and improvement of the environment so that it can obtain environmental and forest clearances expeditiously. Generation of power by NTPC has not been affected adversely ; the plant load factor of NTPC operated stations during April-Oct., 1986 was

68.6% as compared with 58.9% during the same period of last year.

(c) to (e). A statement showing the overdues of NTPC against the SEBs as on 31.10.1986 is enclosed. NTPC has

entered into agreements with the Boards for supply of power, payment of dues, and opening of Letters of Credit etc. and Govt. is extending full assistance to NTPC in recovering its dues.

Statement

Outstanding dues of NTPC from State Electricity Boards etc. as on 31.10.1986

(Rs. in crores)

SINGRAULI (STPP) (A)

UPSEB	86.22
RSEB	16.53
DESU	24.51
PSEB	.20
HSEB	11.40
HPSEB	3.55
J&K	.27
UTC	.20
	142.88
Total	

KORBA (STPP) (B)

MPEB	24.78
MSEB	10.05
GEB	1.80
GOA	.79
	37.42
Total	

RAMAGUNDAM STPP (C)

APSEB	22.00
KEB	12.02
TNEB	4.66
KSEB	4.06
	42.74
Total	

FARAKKA STPP (D)

WBSEB	1.02
DVC	2.42
BSEB	1.57
OSEB	1.68
	<hr/>
Total	6.69
	<hr/>
GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C+D)	229.73
	<hr/>

BADARPUR THERMAL POWER STATION

DESU	440.44
RSEB	6.53
UPSEB	.68
HPSEB	.67
HSEB	4.34
SALAL	.01
	<hr/>
Total	452.67
	<hr/>

In addition to the above arrears, an amount of Rs- 262.45 crores, levied as surcharge for non-payment of dues, is also due to be received by the NTPC.

[English]

**Modernisation of Technology to
increase Cement Production**

3374. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign technology has been sought with a view to increase the production of cement while reducing the cost of production ; and

(b) whether the World Bank and the International Development Association have granted any loans to modernise and upgrade the technology in the cement industry and if so, their details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Foreign technology in

the form of consultancy services has been sought by certain cement producers for the purpose of conversion of their wet process plants to dry process plants, setting up of precalcinators, introduction of stacker re-claimer for pre-blending of raw-material, introduction of Vertical Roller Mill for grinding of raw-material, introduction of sophisticated instruments and electronic control devices. These measures would result in optimisation of production and reduction in the cost of production.

(b) For the purpose of modernisation of cement industry in India, the World Bank has sanctioned a loan of \$ 200 million, details of which are as follows :

(i) \$ 165 million loan to Government of India. Of this, \$ 163.5 million will be lent to ICICI/IDBI in equal proportion for relending the following sub-projects for the

purposes of conversion from wet to dry process :—

- (a) Associated Cement Companies Ltd., Madukkarai Plant (Tamil Nadu) & Shahabad Plant (Karnataka).
 - (b) Birla Jute-Satna Plant (M.P.).
 - (c) Cement Corporation of India Ltd.—Mandhar Plant (M.P).
 - (d) India Cements Ltd.—Sankar-nagar Plant (Tamil Nadu).
 - (e) K.C.P. Ltd.—Macherla Plant (A.P.) ; and
 - (f) Shree Digvijay Cement Company—Sikka Plant (Gujarat).
- (ii) The remaining \$ 1.5 million would be passed on to ICICI as a grant for carrying out sub-sector level training and technical assistance.

[*Translation*]

Workers in Nationalised Coal Industry

3375. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of workers employed in nationalised coal industry is more than required ;

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

(c) the details of the policy adopted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). There is a general impression that Coal India Ltd. is carrying surplus manpower, particularly in unskilled categories. For instance, the Chari Committee, that recently examined the working of Eastern Coal fields Ltd. has estimated a manpower surplus of 50000 in that company. This and similar other estimates are, however, not based on proper time & motion or detailed

work studies and, therefore, not altogether reliable. A near ban on recruitment of unskilled workers, and re-deployment of surplus manpower in new projects are two chief steps taken to combat this problem.

Rural Electrification Programme by U.P. State Electricity Board

3376. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received complaints to the effect that the amount of loan received by the Uttar Pradesh State for rural electrification under the minimum needs programme is being utilised by the U.P. State Electricity Board for purposes other than the prescribed ones ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by his Ministry to check such irregularities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Reports of diversion of funds/materials ear-marked for rural electrification programme for other purposes have been received by the Rural Electrification Corporation.

(b) The Rural Electrification Corporation has taken up the matter with the State Electricity Board requesting it to formulate scheme-wise Annual Works Programme indicating, inter-alia, the works proposed to be done during the year, overall requirements of materials for executing the works material ordered/procured etc. At the same time, only a small amount upto 15% of the total loan outlay (unlike 40% in the past) is disbursed in cash at the time of execution of loan documents and the 2nd and subsequent instalments of loan are released on the basis of actual physical progress.

Supply of Smaller LPG Cylinders at Reduced Price in Hilly Areas

3377. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for providing LPG (Cooking gas) cylinders of smaller size at reduced price in hilly areas of the country ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gap Between Power Generation and Requirement in Uttar Pradesh

3378. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the existing level of power generation and its requirement in Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) the assistance proposed to be rendered to the State during Seventh Five Year Plan to bridge the gap between the power generation and its requirement in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The energy requirement in Uttar Pradesh during October, 1986 was 1575 MU against which the availability was 1376 MU.

(b) An additional capacity of 1794 MW is envisaged to be created in Uttar Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan. In addition, U.P. will also get share from the Central Stations being set up in the Northern Region. The assistance to Uttar Pradesh from neighbouring systems will depend upon availability of surplus.

[English]

Distribution through P.D.S.

3379. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the stocks intended for distribution among cardholders find their way to the open market through private trade channels ;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed in this regard ;

(c) the total number of Public Distribution System outlets in the country and out of them the number in the co-operative sector ; and

(d) the steps being taken to increase the number of Public Distribution System outlets in the co-operative sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The primary responsibility for organisation and supervision of the public distribution system rests with the governments of various States/Union Territories. Report received from them from time to time show that the system is functioning satisfactorily, though in a system of this magnitude certain problems and mal-practices of a local nature cannot completely be ruled out. The Central Government has already advised States/Union Territories to take necessary enforcement measures to check malpractices in the distribution of essential commodities and arrange its distribution to the *bona fide* consumers in time and at pre-determined prices through better co-ordination in lifting, transportation, storage and distribution.

(c) As on 30th June, 1986, there were about 3.28 lakh fair price shops in the country, out of which about 1.03 lakhs were in the cooperative sector.

(d) The Central Government has advised all the States/Union Territories that whenever new fair price shops are opened the State Governments should consider inter alia encouraging cooperatives to open the outlets, particularly in the rural areas.

Proposal to Sign 'Memorandum of Understanding' with Public Undertakings

3380. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to sign a 'Memorandum of understanding' with the Public Sector Undertakings is under consideration of Government ;

(b) if so, the objectives of the proposed Memorandum ; and

(c) whether the Memorandum will help the public enterprises to adhere to the production target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) to (c). The Government is entering into Memorandum of Understanding with some of the major enterprises like SAIL, ONGC, etc. whereby the responsibility for achieving the pre-determined targets of production, profit etc. are clearly defined and specified.

Increase in Pit Head Stocks of Coal

3381. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the pit head stock of coal, as on 30 September, 1986 ;

(b) the reasons for increase in pit head stocks of coal ;

(c) the steps taken to clear the pit head stocks ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The All India pit head stock of coal as on 30.9.86 was 20.20 million tonnes as against the stock of 27.21 million tonnes as on

31.3.86. The pit head stocks have been declining from April 1986 onwards and the draw down of stocks in Coal India during the first half of the current financial year has been 6.91 million tonnes.

Concerted efforts are being made to clear the pit head stocks which include stopping up of despatches of coal, improving coal loading and more offer for despatches of coal by rail, and free sale of coal from certain mines without any sponsorship etc.

Setting up of Fruit Processing Plants in Kerala

3382. SHRI K. K JNJAMBU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up fruit processing/fruit juice making plants in various parts of the country ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up one such unit in Kerala ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). As at present, no proposal to set up fruit processing/fruit juice plant in Kerala or anywhere else in the country is under consideration of the Department of Food or its Undertakings. However, Modern Food Industries (I) Ltd. and North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. Undertakings of the Department, are currently implementing the following projects :

Modern Food Industries (I) Ltd.

(i) expansion of its fruit drink bottling plant at Delhi.

(ii) pineapple juice concentrate plant at Silchar in Assam.

North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited.

pineapple and orange juice concentrate plant in Tripura.

**Investment in Backward Areas for
Industrial Development**

3383. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made in backward areas for industrial development during the past two years ;

(b) the break-up of the government investment and the private investment ; and

(c) amount invested in 'no-industry' districts of Kerala during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The Central Government do not maintain information regarding investments made for industrial development in backward areas. Under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme, an amount of Rs. 183.30 crores was reimbursed to States/Union Territories during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86. During the same period an amount of Rs. 6 crores was reimbursed to Kerala. In Idukki and Wynad districts, which have been included in the category of 'No-Industry' Districts in Kerala, 52 units were granted central subsidy during the period 1984-85 and 1985-86.

	1984-85		1985-86	
	No. of units	Amount reimbursed (Rs.)	No. of units	Amount reimbursed (Rs.)
Idukki	—	—	29	0.80,000/-
Wynad	8	20,960	15	7,62,796/-

The following number of letters of intent (LOI), industrial licences (IL) and DGTD Registrations have been issued to

States/UTs (including backward areas) during the past two years :

Year	LOI		IL		DGTD Regns.	
	All India	Kerala	All India	Kerala	All India	Kerala
1984	1064 (627)	7 (5)	905 (323)	21 (13)	1915 (1144)	13 (8)
1985	1457 (774)	25 (18)	985 (427)	24 (15)	1961 (1140)	22 (13)

Figures in brackets are for backward areas.

Details regarding name of industrial unit, location etc. to whom LOI, IL and DGTD Registrations were issued are given in the Indian Investments Centre's Monthly Newsletter, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Development of Energy from Non-Conventional Sources

3384. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :
SHRI K. MOHANDAS :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the efforts made so far in developing energy from non conventional sources in Kerala ;

(b) the total amount invested in this sector so far ;

(c) whether there is a proposal to extend and develop it further ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing various programmes for utilisation of biomass: biogas, solar, wind and other forms of non-conventional sources of energy for meeting the energy needs of people in various parts of the country including Kerala. Different non-conventional sources of energy devices such as solar water heating systems, solar timber kilns, solar desalination system, solar air heating/solar crop dryer, solar cookers, solar photovoltaic pumps, streetlighting, wind pumps, improved chulhas, community/institutional biogas plants, family size biogas plants have been installed in Kerala. Under the National Project on Biogas Development over 9000 family size biogas plants and under National Programme on Improved Chulhas about 18,000 improved chulhas have already been installed in the State of Kerala.

(b) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has invested about

Rs. 214 lakhs in this sector in the State of Kerala. In addition to this there is investment by the State Government for this sector.

(c) and (d). The programmes are being expanded throughout the country including the State of Kerala within the constraints of available financial resources and depending on local availability of the different non-conventional energy sources.

Installation of Digital Trunk Telephone Exchange at Bangalore

3385. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any digital trunk automatic exchange at Bangalore ;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to instal a new digital trunk automatic exchange at Bangalore ;

(c) if so, when it will be installed ; and

(d) the total amount required ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for installation of a new digital E 10B Trunk Automatic Exchange at Bangalore.

(c) The exchange will be installed in 1987-88.

(d) The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2,86,43,360.

Demand, Production and Cost of HMT Automatic and Digital Watches

3386. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of automatic and digital watches manufactured by HMT Limited by the end of November, 1986 ;

(b) the total demand for these watches ;
and

(c) the cost of each digital watch and
automatic watch ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-
PRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) :
(a) The total number of Automatic
Watches produced from April '86 to end
of October '86 is 1.45 lakhs. Estimated
production of Automatic Watches during
November '86 is 0.27 lakhs. HMT does
not manufacture Digital Watches.

(b) The total demand for Automatic
Watches is estimated at about one million
per annum.

(c) The ex-factory prices of Automatic
Watches range from Rs. 350/- to
Rs. 580/- (exclusive of all taxes).

Installation of Electronic Telephone Exchange in Bangalore City

3387. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether electronic exchange has
been installed in Bangalore city ;

(b) if not, whether there is great need
to instal electronic exchanges in Bangalore
city ; and

(c) if so, when it will be installed
there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of electronic
exchanges proposed to be installed in
Bangalore during the 7th plan are given
in the Statement below. This programme
is however subject to availability of
resources.

Statement

Following local/Tandem Electronic
Exchanges are planned to be installed at
Bangalore :

1. Electronic Exchanges under installation :

A 10,000 lines E 10 B electronic
exchange (Mankapur Supply) is under
installation at Malloswaram (Bangalore)
and is to be commissioned during 1987-88.

2. Electronic Exchanges Planned to be Installed

During 7th Five Year Plan.

- (i) Bangalore City—I—10,000 lines
E-10 B (Mankapur supply).
- (ii) Bangalore Central—II—10,000
lines E-10 B (Mankapur Supply).
- (iii) Malleswaram Electronic Exchange
expansion by 3,000 lines (10,000
to 13,000 lines).
- (iv) 2,000 lines E—10 B Tandem at
Bangalore.
- (v) A 4,000 lines CDOT trial
exchange at Also or—III—
Bangalore.

Industrial Licences to top 20 Industrial Groups

3388. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial licences
issued in favour of the top 20 industrial
groups during the last three years ;

(b) the number of these licences which
have remained unutilised so far ;

(c) the number of letters of intent
issued to the top 20 industrial group
during the last 3 years ;

(d) the number of such letters of intent
which have not been followed by applica-
tion for licensing ;

(e) whether such un-utilised licenses and letters of intent are liable to be cancelled or withdrawn; and

(f) if so, the particulars of the cancelled licences and withdrawn letters of intent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Industrial Group-wise statistics on letters of intent/industrial licences issued/utilised/unutilised, etc. are not maintained. However, under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 331 industrial licences (including 46 carry-on-business licences) were granted during the years 1983, 1984 and 1985 to undertakings registered under the MRTP Act. Of these, 1 industrial licence has since been cancelled/revoked.

(c) to (e). During the years 1983 to 1985, 547 letters of intent were issued to undertakings registered under the MRTP Act. If the holder of the letter of intent/industrial licence fails to fulfil the conditions within its validity period, the letter of intent/industrial licence in question is cancelled/revoked by the administrative Ministry concerned. Of the 547 letters of intent granted during 1983 to 1985 to MRTP undertakings, 149 letters of intent have since been converted into industrial licences and 35 have been treated as lapsed/cancelled.

(f) Details of letters of intent/industrial licences cancelled/revoked are regularly published by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to Parliament Library regularly.

Delivery of Levy Cement by Factories

3390. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some cement factories

are not delivering levy cement against allotments within the scheduled time and selling the same as non-levy cement;

(b) if so, the number of such factories identified during the current year; and

(c) the action taken in respect of such factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 24 cement factories in whose cases the shortfall in despatches under levy category as on 31.10.86, has been more than one month's levy obligation.

(c) (i) The matter has been taken up with the Chief Executives of all the major defaulting units to make good entire shortfall by end of December, 1986/January, 1987.

(ii) Directions are also issued under Clause 33 and 3(a) of the Cement Control Order, 1967 to regulate supplies of levy/non-levy cement and the help of the concerned State Governments is sought to ensure compliance of orders.

Short despatches are also reported partly due to slow lifting of cement by the nominees and partly due to non-availability of adequate railway facilities. Following steps have been taken to correct the distortion in supplies under levy category:—

(i) Levy cement is increasingly being moved to non-conventional deficit areas from factories in cases where the conventional markets are not consuming levy cement to the desired level due to sluggishness in demand growth.

(ii) The Railways are immediately approached to step-up wagon

supplies where supplies are started to be slow due to non-availability of sufficient number of wagons.

Concessions to Maruti Udyog Ltd. to Import Components

3391. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the concessions given to Maruti Udyog Ltd. in customs duty while importing various components, because the fuel efficiency of the Maruti car is upto 1,000 c.c. ;

(b) the total amount of concession thus given to Maruti Udyog Ltd. for the years 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(c) whether the Premier Automobiles Ltd., Bombay had requested for similar concessions and if so, the reasons for not giving same concessions to Premier Automobiles Ltd. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K K. TEWARY) :

(a) No concession have been made to Maruti Udyog. Maruti pays the same customs duty as for other fuel efficient cars of higher engine capacity.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Certain concessions on customs and excised duty are allowed for the manufacture of fuel efficient passenger cars provided the vehicle passes the fuel efficiency criteria and is tested by a testing agency for the purpose. The vehicle model 118-NE manufactured by PAL has been declared fuel efficient and the manufacturers are availing concessions in levies.

Supply of Natural Gas by Pipes in Certain Districts of Assam

3392. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to supply natural gas by laying pipes for domestic use in the oil producing areas of Sibsagar, Jorhat and Dibrugarh districts ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) :

(a) and (b). Oil & Natural Gas Commission has committed to supply five thousand cubic metres of gas per day to Assam Gas Company who, in turn, will distribute this to the domestic consumers in Sibsagar town.

(c) Does not arise.

Patenting Procedure

3393. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the average time taken by the Patent Office for granting the patent ;

(b) the longest period for which a patent application is pending as on October 31, 1986 ; and

(c) The steps proposed by Government to accelerate the pace and how soon it is expected to achieve this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) On an average 3 years and 10 months.

(b) Longest period is 13 years and six months.

(c) The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks has been asked to expedite disposal of applications.

**Transportation of coal by coastal shipping
from Talcher Coalfields**

3394. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for
transportation of substantial quantity of
coal by coastal shipping from Talcher
Coalfields in Orissa to the thermal plants
in Southern India via Paradip Port ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement
the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI
VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Coal
movement has been taking place from
Paradip port to the Power stations of
Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board. Coal
linkage is given as per the capacity avail-
able with rail-cum-sea route and the ports
capacity. Coal linkages given to Thermal
Power Stations of Tamil Nadu Electricity
Board for the quarter October-December
1986 for moment via paradip port from
Jagannath collieries are as under :

Ennore TPS 30,000 tonnes per month
Tuticorin TPS 40,000 tonnes per month

**Selling of Headquarters Building
by Union Carbide Corporation**

3395. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union
Carbide Corporation is selling out its huge
headquarters building as well as 650-acre
land attached to it ;

(b) whether Government have moved
the court for an injunction against the
Union Carbide in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND
PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAI-
CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) As per reports

appearing in the press, Union Carbide
Corporation has signed a Letter of Intent
to sell its headquarters building as well as
650 acre of land attached to it for about
340 million dollars.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The District
Judge, Bhopal has passed an appropriate
ad interim injunction order in this
regard.

**Waiting List for Telephone Connections
in Bombay and Delhi**

3396. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will
the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state :

(a) the number of applicants in
Bombay and Delhi regions waiting for
telephone connections as on date ;

(b) how many of these applicants are
expected to get telephones by the end of
March, 1987 ;

(c) when Government expect to clear
the backlog of connections and the steps
being taken by Government in this regard ;
and

(d) when Government will be able to
provide telephones to the applicants
simply on demand/asking ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a)
The number of applicants in Bombay and
Delhi as on 30-9-1986 are as follows :—

Bombay	—	1,92,576
Delhi	—	1,65,000

(b) The applicants which have been
given and are expected to be given tele-
phone connections by the end of March,
1987 are as follows :—

	Provided upto 30-9-1986	Expected to be provided by 31-3-1987
Bombay	— 12,267	17,733
Delhi	— 16,502	17,498

(c) The existing exchanges are being expanded wherever feasible and new exchanges are being installed to clear the waiting list. The existing waiting list is likely to be wiped off during the 7th and the 8th Five Year Plan periods. This is, however, subject to the availability of resources.

(d) The Government is likely to provide telephone connections to the applicants practically on demand/asking by the end of the 9th Five Year Plan, subject to the availability of adequate resources.

[*Translation*]

Post Office Saving Bank Accounts

3397. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in post offices, Post Masters are authorised to open Savings Bank Accounts but for closing an account, even if it is only of five rupees, the pass-book has to be sent to district headquarters where it continues to lie for months ;

(b) whether this procedure is not inconvenient for the department and the general public, especially when National Savings Certificates amounting to lakhs of rupees can be encashed in the post offices ;

(c) whether Government propose to allow closure of Saving Bank Accounts in the post offices ; and

(d) if so, the time by which this procedure will be followed and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir. Only departmental post offices, including sub Post Offices are authorised to open savings accounts independently. While a Head Post Office can permit final withdrawal on closure of accounts having interest bearing deposits, a departmental Sub Post Office can permit final

withdrawal on closure only on those accounts where payment of interest is not involved. Extra-departmental post offices can neither open an account independently nor permit withdrawal on closure. Normally, a reference to a Head Post Office for final withdrawal of interest bearing deposits takes about 7-10 days.

(b) No, Sir. It is in the interest of the public operating their accounts at Post Office Savings Bank that the Department has prescribed withdrawal on closure at a Head Post Office for all interest bearing deposits. Calculation of interest on any account is a complicated work with reference to the entries of deposits and withdrawals in an account on a ledger card, necessitating a recheck by a competent supervisor. A large number of our departmental sub post offices are only single-handed post offices. Besides, the ledger cards and other connected documents are maintained only at a Head Post Office. This system also prevents fraudulent withdrawal on closure. No calculation of interest is involved in payment of National Savings Certificates where the maturity values are fixed.

(c) and (d). No changes are being contemplated regarding the rules for withdrawal on closure in view of (b) above.

[*English*]

Taken over Sick Units

3398. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount so far allocated to nurse the sick units taken over by Government ;

(b) the number of sick units so revived and started functioning normally and giving marginal profits ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to hand over any of the sick units back to private sector ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). At present, there are 15 units under take-over under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. Particulars regarding amounts allocated to these units as well as their revival are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The future disposition of the 15 units referred to above will be decided on the merits on each case in accordance with the policy guidelines in this regard.

Policy for Import of Captive Power Plants

3399. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy of Government in regard to import of plants for setting up captive power units by the public sector enterprises, State Electricity Boards and private companies ;

(b) whether any changes have been made in the policy recently ; if so, details thereof and the basis for making these changes ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure greater utilisation of indigenous plants/equipment for setting up captive power plants and the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Applications received for the import of power generating equipments, except diesel generating sets for stand by power generation, are considered in accordance with the provisions of para 40 of the Import & Export Policy 1985-88. Import is normally discouraged and the emphasis is that

orders for captive generating sets are placed on indigenous manufacturers. Import is allowed only on merits of each case and after taking into account the offers received against the global tenders. Prior permission of the Empowered Committee is required to be taken by the Project Authorities before floating global tenders for import of Capital Goods in respect of power generation, transmission & distribution. No change has been made in the above policy in the recent past.

In order to improve the capacity utilisation of the indigenous industry, Deptt. of Power has taken up an exercise to identify projects where orders for power generation equipment could be placed in advance on indigenous suppliers.

Gobar Gas Plant Technology

3400. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the lack of any drive in propagating the gobar gas plant technology in different parts of the country ; and

(b) whether Government will ensure that mundane and constructive non-conventional energy devices are propagated, rather than exotic and foreign technology on this subject ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) There is no longer lack of drive in propagating gobar gas plant technology. A National Project for Biogas Development which caters to family based biogas plants is being implemented vigorously within the constraints of funds available. Over 6.5 lakh biogas plants have already been set up till October, 1986.

(b) The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources is promoting various non-conventional energy devices, such as biogas plants, improved chulhas, wind mills, photovoltaics, battery charged vehicles, solar thermal systems, biomass gasifiers, etc., under different programmes.

All of these are constructive and directly help the people, particularly in the rural areas and are almost entirely based on indigenously developed technologies.

[*Translation*]

Jhunjhunu as 'No Industry Districts'

3401. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jhunjhunu district in Rajasthan has no large or medium scale industries ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to declare this district as 'No Industry District ;

(c) if so, the time by which this will be declared as such ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There is one large scale industry existing in Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan.

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

[*English*]

Indo-Soviet Co-operation in new areas

3402. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Soviet Union have decided to cooperate in production in a host of new areas including automobiles, automotive components, earth moving equipment etc. ;

(b) if so, whether the Soviet Union has agreed to involve private sector participation in these areas ;

(c) whether any delegation from India visited Soviet Union during September,

1986 and any agreement has been reached between the two countries ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) :

(a) and (b). India and Soviet Union have agreed in principle to develop Production Cooperation in Machine Building Sector. Areas broadly identified are machine tools, automotive components, earthmoving, power generation, construction, chemical, metallurgical and mining equipments. The Indian co-operating organisations will be from public and private sectors.

(c) Indian Delegation was in the USSR during September, 1986. A Protocol was signed with the USSR State Planning Committee at the conclusion of the meeting of Indo-Soviet Sub-Group on Production Co-operation.

(d) The Protocol incorporates broad assessment of the progress achieved and further steps needed to achieve results.

Major Government Projects in Rajasthan

3403. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 532 on 22 July, 1986 regarding setting up of major Government Projects in Rajasthan and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). Based on the information already collected the details of some of the major projects are given in the statement given below.

Statement

S. No.	Details of the Project	Present status
1	2	3
1.	Palana Lignite Project	<p>On a request from the Government of Rajasthan, Department of Coal had concurred (in September, 1985) the inclusion of Palana Lignite Mining Project in the State Sector of the Government of Rajasthan.</p>
2.	Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.	<p>Government of Rajasthan have requested the Ministry of Communication to keep their claims in view while taking a decision regarding the location of new units of ITI Ltd. In view of reduced allocation for the 7th Five Year Plan, it may not be possible to set up any new units of ITI in Rajasthan.</p>
3.	Fertilizer Complexes based on Bombay High Gas	<p>A nitrogenous fertilizer complex based on Bombay High Gas is being set up at Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan by M/s. Aravali Fertilizers.</p>
4.	Petrochemical Complex based on Mathura Refinery	<p>Keeping in view the demand supply scenario for petrochemicals, availability of raw materials etc. no provision has been made for setting up a petrochemicals complex in Rajasthan in the Seventh Plan.</p>

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5. Fertilizer Complex based on Rock Phosphate at Chittorgarh

Due to non-availability of high grade phosphatic rock, Central Government is not able to consider a big project to utilise rock phosphate available in the State.

6. Fertilizer Plant based on Pyrite at Saladipura (Sikar)

PPCL, a Central Government undertaking is making a study to utilise pyrite deposits and as such it will take some time before a definite step is taken up in this direction. A proposal from PPCL to beneficiate the pyrite and supply it to a private party who in turn will set up a SSP Plant is under consideration of the Department of Fertilizers.

7. Establishment of one super cement plant at Bundi by Cement Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI)

While finalising the 7th Plan programme of CCI, it was recommended that the CCI should complete the existing projects and priority be given to expansion/diversification schemes. In view of the broad guidelines, there was no scope of CCI taking up this new project in Rajasthan during 7th Plan period.

8. Setting up of at least one project for transformers, switch-gears etc., by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

BHEL do not envisage establishment of a new unit for manufacture of Transformers and Switch-gear due to adequate capacity in the country.

9. ALL INDIA RADIO :

(i) Upgrading the power of existing AIR transmitters at Suratgarh and Bikaner.

All the schemes proposed by the State Government have been included for implementation in the Seventh Plan.

- (ii) Estt. of powerful transmitters at Jaisalmer and Barmer.
- (iii) Estt. of a radio station at Dungerpur/Banswara.
- (iv) Upgrading the power of the Jaipur-Ajmer transmitter.

10. DOORDARSHAN :

- (i) Setting up a TV Studio at Jaipur.
 - (ii) Relay Transmitters at other important centres, particularly in the areas bordering Pakistan.
- (i) The TV Studio at Jaipur with colour equipment is expected to be commissioned by the end of 1986-87.
 - (ii) In addition to the existing 10 KW transmitter at Jaipur, 12 low power transmitter at Kota, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bikaner, Bhilwara, Ajmer, Alwar, Khetri, Jodhpur, Ganganagar, Udaipur and Suratgarh were set up during 1984-85 and 1985-86. The low power transmitter at Kota, Jaisalmer and Barmer are proposed to be replaced by high power (10 KW) transmitters and addl. low power transmitters are proposed to be set up at Pilani, Nagaur, Jhalawar, Dungarpur, Banswara, Chittorgarh, Pali, Chura, Sirohi (Abu), Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Sawai Madhopur and Rawatbhata. With the implementation of the above schemes, TV service is executed to be available to about 65.5% population of State.

3

11. Non Coach Factory in Rajasthan

It has not been possible to accept suggestions for establishment of a new Coach Factory in Rajasthan.

12. New Lines and Gauge Conversion Projects

The details of the New Lines and Gauge Conversion projects taken up in Rajasthan are as under :—

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Project	Cost	Exp. upt. March 86	Outlay for 86-87
NEW LINE				
1.	Kotta— Chitradurg Neemuch	97.87	36	18.45
2.	Mathura-Ajmer	34.75	2.49	1.50
GAUGE CONVERSION				
3.	Suratgarh— Bikaner	46.63	25.34	20.55

- 13. Infrastructure for Air Services**
- National Airport Authority has provided infrastructure for Air service to Jaipur, Udaipur, Kota, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Bikaner (the last three were suggested by the Rajasthan Government) and is taking action to improve the facilities subject to availability of funds.
- 14. Extension of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station**
- Expansion of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station by setting up two additional pressurised Heavy Water Reactor Units of 235 MW each has been approved by the Government.
-

Increase in Power Generation

3404. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether power generation during the first six months of the current year has increased in comparison to corresponding period of last year ;

(b) if so, to what extent the power generation has increased ;

(c) the States where the power generation has increased ; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the position further ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The energy generation has increased by 9.8% during April-Sept., 1986 as compared to April-September, 1985.

(c) Except Karnataka, Kerala, Maghalaya and Manipur, all other States/Union Territories have shown improvement during the above period.

(d) The steps taken to improve the supply of power include expending commissioning of new capacity, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementing short gestation projects, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit States.

Coordinating body for effective working of Public Enterprises

3405. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3734 on 12th August, 1986 regarding coordinating body for effective working of public enterprises and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected ; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Special Quality Pipes

3406. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether pipes of special quality that are required for carrying petroleum products are being produced in India only in a limited quantity ;

(b) whether the SAIL was approached to make the full supply of pipes for Hajira Pipe Line ;

(c) if so, how much of it could be met and how much could not be met with reasons therefor ; and

(d) what steps have been taken to update technology so that the need for import could be eliminated in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The project authorities had floated tenders for 460100 tonnes. Rourkela Steel Plant had offered a quantity of 89,700 tonnes. An order for supply of 22174 tonnes was released on SAIL (Rourkela Steel Plant) which is to be executed by July, 1987.

(d) Creation of additional capacity with foreign collaboration for UOE pipes with longitudinal welding is being permitted and one unit is likely to commence production of this item in December, 1986.

[*Translation*]

**Fourth Pay Commission's Recommendation
on Telegraph Messengers**

3407. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fourth Pay Commission has not examined the Pay scale of Telegraph Messengers working under the Ministry of Communications ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they come under the Test category while sweepers, watermen and gate keepers come under Non-Test category ; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to improve pay scale and service conditions to Telegraph messengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c). The Fourth Pay Commission considered the question of service conditions and pay scales of all group 'D' posts in the Telecom. Department. The duties of Telegraph messengers could be equated only with other Group 'D' (test and non-test categories) officials who were also in the scale of Rs. 196-232 against which the Fourth Pay Commission recommended the scale of Rs. 750-940. Although Telegraphmen come under Test Category, the Pay Commission has recommended only one scale of Rs. 750-940 for both test and non-test category in Group 'D' after considering all the relevant factors. The Government has accepted this recommendation.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I have made an enquiry...

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : I would like to draw your kind attention to the serious problem of posts, for potato crops in U.P. and other parts of the country.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Please give it in writing.

[*English*]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : I have given it, Sir.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : We will see.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : First, I would request you to listen to my submission ; and then whatever is your ruling...

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order ? At this time, there can be no question of a submission.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is a submission, because I have a privilege notice...

MR. SPEAKER : Which privilege, Sir ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I had said that the Minister of Energy, Mr. Sathe had...

MR. SPEAKER : I will give my ruling.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Just listen to me. In between, you sent to me, through your Secretary...

MR. SPEAKER : I saw it yesterday.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Please listen to me. He had said that he had not criticized the policy of the Government ; but the Prime Minister declared that Mr. Sathe's views were not Government's views on the public sector.

MR. SPEAKER : No question.

[*Translation*]

It does not look proper.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In the past, when Dr. Ambedkar, C.D. Deshmukh and Asoka Mehta expressed different points of view, they said : 'We will not remain in the Cabinet'. I want...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. No, Sir.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : That is a constitutional provision. Any constitutional or statutory provision is a matter to be decided by the court ; and no parliamentary privilege is involved.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is not the point that I had raised...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I have decided ; finished. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : One unit producing boilers for thermal power station...

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order, Sir ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It has gone into liquidation for want of orders. Government's policy is supposed to give orders to indigenous industries. Ten thousand megawatts' worth of orders have been given to outsiders.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You can give it to me in writing. I will ask...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The Minister of Energy is sitting here...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot do it like this. Not allowed.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I want a discussion on this.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Amalji, if you give me in writing, I shall find out the fact and if need be, we shall have discussion on it.

[English]

You are always free to do it.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : If you assure me, I am satisfied.

MR. SPEAKER : No problem.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Do I take it as your observation that members of the Cabinet can carry on a public debate, a slanging debate...

MR. SPEAKER : That is a constitutional provision. Nothing doing. Professor Saab. Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Might be ; that is my ruling.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You are unnecessarily...

MR. SPEAKER : Not unnecessarily. No, Sir. I have understood the facts, and I have decided accordingly.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You have decided to rule out the privilege motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM (Nagarkurnool) : Sir Mr. Gorbachev has arrived today. A delegation from America is on visit to Pakistan. They have said that if India launches an attack on Pakistan with the help of Russia...

MR. SPEAKER : Tulsiramji, let them say what they like...

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : At the present moment, they should not have said that they would destroy India.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot take this up at random. No ; under no rule can I take it up.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : They should not have said it at such an hour. It is very bad.

MR. SPEAKER : Tulsiramji, if the situation warrants, we may take it up for discussion.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : Sir, may I speak a word of thanks for you ?

MR. SPEAKER : For what ?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : During the last session, I wrote a letter to you...

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mand-saur) : Why did he not go to the airport ? You ask him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is representing his party here.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : I would have gone, but he is coming to Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : Exactly ; you are right.

[Translation]

Both of us will wait here.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Last session, I wrote a letter to you expressing my dissatisfaction at the way the Department of Public Enterprises dealt with the matter of my privilege motion. The Minister did not reply, though it was directly connected with him. But then, my writing of the letter and your taking up the matter, the Minister has written to me—or to you ; you have given the copy—under his signature. That is a good thing. That has restored the dignity of this House, but that should not...

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Saifuddin, we always do the correct thing. Professor Saab, what is your point of order ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, why don't you give us the benefit of your correct attitude ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am always at your disposal ; but what I consider to be right, I have to say. What else can I do ? Because I am guided by your rules, I have to do as the rules say. I cannot always go according to what you think.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Even when we quote the precedents, they are of no use.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all right, but I have seen it also. I did not give my ruling without seeing it. But you can go to the courts also.

DR. V. VENKATESH (Kolar) : In my district, hundreds of children are dying due to brain fever. Actually, it is a very serious matter in Kolar. The entire district is affected. Small kids are dying.

MR. SPEAKER : We have already discussed that problem. I have allowed that. I have allowed that, you see. What more can I do ? Should I have a *kathak* here ?

DR. V. VENKATESH : Government is not active here...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Can we also take up this matter of appointment of judges, which is agitating the public? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We always allow, Sir. We always allow the things you ask me to do.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We should also discuss disappointment of the judges.

[Interruptions]

12.05 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Indian Telegraph (Fifth Amendment) Rules 1986 and Indian Telegraph (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 :—

- (1) The Indian Telegraph (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1121(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st October, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3269/86].
- (2) The Indian Telegraph (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1986 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1167 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3270/86]

Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Amendment Rules, 1986, High Court Judges Travelling Allowance (Amendment) Rules, 1986 and Notification under High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of service) Amendment Act 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : On behalf of Shri Asoke Kumar Sen, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Amendment Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1187(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th November, 1986 under sub-section(3) of section 24 of the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3271/86]
- (2) A copy of the High Court Judges Travelling Allowance (Amendment) Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1194(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 1986 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954, (Placed in Library See No. LT 3272/86]
- (3) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 827(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th November, 1986 appointing the 1st day of November, 1986 as the date on which the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1986 shall come into force issued under sub-section (2) of section 1 of the said acts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3273/86].

Food Corporation of India (Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 1986 and Food Corporation of India (Staff) (Ninety-fourth) Amendment Regulations, 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : On behalf of Shri H.K.L. Bhagat, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964 :—

- (1) The Food Corporation of India (Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity) (Ninth Amendment) Regulations, 1986 published in Notification No. 38/F. No. 39-2/82-EP. in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3274/86]
- (2) The Food Corporation of India (Staff) Ninety-fourth Amendment Regulations, 1986 published in Notification No. 39/F. No. 8-3/79-EP in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 1986. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 3275/86].

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : She is not Bhagat.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : A person becomes a *bhagat* if he worships God and that way anybody can become a *bhagat*.

Reviews on and Annual Report of Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited Dhaligaon and Cochin Refineries Ltd., Ambalamugal for the year 1985-86

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : I beg to lay on the Table a

copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) each under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

- (1) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, Dhaligaon, for the year 1985-86.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited, Dhaligaon, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 3276/86]
- (2) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Cochin Refineries Limited, Ambalamugal, for the year, 1985-86.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cochin Refineries Limited, Ambalamugal, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 3277/86].

One Hundred and Fifteenth Report of Law Committee on Tax Courts and One Hundred and Fourteenth Report of Law Commission on Gram Nayayalaya

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : On behalf of Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of Law Commission on Tax Courts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3278/86]

- (2) A copy of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of Law Commission on Gram Nayayalaya. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3279/86]

Review on and Annual Report of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Ltd. Patna for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : On behalf of Shri K.K. Tewari, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited, Patna, for the year 1985-86.
- (2) Annual Report of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited, Patna, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3280/86]

Drugs (Prices Control) Amendment Order, 1986 Review on and Annual Report of Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Calcutta for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : On behalf of Shri R.K. Jaichandra Singh, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Drugs (Prices Control) Amendment Order, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 749 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st October, 1986 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3281/86]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1985-86.

(ii) Annual Report of the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3282/86.]

12.06 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Estimates Committee

[English]

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI (Chandauli) : I beg to move :

“That the members of this House do proceed to elect, under sub-rule (3) of Rule 254, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Chintamani Panigrahi ceased to be a member of the Committee on his appointment as a Minister of State.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the members of this House do proceed to elect, under sub-

rule (3) of Rule 254, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Chintamani Panigrahi ceased to be a member of the Committee on his appointment as a Minister of State."

The motion was adopted

12.07 hrs.

CENTRAL EXCISE TARIFF
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1986*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : On behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985."

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I introduce** the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, how is it that Madam is speaking on behalf of every one, right from Shri Arjun Singh

MR. SPEAKER : Why did you not invoke Anti-Monopoly Act.

12.08 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up matters under rule 377. Dr. P. Vallal Peruman.

- (i) Need to post Central Industrial Security Force Personnel at Neyveli Lignite Corporation to prevent theft of valuable stores

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN (Chidambaram) : It has been reported that theft of properties worth lakhs of rupees has taken place in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd., Neyveli. For example, conveyer belt, scraps, copper wires, raw lico coal, cement and steel stored for construction purposes have been found missing from the compound of the Corporation. It is, therefore, very necessary to take immediate steps to prevent the huge loss taking place in Lignite Corporation at Neyveli. This can only be possible by posting the Central Industrial Security Force Personnel at Neyveli.

I would therefore request the Government to take urgent steps in this direction so that the loss to government by way of theft of valuable stores and materials taking place at Neyveli Lignite Corporation is prevented.

[Translation]

- (ii) Demand for extending transport subsidy to the desert areas of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts in Rajasthan

SHRI VIRDHJI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : The Central Transport Subsidy

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 2 dated 25.11.1986,

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Virdhi Chander Jain]

scheme introduced by the Central Government is in force in those remote hilly areas which are inaccessible and where industrialists find it difficult to set up industries.

The Ministry of Industry has granted subsidy upto 50 per cent under that Scheme which was increased to 75 per cent in April, 1983 because the cost of transportation of goods had increased.

12.09 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

The Central Transport Subsidy Scheme is restricted to only the hilly areas and is not in force in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts where the train services are inadequate and also in the remote areas which are difficult to reach.

The Central Government have declared Barmer and Jaisalmer districts as 'no industry districts'. There are large deposits of limestone, batonite, yellow stone, gypsum, rock phosphate, clay etc., in those areas but like hilly areas, it is very difficult to reach those remote areas.

The Central Government have provided cent per cent assistance for the development of the desert areas in the same way as it has done in the case of the development of hilly areas.

I would, therefore, strongly urge the Government to provide 75 per cent transport subsidy for the desert areas, as is provided for the hilly areas, particularly in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts of the That Desert, the remote areas which are difficult to reach and thereby encourage small entrepreneurs to set up industries there so that this backward and border area could develop.

[*Translation*]

(iii) Need to reduce the average purchase of opium from the growers from 32 kg. to 27 kg. in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH (Guna) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, about ten thousand

opium cultivators of Mandsaur and Ratlam districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chittorgarh and Jhalawar districts of Rajasthan have been issued notices for the cancellation of their licences whereas assurance was given to them that reduction in the average quantum of procurement would be sympathetically considered in view of the damage caused to opium crop by hailstorm last year. The average production of opium has fallen by two to three per cent in comparison with the average production of 1985 due to the damage caused by hailstorm. It is, therefore, requested that the average quantum of opium to be procured from the opium growers in 1986 be proportionately reduced from 32 kg. to 27 kg. This demand of the farmers should be considered sympathetically because their crop of opium has been severely hit due to the natural calamity and hailstorm.

[*English*]

(iv) Demand for streamlining the Haj affairs and for arranging direct flights from Srinagar to Jeddah

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla):
The performance of Haj by Indian pilgrim needs to be streamlined. As of now, Indian pilgrims face several odds while in Saudi Arabia. They have difficulties in respect of accommodation, medical aid, in matters relating to their identification, transport and selection of guides. The entire process requires close scrutiny and reforms as the snags in the present arrangements bring bad name to the country. The Ministry of External Affairs should involve itself more closely with the Haj affairs and strengthen, through funds and facilities its embassy at Riyadh and Consulate General at Jeddah. The Ministry should also go into the functioning of the Haj Committee against which several allegations have been levelled by several quarters. The Haj Committee should be made broad-based by drawing members from all States, especially from Jammu & Kashmir which is a Muslim majority State. Since most of the pilgrims fly

directly from Delhi, Government should construct Mussafirhanas at Delhi.

The Government should also arrange direct flights from Srinagar to Jeddah for the pilgrims of Kashmir from the next year. I urge that all these reformative measures may be taken in right earnest.

(v) Demand for S.T.D. facilities in Pathanamthitta district in Kerala

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Pathanamthitta is the only district in Kerala which does not have STD facilities. This district was formed a few years back but it has not so far been put on the STD network. Although the microwave station has been completed, due to non-availability of some vital equipment, it could not be commissioned.

This district contributes substantially to the economy of the country with its cash crops like rubber, pepper, cardamom, etc. With the largest number of schools, colleges and technical institutions, it has the highest literacy rate in the State. Perhaps the largest number of people from a single district working in the Gulf countries are also from Pathanamthitta. In the absence of STD facilities, the growing needs of faster communication cannot be met. This has affected the development of this district.

I would, therefore, request the Minister of Communications to direct the concerned authorities to immediately supply the equipment needed and introduce STD in Pathanamthitta at the earliest.

(vi) Need to exempt international awards and prizes won by our artists/sportsmen from customs duty

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD (Baroda) : India with its rich culture and heritage has produced some of the finest artists in the world in the field of visual arts such as sculpture, painting, graphics and photography. Most of these artists who have won international awards are from a humble background. Due to the prohibitive cost of art aids and materials

they find it difficult to fully meet their art needs even in India. Hence when they receive international awards and prizes, they are unable to bring them home because of the customs regulations of the Government. For example, a well known photographer having won a camera as prize in an international photography exhibition has been unable to bring it into the country as he is unable to pay the customs duty which runs into thousands of rupees. We seem to have overlooked the fact that whenever any of the countrymen get an international award it is also a recognition for our country. So far only a handful of sportsmen have been allowed to bring in their awards without paying customs duty.

Therefore, I request the Government to look into the matter in this perspective and show them appreciation and acknowledgement by declaring these international awards and prizes won by artists as non-dutiable commodities. This will go a long way in encouraging arts and sports in the country. It will further boost morale of our young artists and sportsmen who need every support and encouragement to reach the highest potential of their talent.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need to improve Telephone services in Varanasi region of Uttar Pradesh

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : There has been continuous deterioration in the telephone services in the Varanasi region of eastern Uttar Pradesh. In an important city like Varanasi, 40 to 50 per cent telephones remain out of order daily. The situation of telephone services in Ghazipur, Ballia, Jaunpur, Azamgarh, Mau and Bhadohi cities near Varanasi is even more pitiable. In the villages, the telephones remain out of order for days and even for months together. The trunk service in Varanasi is very inefficient. Although one can get telephone connection for big cities from Varanasi but it is very difficult to get telephone connection from there for small towns located nearby. The trunk exchange of Varanasi plays an

[Shri Zainul Basher]

important role in respect of communication in linking big cities of the country and the cities of Western region of Uttar Pradesh with the cities near Varanasi. The said exchange gives priority to the calls of Varanasi city only.

It has been proposed to set up an electronic telephone exchange in Ghazipur city. Only after the completion of the said exchange, Ghazipur can get self-dialling service for Varanasi and other big cities. This exchange should be set up as early as possible. There should be direct link between Ghazipur and Varanasi, Lucknow, Allahabad, Mau, Azamgarh, Ballia and Gorakhpur.

No serious effort is being made for the expansion of telephone services in the Varanasi region. There is a proposal for setting up telephone exchanges at a number of places. But it has not been cleared. It has come to my knowledge that there is a shortage of spare parts, cables and instruments in that region, with the result that the Department is not able to take up the proposed new work and other works, like repair, etc., although they want to undertake this work.

I would, therefore, request the Minister of communications to pay immediate attention to the above-mentioned problems and bring comprehensive improvements in the telephone system in the Varanasi region of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

(viii) Need to electrify railway line between Bangalore and Jolarpet

** DR. V. VENKATESH (Kolar) : The railway route between Bangalore and Madras is a very high density line. Several thousands of persons travel on this route everyday. But, unfortunately, this route has not been electrified so far. The portion of the route which is in Tamil Nadu has been electrified long ago. This route is between Madras and Jolarpet. The other portion of the route i.e. between Jolarpet and Bangalore has

been given step-motherly treatment. In spite of long pending demand, no progress has been made to electrify this part of the railway line. Electrification of this line will be a boon to the people of Bangalore, Bangarpet and Jolarpet as all of them are very popular places. It will also help the employees of BGML, BHEL and the merchant community of Kolar District.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to take steps for the electrification of the railway route between Bangalore and Jolarpet immediately.

12.20 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
DISAPPROVAL OF COAL MINES
NATIONALISATION LAWS
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1986
AND
COAL MINES NATIONALISATION
LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL
1986—Contd.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday, during the course of discussion on the Coal Mines Nationalisation Laws (Amendment) Bill I was saying that the bureaucrats had deliberately left some loopholes in this Bill so that they might be in a position to show some favour to these private companies and thereby these companies might also be able to have monetary gains from the Government. Such loopholes have been left not only in this Bill but in every legislation. Due to this, the proprietors of the private companies take up the matters with the courts and obtain decrees against the Government from there. In the process, they claim a handsome amount from the Government. This happens everywhere. Therefore, the Government should remain particularly cautious in this regard. These bureaucrats manage to leave loopholes in each and

** The Speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

every legislation enacted by the Government from time to time. Unless these are studied thoroughly, the private owners will continue to obtain decrees against the Government and claim large amounts of money from them as compensation and you will not be able to contain this trend. Therefore, the hon. Minister should pay special attention in this respect.

The Government had first nationalised coal mines in 1972. Subsequently, another legislation was enacted in 1973 and finally the Coal Mines Nationalisation (Amendment) Act was fully enforced in 1976. But the Government had asked these companies to look after the management of these companies during the period 1972 to 1976 and for that the companies are now demanding money, a part of which they have already received as expenses. The Government have provided them loans equal to the amount they are demanding for that period and with that money the companies could be run because they had no money with them. In this way all these companies were run with the Government money. They have also become entitled to claim compensation for the stock that had piled up there. The reason was that the Government had not interpreted the word 'mines' in the legislation as to which of the items will be included in it and how other provisions will be made. They are taking advantage of this lacuna and are demanding compensation. That is why you have brought this amending Bill. You say that it has already been provided in the definition that the stocks with the mines companies should be included in it. But now you are realizing that all these provisions were included in the compensation that you had fixed at that time. However, the Government was involved in litigation for 13 years and had to spend money unnecessarily. At least the Government should recover the money so spent from the Secretary or the Officer for whose mistake or as a result of the loophole left by whom they have to suffer such a heavy loss. He must be penalised. Had there not been loophole in the Act, the Government would not

have dragged itself in litigation in the Supreme Court and spent lakhs of rupees unnecessarily. It is squarely the mistake of those officers as a result of which the Government had to suffer such a huge loss. The Government should categorically state as to what they are going to do in this matter and what action they are contemplating against those officers who left lacuna in the legislation deliberately and caused loss of revenue to the Government. This matter needs special attention. If you could get the matter investigated thoroughly, you would find that these bureaucrats remain in league with the owners of the private companies and after retirement join these companies as top executives on high salaries. So, naturally, they are considerate to the owners of those private companies rather than to the Government. The Government should be careful in this respect.

Now, I want to draw your attention towards the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill which says :

[English]

“With the commencement of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Act, 1976 on 29.4.1976 carrying on of coal mining operation or leasing for mining coal by any private party were prohibited.”

[Translation]

When you have totally prohibited carrying on of coal mining operation or leasing for mining coal by any private party through the legislation of 1976, then I would like to know how people are mining the coal illegally under the very shelter of the Coal India and Bharat Cooking Coal, the companies running under the Government control? According to my information, they have mined lakhs of tonnes of coal and are indulging in its smuggling and illegal selling at various places. Some people call them 'Mafia' and some others know them by

[Shri Giridhari LAL Vyas]

some other name but they are running their business all right.

These people are indulging in these activities under the very nose of the Government and are, thus, earning crores of rupees. The Central Government are merely watching them and are not taking any action against them. On an earlier occasion, you had said that Mafia gangs were active in West Bengal and Bihar. They are indulging in this illegal mining and smuggling of goods worth crores of rupees. Can't the Central Government even now take any action against them? Is the present machinery of the Government, the protection force, on which crores of rupees are being spent not capable enough to apprehend such persons and take legal actions against them? I fail to understand—why you do not make such a provision. They are extracting huge quantities of coal illegally and are smuggling it to various places. Earlier also, I had said that the black gold was smuggled to Bangladesh, Nepal and other countries. Have you evolved some new arrangement to curb this smuggling?

I would like to draw your attention to one more point. It says :—

[English]

Thus, Section 4 (2) of the Coking Coal Act and section 3 (2) of the Coal Mines Act became redundant and were omitted with effect from 29.4.1976.

[Translation]

You have made these legislations redundant and after that added saving clause to it.

[English]

With a saving clause to protect action, if any, taken under the existing provisions.

[Translation]

It means that you have put this saving clause in order to save your big officials

and to cover up their misdeeds of 1976 and thereabout. It is evidently clear how the officials cheat you and serve their own ends. Your officials have managed to get an Act passed by the Parliament to protect themselves in the same way as the President of Bangladesh and the President of Pakistan got a legislation enacted by their respective Parliaments to protect themselves. Having included this clause, you cannot take any action against them. So, you are trying to save those officials. Today every country of the world is after this Black Gold but here this Department had to suffer a loss of Rs. 700 crores. India is the only country which had to suffer such a huge loss. There cannot be a worse mismanagement than this. You must make efforts to offset this loss so that we can lead the country towards prosperity. By doing so, we can generate more power and set up more industries and can thus make the country prosperous. Persons responsible for this loss should also be dealt with severely and an enquiry should be ordered into it. So, there is an urgent need to pay attention to all these aspects.

I have seen that many big official like Chairmen and Directors of Public Sector Undertakings are involved in it. They live like princes of olden times and indulge in lavish spending and mismanagement. If the persons who come under the definition of a public servant and all the public workers start adopting lifestyles of Princes and misusing the public funds there cannot be a thing worse than this. Therefore, there is a need to look into all these aspects.

Similarly, part (c) of the Objects and Reasons says :

[English]

“(c) Section 25 of both the Acts was amended so as to clarify that any amount in excess of payment over receipts in the statement of accounts prepared by the Coal companies shall be deemed to be the amount advanced by the Central Government or the Custodian.”

[*Translation*]

You should also try to go into the spirit behind it. These companies are the custodians of the money advanced by you. You have made a provision in it under which if the officials of any of the companies have done anything wrong or if they have misappropriated the public funds, the same can be regularised or the money so misappropriated can be treated as an advance and no action need be taken against such officials, but I feel that this is a serious lacuna in the Bill. You must give it a thought.

The hon. Minister is a very learned person, has a good knowledge of law and also understands other things well and if an effort is made to save the officials under his leadership by keeping the lacuna, such as the saving clause, then it is bound to result in mismanagement. We have every hope that he will not let such lacuna to creep into the system.

Likewise, part (d) says :

[*English*]

“(d) Section 26 of both the Acts was also amended to empower the Commissioner of Payments to make apportionment of the amount among the various owners on the basis of the highest annual production in the relevant coal mines during the last 3 years immediately preceding the appointed day.”

[*Translation*]

You are equipping the Commissioner with such sweeping powers such as making huge payments to the mine owners. The submission that I want to make in this regard is that your officials might have conducted some enquiry at the time of nationalisation of mines as to how much compensation was to be made to the owners. Now you are empowering the Commissioner to make an enquiry regarding the amount of compensation to be paid to the mine owners. I think it would be very ridiculous. Empowering

the Commissioner again will result in further ambiguities. On the one hand, you endeavour to remove ambiguity from the existing Act and on the other you are allowing more ambiguities to creep in. You should pay special attention to it, otherwise it will result in more losses to the Government to Coal India and its subsidiary companies which are under the Central Government and are already running in loss. I do hope that the hon. Minister will give it a serious thought and will take necessary steps in this direction.

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) :
 Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is not much to speak on this Bill. The hon. Minister is a distinguished writer and a scholar. I would like to quote from his own article. There is a famous saying, “Evil association must bring its impress”. If one enters a coal cell, one is bound to turn blackish. But, in the present case, the money invested in the coal industry belongs to the poor people. If someone squander it, it obviously pinches us. The hon. Minister has himself admitted that it has incurred heavy losses. I shall read out the summary of the Article written by the hon. Minister. The Members sitting in this House should hang their heads on reading how these companies are run, who manages them and what drove them to bring forward this Bill. The hon. Minister should tell us for how long this litigation in this case was dragged and how much money was spent by the Government to defend themselves? Why this Bill has been brought forward so late? You can say that the Bill had to be brought forward in the wake of the Supreme Court Judgement but before that the Government might have gone to the High Court or they might have filed a civil suit. The Government at least should tell how much expenses were incurred on this litigation. The Government should come out with a figure as to how much money which is taken from the poor peoples’ pockets was spent in this process before this Bill was introduced. Think

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

for a moment how much was the price of coal ten years ago and by how much it has increased today. The price differential will certainly pinch you a lot, the price has been raised seven times. That article says :—

[English]

“In the last 13 years of nationalisation, we have invested about Rs. 6000 crores of public funds in the coal sector. Although the investment has increased more than 100 fold, production has barely doubled—going up from 77 mt. to 154 mt. At the same time, the wage rate has increased from Rs. 16 per day to approximately Rs. 98 per day or about Rs. 2400 per month. On the other hand, the output per manshift (OMS) in the underground mines has not only not increased but has actually gone down from 0.54 tonne to 0.52 tonnes during this period.”

[Translation]

The article is written by Shri Sathe. Now he will tell us how much are the cumulative losses after investment. You yourself have stated this in your statement. The price of coal as on 1.4.1974 was Rs. 37.50 per tonne whereas the price as on January 9, 1986 stood Rs. 210 at per tonne. You yourself can notice the difference between Rs. 37 and Rs. 210. What has been the quantum of loss? The loss of production during one year is Rs. 1300 crores. It goes to the credit of Shri Sathe that he has done some plain speaking. We say that ‘mafia gangs’ are active there. What is that ‘mafia’ and can not you eliminate such gangs in Bihar? The Government has proved to be a total failure. There are leaders in mafia gangs and they are also participate in trade union activity (*Interruptions*)... It has become their profession to earn money in this way.....(*Interruptions*) What type of donations they take? They run collieries in a way as if there is no Government and the members from both

the sides support them in raising the prices of coal. But he has put the facts very plainly.

[English]

“Coal production would have been still higher but for the inhibiting factors—like wild-cat strikes, activity of the mafia of politicians and gangsters, lack of interest and cooperation on the part of the State Governments which continue to plague the coal industry particularly in the Bihar and West Bengal coalfield.”

[Translation]

What do these facts point to? Sometimes we support the labourers and sometimes we say that machinery is not available. The Government have invested Rs. 6000 crores and the total losses are to the tune of Rs. 1300 crores. The situation compels anybody to think why it is so? The production is not one of profit earning. The R.B.I. got an enquiry conducted into the matter through the C.B.I. but the guilty person managed to leave the country. Will Shri Sathe tell us the names of the persons whom he got convicted and the method by means of which these gangsters could be convicted? He should give us the figure as to how many persons have been put behind the bars. Hon. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh has ordered raids on Income Tax Officers. Has there been any raids conducted on these people or has some enquiries been ordered against them? Every time, the same reply is given, that the enquiry is going on. Enquiry has been completed all right, but what has been the outcome? We are fed up with the enquiries because that person still managed to flee the country. I cannot name him before I give a due notice for it. Now if I say some thing, Shri Kashyap will tell me the rule that.

[English]

You cannot say about any person who is not present in the House.

[Translation]

I cannot reveal his name. They are such high ranked officers. God only knows whether they are Indians or from an enemy country. They want to destroy our country and till now nothing has been done in this matter. I want to tell you :

[English]

“Since nationalisation in 1972, coaking coal price have increased by 700 per cent and non-coaking coal by 900 per cent.”

[Translation]

Is this the way any department should function ? If Shri Sathe could employ me and give me some powers, I would tell him what could have been done. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are ringing the bell. Let me tell you :

[English]

“Massive dose of investment of coal industry did not result in commensurate increase in production. Productivity in coal mines in India is comparatively low even with that in most of developing countries. There is vast unutilised capacity as well as surplus labour.

[Translation]

One can visualise the Indian character in the State of affairs in which the coal mines are.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE (Rajapur) : I have read the article by Shri Tiwari also.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : That you must have read. I have also read it. It is the duty of a leader to expose such things. If the present situation continues and if there are no returns even after such a heavy investment and a commodity like coal becomes so costly, what will be our fate ? Coal does not reach some places

and non-availability of coal causes shortage in generation of electricity which in turn hampers transportation also at some places. There is theft of electricity also. The people, the Union Cabinet and we the Members of Parliament can wash our hands off by saying that it is a State Subject and that it will run like that. We should all sit together and think over it. This is not the duty of the State alone but of 76 crore people of this country out of which 40 crores are poor. You have shouldered this responsibility but who will carry it out ? What I want to say is that many enquiries have been conducted but I do not know who have been punished. Mr. Chairman, Sir, besides the increase in coal prices, administrative cost also increases. The participation of labour in the management is not genuine as the members of mafia gangs manage to enter as representatives of the workers in the management. I do not want to go into the deeds in which they indulge because it will be more painful. The hon. Minister may please inform us as to who will make payment of the litigation cost in respect of coal mines for which you are going to make a provision. Some lacuna has been left in the Bill at the drafting stage. I have been emphasizing time and again that it should be referred to a committee which should scrutinize the legislation before it is introduced in the House, otherwise some lacuna is bound to remain in it. Mr. Chairman is ringing the bell repeatedly to push through the Bill hurriedly. On an earlier occasion also, a Bill was pushed through hurriedly, but later on, the Government had to beat a hastily retreat. So, will you please tell us what had been the cost of litigation ? We do not have the file, otherwise we would have checked the amount paid. I have not read the judgement also and, therefore, I would like to know who is responsible for it. When this Bill relating to coal was introduced, we were told that its scope was very limited. One thing that I want to say is that it is all right that you can transfer the employees anywhere you like but you must consider the representation of an employer whether you accept it or reject it. The amendment that I have given is also related to

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

this. The second amendment which I have given is to incorporate the words 'interest', 'title' and 'complete ownership', etc. so that there is no lacuna left in the Bill. If you find them worthwhile, you can add them, though you know better being an experienced hand.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are repeatedly asking me to take my seat. I want to obey you but I am of the view that certain changes should be made in it and strict and honest officers should be deployed there. It should also be ensured that they do not fall prey to corruption otherwise this effort will be of no avail.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, after nationalisation of Coal, the way Coal Industry has been run by the Government perhaps gives us a classic example of how to mismanage an industry thereby giving the Public Sector a bad name. When the Coal-mines were nationalised, one of the objects was to see that the coal prices are not arbitrarily raised; that workers are paid properly because they were being very much exploited in the coal-mines and also to see that the mining is not being done in an unplanned fashion so that much of the coal deposits of the country remain in a position that they cannot be mined afterwards, which is what the private coal-mine owners were doing previously. While the workers' wages have increased, I do not know to what extent the amount Rs. 98 which Mr. Sathe says that a worker gets per day: how much goes to the workers; how much goes to the persons contractors and all that they engage and who brings the workers and has some kind of a feudal sway over the workers.

Sir, there is a mafia in the coal belt. They not only deal with the coal after it has been mined; they not only see to it that illegal mining goes on but they also have a share of the workers' wages. Unfortunately, the Government, although they are fully aware of these evils which are going on in the coalmines, have done

nothing to tackle them. They have also not planned the mining operations in such a way that the mines do not become unusable or the coal deposits remain in a position so that they cannot be mined any more—which is what the previous private owners of the mines were doing. In fact, Government is giving quotas on coalmines for production to fulfil which the mine-managers are indulging in depra-dation of coalmines. They are even taking away the pillars which hold the mine-roof thereby making it impossible to go in far further mining in various other horizons where mining is possible in the underground mines or making it more expensive. And the Government has no way of checking that, no way of planning and seeing that this kind of mining is not done. This is very harmful to the country, to national interests. But unfortunately the Government has no mind to protect the national interests, they have no plans to do it.

I had occasion to visit a mine which is an opencast mine near Ramgarh in Bihar in January, 1984. I will tell you about it. That will show how the Government plans mining. This mine was planned with Russian help so that mining is done in such a fashion that less of coal is lost in the process of mining. It is a very good mine which has been opened. But I saw huge stacks of coal lying there and I asked them, "Why do you have such big stacks of coal here?" They said, "We have got one million tonnes of coal stocks here". I asked them, "Why?" and they said, "The railway line which was to come here two years ago has not come yet and, therefore, the coal cannot be transported by railway; only a few lorries can come and the road is very bad; the lorries come and take some coal, but most of the coal which is being mined here is stacked". All the equipment are there and people have been engaged; they go on mining. They said that one day the whole thing might go up in flames. This is what the engineers told me; "The whole thing may catch fire and go up in flames and there is nothing we can do about it". So, this is a

total lack of coordination in planning in the Government. Whether it is the fault of the Coal Department or of the Railways, it is the fault of the Government that national resources are put in such a jeopardy and wasted. The coal has been mined two years ago, but it is still lying in the ithead...

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Which place is that ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I can give you. It starts with 'Raj'. It is near Ramgarh, about 20 kms. from Ramgarh. I do not know whether the railway line has come now. This was the position in January, 1984. This is the way how coordination between the Railways and the Coal Department takes place. Both are government undertakings, after all and they must be able to have coordination between them. What happens is this. The thermal power stations are all crying that they are sent something in the name of coal where 20 per cent or 30 per cent is not coal at all, it is broken stones, it is even chunks of stone. How does this happen ? Because they do not have proper screening mechanism in the coalmines. Before they load the coal destined for power stations, it is their duty, as anywhere else in the world, the coalmines would have sifted the coal, screened the coal, in such a fashion as to take out the stones, big lumps and all foreign material. I am not saying that you wash it. The washeries which they should have established, have not yet been established. That is one big lacuna in their planning and implementation. Nevertheless, this could have been done by simply putting a screening mechanism there in the pitheads before loading the coal on for power stations. Now, what is happening ? The Thermal Power Stations are paying for not only coal, but for 20% of stone also. They are paying freight for it and the Railways which are hardput to carry coal—they do not have enough capacity—are carrying 20% of foreign material along with coal.

You will be surprised to know that

most of the loading points in the collieries have no way of weighing how much coal they are loading on rakes. They have no way of weighing. When I asked them as to what is the cost, they said it may be 10 lakhs, it may be 15 lakhs. That is what a weighing machine is going to cost. They don't instal even that. They go on guess work. They charge the price and the railways charge freight to the ultimate consignee on the basis of that guess work. How much goes there, nobody knows. How much is pilfered on the way, nobody knows. It is only when a consignee says that practically nothing has come, or a wagon has come half empty, they appoint somebody to see how much has been the declared weight—declared weight is nothing, it is a guess work—and how much has actually reached.

You will also be surprised to know that when these collieries put the coal in dump, they have no mechanism to protect them. In a coal belt when one moves around, one will find that people are at liberty to take away the coal whenever they like. Moreover, the coal which is supplied to the power stations, or for that matter to other Government undertakings, is the worst quality of coal. Whereas, the private entrepreneurs who buy coal, who send their own people and bribe the colliery managers, ultimately get the best coal. Is it for subsidising private industry that the coal industry has been nationalised ? Is it to see that the public sector gets the worst coal ?

What is the effect of sending all these stones to the Thermal Power Stations ? Not only they are paying more price for coal, the boilers get damaged, the work stops, electricity generation stops and people suffer. It is all because these people for their own advantage will not put the screening mechanism and will not weigh. This is only one aspect. I cannot elaborate on all the evils of the coal industry today. This is only one aspect on which I have some personal knowledge and I am speaking on that basis.

I have visited some coal mines which

[Shri Amal Datta]

are underground mines. I was surprised to see that not one manager, goes down to see what is happening. Not only I have seen, but I have enquired from the labourers there and outside from the unions. The management people never go down to see what is happening in the bits. They never go down. Why is this state of affairs allowed by the Government? Can they not put a check to see whether people are going there? What is their job? The job of an Assistant Manager is to go there.

Even before nationalisation I had been there. Private owners at least used to make sure that managers also go down there to see what kind of work is going on. Now nothing is being done to monitor the work of the management.

Then I come to mechanisation. They all talk about mechanisation and production. They have done some mechanisation in the open cast queries. I am more interested in the deeper underground mining. They have brought a machine which is called a long-wall machine. It is supposed to be self-operating on a hydraulic system. It is about 60' long machine, moves on hydraulic pressure and cuts the coal. You will be surprised to know that so many machines have been purchased and installed, but none of them work. None of these machines work because they have not understood the working—whether it will work in this country or not, what is suitable for this country. They have cared too hoots for that. Whatever has been offered, I suppose some people who have been making some arrangements got whatever kick back they could get and they have got that kind of a machine. They have not even seen whether our engineers are well versed in the working of this machine. So, the mechanisation has failed not because of workers recalcitrance, but because of the management's dishonesty and the Government's indifference.

13.00 hrs.

Sir, do you know how the workers are

being cheated? There is an occupational disease called pneumoconiosis from which the miners suffer from. Coal particles go into the lungs of the miners and cause this occupational disease. If it is recognised as an occupational disease then that person has to be given compensation. Now all the hospitals will always say it is not pneumoconiosis but it is tuberculosis and that is not an occupational disease. That is how thousands of workers are allowed to die without compensation by cheating them in this fashion. Government should be ashamed that this is happening on the Government's directive.

13 01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at
Five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, congratulations. We wish you a happy married life.

[*English*]

What a wonderful difference we find in you after your coming back.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I thank all the Members.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Our custom is not only to thank, but we should also be provided with sweets,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request all my friends to come to the Reception on 3rd December at 25 Tuglaq Road.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIKAVI (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you may speak here as much as you like, thereafter you may not be able to speak.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Mr. Bairagi, why are you weighing everything on the basis of your own experience.

14.06 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE. SITUATION
ARISING OUT OF FLOODS AND
DROUGHT IN VARIOUS PARTS
OF THE COUNTRY

[*English*]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Sir, I rise to raise a debate on the natural calamities under Rule 193.

This is not the first time that we have been discussing this subject. In each Session, for the last few years, this subject has been coming up for discussion. Today, we feel that the spectre of famine and drought is haunting this country. In several States, including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, etc., either there had been severe floods or drought conditions are prevailing there now. The calamity of floods and droughts sometimes so intermingles that in the same State that too in the same part of the State, there are floods and parallel to that, there is a drought condition. This has happened in Andhra Pradesh and this is so in other parts of the country.

We have to live with this problem even after 40 years of our Independence and it seems to me that we have not been able to control floods and other natural calamities and we are subject to the

vagaries of monsoon, thus suffering colossal loss in human life as well as in property. While on the one hand, we are constructing projects and several other works, on the other, there is a process of destruction requiring reconstruction. So, this process of construction, destruction and reconstruction is going on for the last 40 years intermittently.

Now, who is responsible for all this ? I will come to this question later when I am going to discuss the long term measures which are required to control floods and drought situation in the country. But I would like to dwell at length on the natural calamity which occurred in my own State, Andhra Pradesh. Our State has witnessed the worst floods in August. In the recorded history of 133 years, of river Godavari there was never such a big calamity in which there was not only loss of human life—about 170 people died—but several cattle also perished and quite a large number of persons were injured. And loss to property was colossal. As far as irrigation sector is concerned, the embankments, the drainage system, the whole irrigation system had gone out of gear during these floods. Sir, the damage was so colossal that the floods which were witnessed in Godavari which had come to be known as the River of Sorrow, was so much that it over-flowed to the level of about 22 feet above the crest level of the old Dowaleswaram Anicut. The flood discharged was about 35 lakh cusecs, and all our embankments on Godavari were designed only for 30 lakh cusecs. In the length of about 500 kms., the embankments over-flowed at several places breaching at several places.

Now, Sir, with this being the calamity, what is the assessment that had been made by the Central team and what is the assistance given by the Central Government ? Sir, we are grateful the timely help which was rendered by the Prime Minister when he visited on the 11th of August and had three hour aerial survey of the flood affected area and

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subsequently he announced another Rs. 50 crores. But the total assistance that was given to Andhra Pradesh in spite of the unprecedented floods was only about Rs. 132 crores.

Now, Sir, the method of assessment of the team is so defective, the norms are so defective, that the damage is calculated, based on the pre-flood level damage, position that is, to bring the works to the level of the pre-flood stage, the damage is assessed. That is, reconstruction has to take place only to the extent of the damage occurred during the floods and raise the bunds or works to the level of pre-floods. This is so defective a conception that today, we find that the restoration the pre-flood level is no restoration at all; at several places, the enhancement over-flowed and unless you raise the embankments by about 5 feet more, it will not come to the safe stage. The norms should be such that you bring the works to the safe stage, not to the stage of the pre-flood level. Unless, they are brought to the safe stage, then again next year or the year after when there are going to be floods again there is going to be breach of enhancement. Some States had been making a case that this norm should be changed and the work should be brought to the safe stage, but the Centre has not conceded this point so far. This was also placed before the Eighth Finance Commission which was also not very considerate in this particular respect. But the result of this is, that there is always the construction and again the destruction because you will never be able to reach a stage when the works are safe and future floods are not going to damage the works. So, this is the main defect in the actual calculation of the damage of the floods. Sir, in several respects.

I find that the norms fixed by the Government are not very reasonable and are not very appropriate in the sense that the whole assessment is based on some sort of an impressionistic approach. Now why I say this impressionistic approach, because the Central team

which visits the States for a few days, they are not expected to go to each and every place and examine each and every damage. They are taken to certain places where the damage was the maximum and then just get an impression that this is the extent of the damage. The team which visited Andhra Pradesh after the floods had not gone to Karimnagar. They had not gone to the interior places like Khammam, they had not gone to Adilabad, where the damage was colossal because of the fury of the floods. In my own constituency, about 250 tanks had been breached. In Mr. Vengale Rao's constituency also, many tanks had been breached; at Karimnagar, several tanks had been breached.

Now, the ceiling fixed by the team is about Rs. 40 crores for irrigation, as against Rs. 132 crores that we had asked for. Of the ceiling of Rs. 40 crores, half of that grant was required only for the Telengana district, i.e. only to restore the tanks which had been breached. The tanks which had been constructed during the last 30 years—all of them had been breached. What are you going to do about it? Are you not going to tell us that they should be brought to the safe stage; are we not going to bring them to the stage when it would be possible for the tanks to irrigate the area there?

The point is that the Central team which visits, should be clearly told not to go by an impressionistic approach. Instead, they should be realistic in assessing the extent of damage done. Then, what is the share of the expenditure? On various counts, the expenditure ceilings are being fixed: for irrigation this much, for embankment this much, for drainage this much, etc.

The norms are very rigid, and the expenditure is fixed in such a way that the States are not getting to the extent required. Out of whatever the State is being given, 25% it has to bear, according to the Finance Commission's recommendations. There is a margin money system. The margin money system is also so defective that 50 of the margin money has

to be contributed by the State Government. Over and above the margin money, if there is a further damage, in that after the assessment is done. Government of India is going to give 75%, i.e. 25% is to be borne by the State Governments.

There are also different norms for different damages, different calamities. There is one norm for the calamity caused by floods; another pattern of assistance for the calamity due to droughts. In drought conditions, the norms fixed are also very disadvantageous to the States.

It is said that for drought conditions, the damages will be assessed by the team, and then the Central assistance will be treated as an advance Plan assistance. It is not correct. It is not a grant as in the case of floods. It is only an advance Plan assistance; and the ceiling is 5% of the annual Plan outlay of the State. If the damage is more, you are not going to give anything. This advance Plan assistance will be adjusted, and will be treated as an additional Plan assistance in that particular year. Why should there be a separate norm for one calamity, and another norm for another calamity? Why should you not assess the damage done to the State, and then give that as a grant?

This point was brought to the notice of the 8th Finance Commission; but here also, the 8th Finance Commission did not agree to this, and they stuck to the recommendations made by the 7th Finance Commission. The States protested against this, and they made out a case that in the case of drought which is very severe and very widespread in several States, a more liberal attitude should be taken. A liberal attitude and liberal assistance can be there only if the calamity is of a rare severity. Nothing has been defined by the Finance Commission as to what is meant by a calamity of rare severity. It is again a discretionary matter. The discretion is with the Central Government; the discretion is with the team which goes. The discretion is with the high-level committee, and the Government. The States are absolutely helpless.

Today, Andhra Pradesh has actually witnessed a calamity of a rare severity: coming after severe drought conditions last year, there was flood, and again drought conditions. During the floods, when the Prime Minister visited, he himself observed that the damage was colossal, and that the floods in Andhra Pradesh were different from floods elsewhere. During floods in U.P. and Bihar, water spreads in on an even ground, and there is no damage.

There is no fully in the flood and the water is stagnant for several days. There is a loss of crops, but there is no loss of property, of land or of embankment or of irrigation works and so on. But in Andhra Pradesh the damage is so severe that it destroyed the entire irrigation system which was made during the last 40 years. If you are not going to define this is a severe damage, as a severe calamity, then which is that severe calamity? Has there any calamity occurred so far in this country which has been defined as calamity of the rare severity? If that is so, Andhra Pradesh certainly can claim that their calamity was a rare severity and it should be treated as such.

Now what is the advantage of it if you treat it is a disaster of rare severity? Certainly there is an advantage because out of Rs. 132 crores, the State Government is going to bear 25 per cent of this. If it is accepted as a calamity of rare severity the assistance could be very liberal, even though you have accepted it in principle, but you have not put it in the report with the result that we will be required to invest 25 per cent from our own fund and with the result that today we are not be in a position to spend anything on the drought because on the drought situation the state has to spend first. The Centre comes to the rescue later. First the State has to spend and then in can ask the Centre to give advance Plan assistance. Now, there are no funds with the State to cope up with the situation. The drought conditions in the States are so severe that about 12 districts have been very badly affected; there is no drinking water in several

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villages in the rayalaseema region in Mahboob Nagar, in warangal, in Medak District and several other districts. There is no drinking water, no fodder for the cattle and no employment for the poor people. About 32 lakhs of people have been identified as jobless today and we are not able to give any job to them. This is the severity of the flood. I request the Centre to treat Andhra Pradesh calamity as of rare severity and see that all the ceilings fixed on various accounts should be revised and additional financial assistance should be extended to Andhra Pradesh.

Coming to the question of the long-term measures, for the last 40 years, we have been only discussing this problem, but we never thought of taking up any longterm plan. We had set up bodies like Brahmaputra River Board, Ganga Flood Control Commission. Of course, there is no such commission for the river of sorrow which is Godavari today and I demand that there should be a separate commission for it. Let them prepare basin-wise master plans. You are accusing the State Governments that they are not spending funds; they are diverting funds I would like to ask the hon. Minister where is the proof? Did you find out that the funds are being utilized or not. It is easy to say day-in and day-out on the Floor of the House—I have heard the Minister telling that the funds are not being utilized for the purpose for which they have been granted. Well, certainly, if that be the case, then you have to take action; and let there be a White Paper on this published how the funds allotted by the Central Government had been utilized by the State Governments; whether they have been properly utilized or wrongly utilized or whether they have been diverted. I am sure that there is no diversion of funds; it is a fallacy to think that the funds are being diverted. As a matter of fact, States are spending much more than what you are giving them. They just cannot keep quite; they have to raise funds. The embankments have to be raised five feet above the present level on Godavary in our State.

Otherwise, we know that next year again the floods are going to come and the villages are going to be washed away. Now the point is that the States are not diverting the funds; they are utilizing funds in the least manner. As a matter of fact, the Centre has not been allotting funds required and because they have not been allotting funds required the 18th finance commission made some remarks I take strong exceptions to the remarks of the Finance Commission. The remark of the Finance Commission, was that going by the allotment made or the demand of the States and also the allotment of the Centre, because there is a gap between the actual demand the States and the Central allotment, year after year, they have come to an erroneous conclusion that the demand is being inflated. It is wrong to state that any State Government has inflated its demand because no political machinery has any role to play in this. After all, the bureaucrats, the Secretary or Collector working in the Government, the same officials come here and stay here in the Central Secretariate. Who has got any influence over them? How can we initiate the demand? It is wrong to say that the demands are being inflated. The Eighth Finance Commission had come to that conclusion only because there a gap between the actual demand of the States and the allotments made by the Centre,—and therefore, there is has been an impression that the demand is being inflated. That is an absolutely wrong statement. Demands are never being inflated. And there is no scope for that. After all, where is the scope for that? After all it is not possible, and it is a wrong statement or assumption about the expenditure. Actually the expenditure is much more than what is requested and because of the reason that the damage actually is more and also the expenditure has gone up terribly. The extent of the damage and the expenditure involved are not as low as it was five years ago when the Seventh Finance Commission mentioned about them.

The point is that I was talking about the long term measures and that no long

term measures have been undertaken. No basin-wise projects have been thought of as long term measures. No serious efforts was made to find out the reasons and to avert the situation recurring. It is said that States are mis-utilising the funds given by the Centre for raising forests in the upper reaches of the rivers and because of this the rivers are being silted. Yes, the rivers are being silted. There is no doubt that the rivers are being silted. But, for various reasons, we are not able to raise the forests. It is because of inadequate funds. If there are sufficient funds certainly we could have taken up afforestation schemes in the upper reaches of Godavari. If the finance is inadequate, if there is no definite plan, it is not possible for us to raise forests. If the funds envisaged are available in the manner and at the time they are required, there will be no question of not going in for any long term measures. As a part of the long term measures when we asked for the Polavaram Project to be cleared, it was ridiculed. It was said that Polavaram project would have been filled in about eight hours with flood in Godavari, and it was asked, how we were going to control the floods. Yes, that was the fury of the river in August flood. That is the intensity of the floods. While they accepted this, fact they are not prepared to treat it as flood of a rare severity. We asked for Icchampalli Project, for Polavaram Project, because in the upper reaches of Godavari before the tributaries like Pranati, Sabari join, the river Godavari is generally not flooded. The damage is caused when Indravati joins, after Pranati joins, and after Sabari joins in the upper reaches. These tributaries pour enormous quantities of water and then they flood the river Godavari. What are we doing for this? All these projects, require to be coordinated by different State Governments, not one State Government. It is an inter-State river—Godavari—Starting from Maharashtra, and flowing through Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, and projects like Icchampalli, Indravati project, Podaurum and Project on Pedavagu, all these projects have to be taken. There are about six or seven projects in the Godavari basin

which are pending with the Central Water and Power Commission. The Central Government should clear them, and they are required not only for Andhra Pradesh, but also for Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and even Orissa. To control the floods in Godavari it is not so easy that it cannot be taken by one State. The whole Godavari basin has to be protected and that is not being done. I feel that there is a scope and need for taking some long term measures. And some sort of a disaster fund needs to be created at the Centre. The margin money scheme has actually failed. It does not work. The margin money scheme will not work to finance the damage caused. What is required is a disaster fund operated by the centre. And why do you not take over this subject? You have been amending the Constitution and including certain subject from the State List to the concurrent and Central List. I would request the Centre to take up this subject of flood, drought and natural calamities from the State List to the Central List and take up the responsibility for controlling these floods, droughts and other natural calamities.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD (Baroda) : When our country was born, with four curses—poverty, increase of population, flood and drought and constant threat of Pakistani aggression, and to a certain extent, a lesser evil of the opposition Members.

Contrary to what my colleague has said that the Central Government has not been giving adequate support to the State Governments, I would like to state that if the Central Government had not taken quick action, drought or flood situation in the country could have been very bad. In the current year, an amount of Rs. 387 crores has been approved. This itself shows the concern shown by the Central Government. And figures that have been given to me, also prove that the intensive study has been made by the Department to find out how the problem can be met with.

[Shti Ranjit Singh Gaekwad]

Like the south-west region, as a matter of fact, every year somewhere or the other, we have been facing drought or flood. As I said, this is one of our unending curses. Compared to previous year, this year the drought affected areas are less. But one should not forget that the previous drought has left its impact. And when the Central Government fights drought or flood, it has to fight the current calamity as well as the after-effects of the previous drought or flood. The Central Government has many things to look after. And it is not right to say that the Central Government is not giving proper assistance or not fighting the calamity properly. Compared to last year drought, this year the drought affected area is only 27 per cent. During the period of 1986-87 Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Manipur have already been sanctioned amounts to fight drought. States like UP, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and other Union territories like Tripura and Goa, have also submitted their reports and asked for financial aid. For the States like Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Pondicherry, the amounts have also been sanctioned by the Government and seven other States have also applied for assistance. Knowing that there is going to be drought, the Government could only plan marginal funds to counteract the droughts. Now that margin money has been increased from Rs. 100.85 crores to Rs. 240.75 crores. Considering our financial status, I would say that the Government has done extremely well to find additional funds for fighting poverty, for the development of our country and to bring up the backward areas, and also be build up our defensive machinery. For giving additional amount, I think I should congratulate the Government. The Eighth Finance Commission had also expressed its view that with the Central Government contributing 50 per cent of the money, it should be possible for the State Governments to find the remaining amount and quite a few States have been doing that.

In spite of the drought and floods that have been hitting our country over the years, the food production has luckily been going up. Thanks again to the Government's policy that at least we have surplus food to face those calamities.

We have been facing droughts and floods for a number of years. In some areas there is shortage of water and in some areas there is surplus water. So, something has to be done to solve this problem. For a country like ours which is always short of funds, this non-productive spending cannot benefit our development. It cannot help to remove poverty. Some permanent and long-term programme has to be chalked out so that in the years to come, the country does not have to face such serious calamities.

Coming back to the drought effected areas, felling of trees and forests and imbalance of ecology is also one of the reasons for the failure of monsoon. In my home State of Gujarat, the experts have studied that from the northern parts of the State which is known as Runn of Kutch—the desert of Kutch—the desert is slowly moving towards south and that is mainly due to lot of industrialisation urbanisation and cutting of trees. That has also been the reason for the failure of monsoon in my State. All these aspects one has to take into consideration in the years to come. Our life line is the rain. We do not have enough rivers in the entire country to help us provide sufficient water. Due to lack of monsoon for the last few years, the water level in wells has been going down and there will be a great shortfall of water in the months to come. In the early part of the season when summer is yet to come, there is already shortage of water and the State Governments are planning for transportation of water to the drought affected areas. I would like to suggest that wherever the rivers tend to flow, the drainage system can be worked out upto a certain level where the water can be drained to a safer place and restored. We have Brahmaputra where water cannot be used because of controversy

with other countries. Some sort of understanding can be taken so that our areas do not get flooded. The same is the case with the other rivers which get overflowed but we cannot do anything because of the situation and the way they run. In the same way the areas where there is drought, water way should be worked out on the priority basis.

My Colleague Shri Madhav Reddi said water comes from Maharashtra. He said, onus is on the Central Government for not helping. Is it not the State Government which should come together on such issues and solve these problems? Why do they go on accusing the Central Government. I do not know that Maharashtra Government wants that their people should not suffer or wants others to suffer. There should be a dialogue between the two States. For how long and for how many years the Central Government can keep on pumping in funds which are necessary for other projects or for other committed projects. It is the State Government which must plan. They know the geography of the State or States and accordingly they should plan things.

I once again thank you for allowing me to speak on this recurring problem.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hope you will finish in ten minutes.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour); I do not think that justice can be done to the calamities wrought in this country by floods and droughts every year in ten minutes. Nevertheless, since that is the time allotted, I shall try to adhere to it as far as possible.

The peculiar feature about floods and droughts in this country is that they have increased enormously since independence. The reason is the faulty nature of our planning and implementation.

The annual rainfall in the country has not increased may be, it has become a little erratic; the reasons for this are yet not known. What have we done with

regard to the large forest cover that we had at the time of independence which is now reduced to 1/3rd of its original size and we have to know from the satellite pictures taken by Americans what kind of forest cover we have. Our Prime Minister, the other day, enlightened us on this point. He was very proud to say that he has got this information from America. The Americans pointed out to us. We did not know about it. This is very strange that our Government ruling this country, the same party ruling this country for a long time, they have no idea what is the forest cover this country has and for which we depend for our rains. Our rainfall have come down and the Rural Development Department has been telling us that because of the lack of forests the droughts have increased, soil erosion has increased, silting of the rivers and canals have increased and floods have increased as a result. So, this is one of the basic causes, a long term basic cause why both droughts and floods have increased. The same amount of rainfall today, as 40 years ago, would cause a flood. It would not have caused a flood at that time. Because all the canals and all the rivers have got choked with silt, and they have got choked with silt because of two reasons. Why is there more siltation? It is because more soil erosion is there, the eroded soil is carried down by the rivers and this silt deposits on the river bed and the canals and so on and the beds are made higher. And, Sir, there has been continuous neglect on the part of the Government to dredge these rivers, to dredge the canals to excavate and deepen them, to make the embankment stronger.

Sir, with the money that is available with the State Governments, it is not possible for the State Government to carry out this work. The Central Government will say, 'this is what has to be done at the State level.' But the main thing is: Who has the money? Has the State Government got that much money to spare for these purposes? If the Central Government takes away all the money of the country to its kitty and leaves nothing to the States even to carry

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on whatever obligations they have already taken up like health, education and so on and so forth, where is the money to come from to take up this very highly capital intensive work—capital intensive in the sense that they take up very expensive work in which a lot of people will have to be engaged? Sir, the Central Government has neglected this year after year, the Planning Commission has neglected this, and that is why we see the phenomena of floods and droughts not only alternately, but in the same year in the same State some districts are affected by droughts and other districts are affected by floods and the districts affected by floods after the flood water has gone away within a month or two months are again affected by drought. So, this is the picture we are getting and there is no long-term solution in sight and no short-term measures have been taken because of the lack of funds which is really very nominal when you compare it to the total Central Government outlay on plan budget. Maybe Rs. 2000 crores every year allocation will take care of these short-term measures which are immediately necessary. To combat the drought one has to sink tubewells, but when we see what has been done, not much progress is found so far as the tubewells are concerned. Sir, this is a very sorry picture which the Rural Development Ministry presents before us. Two-thirds of the tubewells sunk during the Sixty Plan period are not operational any more. Why has it happened? Because they say they wanted to spread their money so far and wide that they did not install deep enough tubewells. A very wonderful argument. So, they went only to the first layer of potable water and that layer dried up after a couple of years of drought. After that no water is coming up these tubewells. If they had gone to the second or third or fourth layer, then water would have been available. So, by doing this and trying to cover more area they have frustrated the entire project, the entire money has gone down the drain.

Sir, these could have been to some

extent, the short-term measures. The other is the dredging of canals, the afforestation and seeing that soil erosion does not take place and also changing the contours of the land by bunding and various other means which are available today. But no such measures have been taken even in RLEGP and such schemes which have been devised for the purpose of giving employment to the rural poor. Sir, nothing has been done to see that this kind of schemes get priority. Sir, if this is to be done, it is a very scientific work, this cannot be done by people sitting in panchayat unless a national plan is drawn up and no such national plan is in sight. Sir, this is a very sorry state of affairs that for tackling floods and droughts not only there is no long-term measure, no long-term planning, no long-term allocation of funds and so on, there is no medium or short-term work planned by the Central Government. All that they do is, year-by-year or season-by-season, they dole out some money. They have kept the State in such a condition that whenever there is a calamity which exceeds the state's own capacity to tackle, it has to stretch a begging bowl to the Central Government and there lies the politics of the whole thing. The Central Government then laughs and says, "No, no, you are exaggerating your claims; you are inflating your damages. You are not entitled to so much. And for those whom it wants to please, it gives more money. I can give you some examples but it would create bad blood. People who could compile the statistics can see that in some States, the Central Government has been very generous. But in the case of other States, the amount given has been much less than even what it is entitled to. Take the example of West Bengal wherefrom I come. There was a terrific flood in September. From 23rd to 27th of September, there were floods and the Prime Minister visited shortly thereafter. We are grateful that the Prime Minister was so much concerned about West Bengal that he thought to visit within a day immediately after the rains stopped. He himself drove over and went about by motor boat and all

that and went to two or three blocks and spoke to some people through interpreter. Ultimately he declared that he is giving Rs. 15 crores. After some probing and questioning, it turned out that the West Bengal Government had already spent half of the margin money which had been allocated, which had been cleared to spend under the annual plan and it came to about Rs. 11.5 crores. So, according to the margin money provisions of the Finance Commission, the Central Government had to give the other half of the margin money, i.e. Rs. 11.5 crores. So, what the Prime Minister did is to say that we will give us another Rs. 3.5 crores without examining our needs. But this Rs 3.5 crores is something which our State is also entitled to get. It is because, it is entitled to get three times the margin money from the Central Government. This is the statutory requirement and the Central Government is bound to give. This was not a grant. This was not outside the Plan assistance. This was very much within it. But it was stated in such a fashion that it appeared to everybody that the Prime Minister is being over-generous to this particular State. In fact, when I go to the villages, I hear that little boys also which know that Rs 15 crores is not Rs. 15 crores. It is only Rs. 3 crores—not even what the State is entitled to get. After the preliminary estimate of damages has been submitted, which is to the extent of Rs. 278 crores, the State Government did this. Knowing that the Central Government will take a long time to examine and come to any conclusion on that, the State Government requested that out of this fund, only Rs. 35 crores may be given immediately by November, so that the State can carry on the work of flood relief. Nothing has been done so far. Whereas the Prime Minister went to the State within a day of stopping of the rains, the Central Government team, high-level team of the Central Government visited the State much later—only on 23rd of October or somewhere around that. That is, about a month after the rains, they visited. This is very funny. The Prime Minister could go within 24 hours of the stopping of rains and for

the high level committee, which is really a Joint Secretary—for him to visit the State—it took more than 3 weeks. This shows that it is to be done in such a way to suit one's political convenience, not for the purpose for which these flood control devices or flood relief devices have been prescribed by the Finance Commission.

Drought is again said to be outside the scope of the Central assistance, and as my hon. friend, Mr. Madhav Reddi pointed out, only when the drought is very severe—about which the Central Government is the only judge to decide—it will send the high level team. But what is the authority of the high level team? Ultimately, it is the Prime Minister who decides whether the drought can be called severe enough for the Central Government to give some doles to the States. We have all been put at the mercy not only of nature because of the long neglect of the essential measures which the Central Government should have taken right from the beginning of the plans but, now we have been put at the mercy of the Prime Minister who is politicking with the Central assistance, of national calamities which the States only need to give succour its people. This is a very unenviable situation so far as we the representatives of the people are concerned, because we cannot make them understand why is it that money is not forthcoming. The Central Government does not have to answer to the people. We have to. The Agriculture Minister is present here today. Officers have worked day and night and within ten days they prepared the entire damage report of Rs. 278 crores and after that, it requires two weeks for the high level committee to go there and to finalise it but even now no money has been paid even as an interim measure. The people are starving and they wait for the Prime Minister for Central assistance. This is where they have taken us today. What are they doing, to see that the national water ways of which there is now an authority under the control of the Central Government, that proper dredging and proper maintenance of the national waterways is being done? An Authority

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was constituted by an Act of Parliament. We passed the Bill with high hopes that Central Government will spend some money. I would like to know how much money has been spent to see that the national waterways are also not a source of flood. This question must be answered. Otherwise, it is not possible for us to know what the Central Government is doing.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever flood or drought hits any part of the country, we hold discussion in the House in that regard. Most of the time, our discussion centres around the quantum of relief being given to one State or the other. While discussing the issue, we lay greater emphasis on the fact that our particular States have not been given a fair treatment in the matter of allocation of relief funds. Of course, it is imperative for us to demand more funds, but we, as Members of Parliament, must also consider the severity of the famine conditions prevailing in different States and ensure more allocations for the one which is the worst hit.

Let us take Rajasthan for example. The entire State is in the grip of famine successively for the last three to four years. Although the Congress Party is in power in that State, yet I think it is not getting the amount of funds that it ought to have been given by the Centre.

(Interruptions)

Secondly, we must consider as to how much of the funds allocated to the State are properly utilised and how such funds are spent. Many dams have been constructed since Independence, but how far are they being utilised? It is essential to construct dams, both big and medium sized as also small irrigation projects in the country. But usually it is seen, and the Government have also admitted on a number of occasions that wherever dams have been constructed, the water has not

been utilised properly. I would not name and particular State in this connection. Our State Governments must utilise the water properly, but they are not doing so. Dams have been constructed but channels to distribute water have not been constructed. Even if channels are constructed, they are not made of concrete and water goes waste. Steps are not being taken to check the wastage of water due to seepage. It is essential to stop it. I am not saying that dams should not be constructed.

15.00 hrs.

It is essential to construct more dams in order to control famine. The hon. Member who spoke before me has rightly pointed out that in our country stones, mud and fertile top soil flow into the rivers and canals at the time of floods, due to which the water holding capacity of the rivers is reduced, which in turn causes more floods.

Consequently, the level of water in the wells and the tubewells is dropping considerably. It is essential for the Central as well as the State Governments to undertake dredging of all the major rivers and for this purpose a dredging corporation should be set up. The State Governments should get up dredging corporations for the dredging of mud and sand that is deposited in the rivers. During the rainy season, the rivers overflow and hence they do not have the capacity to flow in their normal course, which causes floods. Therefore, it is important to set up dredging corporations in order to check the occurrence of famines and floods. It is true that it is a very expensive proposition. But, if the funds which the Centre and the State Governments spend every year to tackle the problems of drought and floods are utilised for this purpose, the floods and droughts could be brought under control.

I would reiterate that the water channels in the dams should be made of concrete, and small irrigation projects should also be taken up. In this way,

we shall be able to make better utilisation of water. Our country has become self-reliant in the matter of foodgrain production today.

15.02 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

But do you know that 35 per cent of our people who are living below the poverty line do not have purchasing power to buy foodgrains even today and that is why we have surplus foodgrains ?

Our Government are making efforts to bring down the percentage of the people living below the poverty line to 5-10 per cent by the end of this century. If this happens, the quantity of foodgrains being produced at present would not be adequate for us. Hence it is important to produce more. By 2010 A.D., our population will rise to 100 crores. Therefore, it would be necessary to increase our total foodgrain production from the present 150 million tonnes to 200 or 250 million tonner. Until irrigation facilities are provided, arrangements for proper and full utilisation of water are made and adequate power is provided to the farmers, this target is not possible to be achieved.

I want to submit one or two points more. As we are all aware, the Centre has already peovided Rs. 387 crores to the State Governments for tackling the natural calamities. However, the demand of every State is ever increasing. Some States like Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are in the grip of famine. 35 out of 45 districts in Madhya Pradesh have been hit by famine. In Madhya Pradesh, which is located in the centre of the country, and has its M.S.L. higher than the neighbouring States, has not been able to utilise its water as efficiently as it should have been, though several rivers pass through that State. That is why in spite of the fact that so much of water is available in Madhya Pradesh, femine often hit that State. Therefore, it is essential for the

Government of Madhya Pradesh and the Central Government to make efforts to construct dams on all the major rivers in order to provide maximum irrigation facilities.

As has been mentioned just now and naturally so, large reserves of raw materials like iron ore, coal, water, etc. are available in the State for setting up steel plants. Similarly, enough raw materials are available for setting up aluminium-based industries. Therefore, it is but natural that such industries should be set up there in the near future. These industries should justifiably be set up there because the required raw material is available there. However, it would also imply that more water will be required. Although the dams constructed in the pre-independence period are being utilised for big industries, yet more water is required for them also. Moreover, the need for water supply is even greater today in view of the fact that the farmers require more water now-a-days. Hence, I would suggest that Mogra which is located between Durg and Rajnandgaon would be an ideal site for construction of a dam, whereby large areas of Durg and Rajnandgaon districts could be provided with irrigation facilities. Both Durg and Rajnandgaon districts will benefit from it. Besides, Bhilai and other similar expanding industries could also get their requirements fulfilled. Mr. Chairman, Sir, although that industry produces only 4 lakh tonnes at present, yet there is no doubt that after some time the production will increase to 10 lakh tonnes, because enough raw materials are available there and also because it is centrally located and means of transportation are also available there. Hence, the Government should pay attention to the Mogra dam project right now. The Madhya Pradesh Government has already submitted the details in this regard.

I also understand that the Central Government are in favour of keeping the size of Mogra dam very small. That being so, it would not be able to irrigate more than 15 to 30 thousand acres of

[Shri Chandulal Chandrakar]

land, though according to my information, it has a capacity to irrigate much more land. I do not understand why the Government want to shrink its size. The scheme has the potential to provide irrigation facility to very large areas of the districts like Rajnandgaon and Durg which face famine-like situation in successive years. As I said earlier, 35 districts of Madhya Pradesh which include 7 or 8 districts of Chhattisgarh region also remain under famine conditions most of the time. I hail from Durg district and its five or six Assembly segments like Saja, Dhamdha, Kherthe, Bemetara and Maro etc. are facing severe famine conditions even now. The people in that part of the State need work and drinking water. Although the Government have made arrangements to provide employment but the desired number of people are not getting jobs, as a result of which the people are migrating to other places in search of livelihood. You can easily imagine the seriousness of the situation by the very number of people traveling in trains. Any poor person will not leave his home unless the circumstances force him to do so. Therefore, I would request, through you, that wherever the problems of drinking water scarcity and paucity of funds, etc., exist, efforts should be made to solve them. Recently, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have sought financial help and they should be provided the required aid. Funds should be made available wherever needed to generate employment. Besides, the funds allocated should be properly utilised and it should be ensured that the funds meant for relief work are not diverted to other works. We should ensure that the money meant for the poor is properly utilised and its benefit reaches the needy persons. A proper enquiry should be conducted so as to check the misuse of funds. It is not an easy job as an enquiry involves a lot of difficulties. When an officer of the Central Government visits a State, he has to rely upon the figures provided by the State Government and that is his only source to collect figures. Therefore, it

becomes the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to ensure proper utilisation of funds. Employment should be provided to the poor people wherever it is needed and water should be made available where it is scarce. When the Central Government provides funds for famine relief, it should be ensured that these are not spent on other things like construction of houses etc. It should be utilised for providing means of irrigation. Where facility of major irrigation project is not available, the funds can be used for digging ponds, constructing tanks or small roads or for sinking wells and tubewells etc.

It will not be correct to say that there should not be more emphasis on production of foodgrains as our country has become self-reliant in this field, because the people remain hungry where famine strikes and they need help at such a time. So, it is necessary for the Government to provide water to all areas. It will help in removal of poverty, increase production of foodgrains besides providing employment opportunities to the people. Today, grains and cereals form a major part of our meals and the in-take of other ingredients of a balanced diet, like fruits, milk and vegetables is very negligible because we cannot afford these items. Therefore, irrigation is the biggest remedy for removing poverty from our country today. We should pay maximum attention to the construction of small, medium and major irrigation projects at different places in the country so as to extend irrigational facilities to more areas. Since the occurrence of floods has become a recurring feature every year, it becomes the duty of the Central Government to ask the State Governments to set up dredging corporations in their respective States which would be a most effective method of checking famine and floods.

Recently, the Central Government have allocated funds according to the prescribed norms but Madhya Pradesh has not received this allocation so far although it became due after March-April, 1986, I hope the Government of

Madhya Pradesh will soon receive this allocation to enable them to start various relief works. The people who are migrating to other places because of unemployment will also be able to get work.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Chairman, S.r., discussion on floods and drought forms a part of the business in every session of Parliament. Floods and drought cause loss of life, cattle heads and crops worth crores of rupees. The Government have adopted a number of measures in this direction since Independence but the size of this country is so large that despite all these efforts, floods and drought continue to hit some area or the other.

I want to draw your attention to the fact that apart from benefiting the farmers, the major steps taken to control floods and drought have caused some harms as well to which the Government have not paid any attention. All the hon. Members must be aware of the rapidly increasing problem of water logging in the country.

Only 200 million hectares of land is cultivable in this country, out of which 6.8 million hectares suffer from water logging and as such is uncultivable. This large network of canals or irrigation projects in the country proves fruitful for only 5 to 10 years and later on the seepage of water turns this green fertile soil into alkaline and acidic one which will render the entire land uncultivable.

I would specially submit to the hon. Minister that it is correct to take all these steps to tackle floods and drought but the Government must also pay attention to the possible harm caused by salinity which has rendered lakhs of acres of land infertile and desert, otherwise, all our achievements will come to naught.

I want to say that an effective Master Plan has not been prepared to harness all the rivers of our country which originate from the Himalayas. The Geological Survey of India and the engineers both

agree that siltation in the river-beds has been very rapid after the construction of dams in India. Before the construction of dams all the silt used to spread over the land and thereby increased its fertility but now silt remains in the river-bed itself and makes them shallow resulting in the problem of water logging. The high level committee set up in 1954 under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. C. Mitra had also emphasised on the formulation of a Master Plan for all the rivers in India. The Government did approve it and the Master Plan for the Damodar river was prepared in 1954 which was implemented also later on. But after that, no Master Plan was prepared anywhere in the country. Only surveys were conducted without any work on them. Although the Master Plan for the Damodar river was prepared but, due to lack of funds, it has not been implemented so far. There is the Saryu canal in Uttar Pradesh. The building project has been abandoned without constructing any building after crores of rupees were spent. The reason given for it also is lack of funds. Due to the same reason, Master Plan could not be formulated and implemented. The result is that more funds are being spent on flood relief works than on flood controls in the country. If we compile the figures, we can derive a conclusion that had some more funds been spent on flood control than what has been spent on flood relief, the flood would have been prevented. I will place here some figures for the information of the House. Rs. 301 crores were spent on flood relief activities in this country in 1978-79 whereas Rs. 171 crores only were spent on flood control measures. In 1980-81, Rs. 229 crores were spent on flood relief works whereas only Rs. 165 crores were spent on flood control. It is, therefore, clear that had the schemes, which the Government did not implement due to lack of funds, been implemented this problem, perhaps, would not have arisen.

The importance of forests in controlling floods cannot be negated. But, unfortunately, the shrubs and trees in the hilly areas are being cleared to facilitate

[Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tripathi]

setting up of urban complexes. As a result of the development of urban complexes, all the trees in the hills which used to check erosion of soil have been felled. The Government must pay attention to this problem and make efforts to stop deforestation. At the same time, soil erosion and floods can be checked by planting trees in large numbers.

You very well know the importance of the drainage system for draining out the flood water. In this connection, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana have constructed drains in order to save lakhs of acres of land from water-logging which renders the land un-cultivable. But the State Governments did not supervise this work properly as a result of which many trees have grown up in the fields and a number of holes have also been formed. The Government spends a lot of money to check this erosion but it has not been controlled effectively. When the river over-flows in the rainy season, this department uses boulders to check the erosion. In this process, they charge for thousand trucks for putting one truck load of boulders in the river. Thus crores of rupees of the exchequer go into the pockets of the engineers and contractors. When it is known that soil erosion would take place at a particular place, then with a view to saving the Government money, boulders should be put at proper places and at such a time when there is no water in the river.

In this connection, I want to draw your attention to Basti, Gorakhpur and Gonda districts in Uttar Pradesh. Every year, lakhs of acres of land is rendered useless by the floods in the Rapti river. When late Keshav Dev Malviya was the representative of Basti District, we as Congress workers used to pressurise him that with a view to controlling the floods in Basti, Gonda and Gorakhpur permanently, the surplus water of Rapti river should be stored by constructing a reservoir in Dang district of Nepal, from where Rapti river originates. In this way, Nepal would

get electricity also. I would request that the Government should take up the matter with the Nepalese Government and steps should be taken to find a permanent solution to the problem of floods.

So far as the question of sending a Central team to make assessment about the loss caused due to floods is concerned, in my view, such teams are totally ridiculous and useless. Especially in 1976, when there was a flood in Basti, a Central Team went to Lucknow by helicopter and thereafter visited Basti. The local collector handed them over a typed report and the team returned to Delhi. If that be so, that typed report could have been sent to Delhi by a registered post at a nominal expense of Rs. 3 and 50 paise. The justification of sending a team to Lucknow and from there to Basti by a helicopter is beyond my comprehension. Such Central study teams only go there for enjoying the helicopter ride and come back with a typed report in their pockets. Therefore, I would urge that this practice should be discouraged and practical methodology should be adopted so that the actual loss could be assessed.

Just now, Shri Chandrakar mentioned about dredging but there may be some difficulties in it. There is no doubt that the dredging of the rivers is important but since big cities and towns are situated on the banks of the rivers, I think, dredging will not only cause problem but it will also be an expensive proposition.

There are still a number of points which I would like to raise, but as there is no time, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak and also express my thanks to the hon. Minister.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr Chairman, Sir, so far in the debate a lot of attention has been concentrated on the floods. Of course, it is a good thing, but in the floods probably droughts have been washed away and, therefore, I will concrete a little

more on the drought conditions in different parts of the country.

I request the West Coast Konkan region, which for the last hundred years had not any famine or drought conditions. There were floods, but this time we found that unusually we had got the drought and famine conditions and, therefore, I would like to project some of the important problems in the drought-stricken areas.

The drought and floods have almost become a chronic phenomenon in the country, and, therefore, we need a little more discussion on the preventive as well as remedial measures and that also will take us to short-term perspective and programmes and also a long-term prospective and approach.

Though floods and drought are mainly the subjects to be more dealt with by the States, because it has become a chronic problem, at the very outset I would request the hon. Minister to prepare a uniform guidelines to be sent to all the States so that at least the general approach will be identical and in that case there can be a pooling of resources by the Centre with the resources that are raised by the State.

As far as financial resources are concerned, if you look at the kitty that is available in various States to deal with the problems of drought and floods, you will find that they are completely beyond the ability of the States to raise the resources, and, therefore, the Central assistance should be available, but in making the Central assistance available, I have a complaint and I would fully support what Shri Madhav Reddi has said, and what Dattaji has said that actually while assistance is given by the Centre, very often in some matters, that is treated as advances to be adjusted with later allocations. Real speaking, that is no assistance at all. It is only some sort of account entry. I do not want our Finance Minister to be just an accountant who will try to adjust accounts here and there and give an optical illusion that

assistance has been given. On that point, rethinking is completely necessary.

I would like to place before you some of the observations about the drought areas, which I have visited. Very often, we find that even when the rainfall has dwindled a lot and there is scarcity of drinking water, scarcity of fodder for animals, and also when there is the burden of loan interest as well as the loan itself, even under such circumstances the problem cannot be adequately tackled because of the outmoded methods of assessing the position of the crops in the drought areas.

What is the present position? The standards and outmoded norms are, just by vision process; the authorities try to find out whether there are drought conditions in a particular area. The authorities try to find out what exactly is the usual position and just by visual method, they try to find out what the present position is and then they try to say that this time the crop is 50 paise or 60 paise or 40 paise per rupee. Now, that gives a wrong impression. In fact, I have come to the conclusion that in a number of areas in India, instead of accepting this outmoded norm of defining what is the drought condition in a particular region, it is better that you take the average rainfall in that particular area and if it has considerably gone down, then without worrying about the village authority's report, we should go ahead. I know the difficulties in this regard. Our Finance Minister will tell the Agriculture Minister that difficulty will arise at the hands of bankers. Bank insists that they must give the correct crop position and its assessment. But I think that there should be a dialogue between the Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister and these outmoded norms should be completely changed.

Now, there are certain efforts that are needed on a war-footing. One of them is digging up the wells. Here, there is a very interesting experience and that experience is found in Rajasthan. Our

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good friend Vyasji is sitting here and he will probably indicate to you his experience. Normally water is located at 150 or 200 feet below. You will find that under drought conditions, even if you go on digging 700 feet deep, the tubewell does not give any water at all and all the funds and all the expenditure is wasted. I am told by certain experts and I would like to ascertain from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact.....Hon. Minister, can I catch your eye, rather than that lady catching your eye ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : I am attentive, Sir.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I just want to find out from the hon. Minister whether my information is correct. I have come to know from certain experts that some countries have got machines which can be fitted in at a given place, not for digging up the tubewells, but just to assess whether that particular place is a fit place to dig the tubewell and if so, how deep we have to dig in order to locate water. If such type of machines are available, in that case, I think that they can be utilised in various drought areas and before you undertake the work of digging the tubewell, you can make a preliminary assessment. It is something like a seismograph, which fitted at a particular place, of course after the earthquake, can give an idea as to where exactly the epicentre of the earthquake is situated. If this sort of a machine is available, I would request the Government to explore the possibility of utilising such machines to find out whether we can find a particular region or place is fit for digging tubewells.

Then there must also be building of small bands wherever some rivulets or some live-springs are there. On the Western Coast, you have such provisions. Very often, though the State Government declares that it construction of such bands

is undertaken, money may be made available to various villages or village Panchayats, our difficulty is that wherever villagers have undertaken such tasks through voluntary labour, money is not made available. Especially in the Konkan region, this is the difficulty even for constructive works.

I would also like to mention that there should be arrangements for percolation tanks and supply of water by tankers. I would like to point out to you that in some parts of the country I have moved in the drought areas and some of the villagers have told us that if no arrangement for water tankers is made, just as after Partition, there would likely be a movement of population from one region to another region and certain villagers are likely to be deserted. At least in my West Coast—Konkan Region—I have identified certain villages and submitted the list to the Chief Minister of our State that there, if the tankers are not made available for drinking water, it is likely that the population will shift. Then the cleansing of small lakes. A very fine solution has been made by Mr. Chandrarkar that the Dredging Corporation should be started. If the Dredging Corporation is set up, I think it will go a long way in cleansing some of the tanks which can become live again and some of the springs which are almost half dead, they can be enlivened and better supply of drinking water is made available. Then, regarding the expansion of the Employment Guarantee Scheme. I am proud to say that Karnataka and Maharashtra have really demonstrated the success of these schemes. I think this success will be further expanded. The scope of the work should also be increased. At present, mainly the road construction activity is made part and parcel of the Employment Guarantee Scheme. But, even cleansing of tanks and dredging operations, they should be also included in the Employment Guarantee Scheme. In that case, probably, better co-operation will be available. Then, one more suggestion which have not come up so far, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that in some of the

States, they have successfully built up the cattle camps. In Karnataka, for instance, the Chief Minister announced that in drought conditions, due to want of fodder, if cattles are likely to die, they will be handed over to the camps conducted by the Government. They will try to get fodder from the surrounding areas or adjoining areas in addition to that, one interesting experience is being tried in some places and I think that guidelines should be applied throughout the country.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : (Jabalpur) The Professor is not going beyond Karnataka.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : No. I have referred to other States. You had not listened to that. I referred to Rajasthan. I referred to Bihar. I referred to Maharashtra.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : You must refer to efficient States like Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I think, we can emulate most efficient State in the country and that is Madhya Pradesh. I think we will go a long way in getting rid of the drought conditions. (*Interruptions*) There should be some fraternity in the House. As a gesture of fraternity, I have just tried to praise the Madhya Pradesh Government also. Now, I hope that it will not be misplaced. Sir, we must try to see that deforestation is avoided to as greater an extent as possible. See, in our own region, we have found that it has resulted both in the drought condition and also because there has been an erosion of soil especially when the monsoon has started. You find that there is a collapse and as a result of that, whenever there are floods and one particular route is completely obstructed, You find, there is a collapse of various hills and mountainous tracks and we find that other tracks are also completely obstructed. Therefore, this particular aspect also has to be taken note of.

Then as far as the relief and assistance is concerned, I have some concrete suggestions. Only yesterday, during the Question Hour, I put a pointed question to you and I would like to pursue it here. Not only in drought conditions, but even in normal conditions also, if poor agriculturists approach various types of banks, the first question that they ask is, what is your creditworthiness? And inevitable reply by the agriculturist is that, if I had the creditworthiness I would not have come to the bank at all. Now, there are standard norms of creditworthiness. They look at the income tax payment. They look at the property, that they hold. If they have got a big household on the basis of that, agricultural loans are given, especially when drought conditions are there. Even for future provisions, they require certain loans. I would request the hon. Minister to approach the Finance Minister and change the entire category of creditworthiness norms. In some of the countries, they have taken the productive potential of agriculturist and the youngsters who have taken training in engineering and other disciplines, their capability to produce productive efforts, that is taken as one of the credit norms and on the basis of that some of the loans are given. If this is done, the drought areas will not suffer a loss.

Now about families below the poverty line : unfortunately, this suggestion has not come in the discussion so far. To small land-holders and those families which live below poverty line, free rations should be made available, at least during periods of drought. When the situation improves, that can be stopped.

There is one more concrete suggestions made by a number of constructive, Gandhian workers in Maharashtra. In Gujarat it was tried in the past ; as also in Bihar, Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narain had introduced an effort viz. for a large number of poor students who do not get even enough food to eat during drought conditions, some sort of a help should be given, by providing them meals twice ;

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they should be provided some constructive work, and for that either food should be supplied, or some sort of remuneration should be given.

Adequate Central assistance should be made available to all the States. Here, I have a concrete suggestion : even during drought conditions, there are certain areas which are extremely backward, e.g. regions in Orissa, Bihar or Maharashtra. In Maharashtra, we have the backward Konkan and Marathwada regions ; parts of Vidharbha are also backward. Whenever Central assistance goes to the States concerned, sometimes it is found that not only normally the backward areas remain neglected, but during drought conditions in terms of assistance they remain totally neglected. Therefore, as a representative of the backward Konkan, as also of the backward regions in the country, I would say that whenever you give any assistance through any Government, you should try to earmark a certain amount for the neglected, backward regions, so that they do not remain neglected even during drought conditions.

As far as floods are concerned, flood control operations are there. There are various flood control schemes ; but if you go through the records, very little has been done as far as their implementation is concerned. If we are able to have a large irrigation network in the country, it will be good. It has been established in places like Punjab that if there is greater network of irrigation, the fury of floods can be dissipated to a very great extent.

Therefore, I would concretely suggest to the hon. Minister that in areas where there is a potential for irrigation and where there is also a threat of floods, if you try to increase or improve the network of irrigation, the fury of floods can be reduced, and dissipated.

As regards re-forestation, I have one more suggestion : wherever floods occur, and wherever relief programmes are there,

and wherever rehabilitation programmes are undertaken, it has been found in a number of areas that the rehabilitation has been done only on an *ad hoc* basis. They should properly survey flood-areas, and see to it that at least by providing alternate accommodation and new housing ; and having new cooperative societies for the flood-afflicted people, they try to adjust the level of these houses in such a manner that if there is a further fury of the flood, there will be no further displacement of those people who have already been rehabilitated. I am very sorry to say that in some of the areas where flood-affected people have been rehabilitated, after some time it has been found that the flood fury has started increasing. And what was considered to be the former safety level itself has undergone a change ; and, therefore, although safety level buildings have been built, they no more remain secure. So, this aspect should also be dealt with by discussing the problem with the Ministry of Housing. And if this is done as a long-term measure, we will be able to prevent a number of tragedies. As far as short-term measures are concerned, if these relief activities are provided, it will mean a lot of succour to those who are already suffering due to flood and famine.

[Translation]

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Rajgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever a calamity befell the country since Independence, be it during the times of Late Pandit Nehru or Shrimati Indira Gandhi or during the tenure of the present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, they promptly surveyed the affected areas and also provided the much-needed relief. We never politicised sanctioning of relief funds, whether it was the case of the Government of West Bengal, Karnataka or Andhra Pradesh. Whenever there has been drought or floods in those States, the Central Government always came forward with adequate relief. The figures speak for themselves.

This season, we had abnormal rains. In some areas, especially in Bundelkhand

and some parts of Jabalpur, the rainfall was below normal. In some areas, the rainfall was normal but the rains were spread over a period of only 15 days or three weeks which did not prove useful for the crops and most of the water flowed down unutilized. There was no rain after 10th August, as a result of which the water needed for the Kharif crop during the months of September and October locally called 'Kuar Ka Pani' was not available, due to which the Kharif crop was totally ruined and the Rabi crop which was sown thereafter, either has not sprouted or is withering away for want of water. It seems that this time the entire Rabi crop would be ruined.

The assessment of the Government about the rains received *via-a-vis* drought should not depend on the figures alone. I would request the hon. Minister to immediately send a Central study team to Madhya Pradesh to assess the quantum of rainfall received over a period of time which flowed down unutilised, so that we may have proper estimates of the standing Kharif crop.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the farm labourers of our area are migrating to other places in search of jobs. Although, the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sanctioned Rs. 10 crores for relief work and Rs. 5 crores for the supply of drinking water and have tried to launch some relief works, yet despite their efforts and also keeping in view the magnitude of drought—35 districts out of 45 districts have been hit—the relief provided is not adequate. Therefore, more relief works should be started there immediately.

I would also request that identity cards should be issued to all the agricultural labourers and the poor after making a survey in this regard. On the basis of such identity cards, they should be provided with secured jobs for at least 300 days a year irrespective of floods and droughts to enable them to feed their families.

There has been drought in Madhya Pradesh for the last two years in succession, especially in the tribal belt of

Khargon, Dhar and Jhabua which faced a severe drought last year also. But we are thankful to Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Government of Madhya Pradesh for starting relief work there which provided jobs to the labourers in the tribal areas besides making arrangement for the supply of drinking water in spite of the severe drought. This year too the crops have been totally ruined.

Last year, we had to start relief work in 10 to 12 districts but this year, we shall have to start relief works in most of the districts. Therefore, the State Government should be given relief on a large scale this time.

The acute scarcity of fodder is also imminent. There has been no fodder crop, as a result of which the cattle will have to face a lot difficulties. We shall have to make arrangements for the supply of fodder in Madhya Pradesh, especially in the North Western Zone and if we arrange to bring fodder from other States, the Central Government should give grant for its railway freight.

As I told you earlier, the entire area was inundated by the flood waters in 15 to 20 days. There was floods in Vidisha district which caused a heavy loss. The Central Government did send a Central Study Team there but even then no grant has been sanctioned to this area till date and about 125 persons have since died besides crops worth Rs. 11 to 12 crores having been destroyed. We did not get any relief in this regard. Although the State Government has provided relief in spite their limited resources, yet it is quite inadequate. Therefore, more relief should be sanctioned immediately.

Schemes under D.P.A.P. have been going on for the last two decades but it needs to be looked into as to which of the schemes have yielded benefits and to what extent. We did plantation, constructed ponds and provided means of irrigation but in spite of that, a permanent solution to the drought problem is not in sight. I

[Shri Digvijaya Singh]

would request the Government to conduct an enquiry into the implementation of the schemes run under the D.P.A.P. in the development blocks to find out how much development has actually taken place in those development blocks as a result of those schemes. We have seen how the Rural Development Department got a survey of the schemes of I.R.D.P. conducted through the voluntary organisations, and shown good results. Therefore, I would request that on the same lines, a mid-term appraisal of the progress of the D.P.A.P. schemes should be made with a view to assessing the benefits yielded by different schemes. The districts of Madhya Pradesh, which are covered under this scheme do not include Rajgarh, my constituency, although for development blocks under it have been hit by successive droughts, and the people, most of whom are agricultural labourers, are poor. Therefore, this district should also be covered under this scheme.

There are some areas in Dhar and Jhabua districts which had dense forests previously but the indiscriminate felling of the forests has resulted in scarcity of water. There is Kukhi development block in Dhar district which has a rainfall of 5 to 6 inches only, whereas previously it used to receive 11 inches of rainfall. The initial signs of formation of desert are quite visible there. If timely steps are not taken to check it, the situation may worsen in the next two decades. Similarly, the situation in Dhar and Sathwan development blocks of Jhabua district is very grave. It also needs special attention. I would suggest that sufficient number of schemes aimed at soil conservation should be taken up. The Government should also tighten the regulation regarding grazing, as it is a major cause of forest destruction.

I agree with the view of Shri Chandrakar that every drop of water should be saved and stored, be it through percolation tanks or through any other means. If we do not store each drop of water which we

get from God as rain water, the problem of drought cannot be solved. In this connection, I would like to cite an example. There are 1200 ponds in 900 villages of Teekamgarh district in Madhya Pradesh since the rule of Chandellas. Due to these ponds, the water level in the district was quite good, but ever since 70,000 wells were dug up, all the 1200 ponds have gone dry. The Central Government should take up a special scheme so that the ponds and percolation tanks are set right after necessary repairs.

The plantation programmes that we had taken up through D.P.A.P. have totally flopped. The hon. Minister can see the things for himself if he pays a visit there. I would like to request you that there is no need now to go for un-irrigated plantation on a large scale. The Government should encourage fully irrigated plantation only at such places where river, pond or rivulet water is available. I think, only then it can be put to a proper use.

In the end, I would submit that there is acute scarcity of drinking water and this problem has become very grave because we face it in successive years. You will have to give special grant and assistance for providing drink water. Government will have to launch special scheme to raise the ground water level which is sharply falling. Scarcity of drinking water leads to spread of *Naru* disease in our area. Due to scarcity of drinking water, the people are forced to drink water from *Basli* (spring) and as a result of that they fall victim to *Naru*. The people of about 800 out of 1,500 villages in my constituency are suffering from *Naru*. Therefore, it will be so kind of you if you could accord approval to the special drinking water schemes.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL
(Kopergaon) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion which is going on in the House at present is very important. I feel it is important because in every session, we have discussion on drought and floods. I do not know why drought hits the

country in successive years. Earlier, it was only 10 per cent of our land that used to be hit by drought. But, this year, I find that drought has hit Maharashtra for the third successive year. The Sixth Five Year Plan has just ended and now we are working on the Seventh Plan. I have just now gone through the Supplementary Demands for Grants as also the original Budget. I think, the actual expenditure likely to be incurred on drought is going to be many times more than what has been provided in the Budget. Today, there are thousands of villages in Maharashtra which do not have any source of drinking water, as a result of which the situation has become horrible. In this connection, I had suggested on an earlier occasion also that the problem of drinking water could be solved by providing assistance for the installation of deep rigs which we call tube-wells. Today, more than 18 districts are facing drought in Maharashtra. The people from those areas are migrating to the cities because at last water and employment are available in cities. But the difficulty before the State Government is that it being plan work, not much assistance is received from the Centre. Recently, the Government of Maharashtra had sought Rs. 470 crores as Central assistance, but it is very strange that the assistance will be provided only after a Central team visits there. Last year also, Rs. 500 crores were sought, but only about Rs. 100 crores given. When they advance money, they advance it for evolving ways and means, but what I want to say is that the allocation which the Centre makes for meeting the situation caused by drought or floods should not be based on the formula of the Finance Commission. Therefore, the entire procedure needs to be changed. When there is drought in successive years, per head allocation should be more. During Shri Gadgil's tenure, the Planning Commission had made a small change in the matter of allocation of relief in the event of floods or drought and the Eighth Finance Commission has also made some changes in this regard, but I think no special assistance is being given to the States

under those changes. Today, the people at many places are being rendered jobless. I would say that more allocation for the irrigation projects should be made soon so that the projects could be completed early. This will result in two benefits. On the one hand, the foodgrains production will increase and on the other the people will get employment. The problem of drinking water will stand solved and the process of migration will be halted.

Thirdly, our cropping pattern, as it goes now by the name of hybrid, requires maximum use of water. High yielding varieties of maize, wheat and other crops need extra dose of irrigation. If one lakh acres of land bearing other varieties of crops is irrigated, the same amount of water will suffice for irrigating only 70,000 acres of land bearing high yielding varieties. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister that we should change our cropping pattern and should substitute it by such a cropping pattern as needs minimum quantity of water to irrigate maximum land. Therefore, we must change our cropping pattern accordingly.

At present, the Government are giving importance to horticulture. We can grow horticulture produce on dry land and can export it as well. But as long as you do not effect changes in the cropping pattern, I think, we shall continue to be hit by drought and shall not be able to solve the drinking water problem. It will have its impact on production too. Many suggestions are being given to solve the problem of drought: Somebody is in favour of drift irrigation, another as talking of sprinkler irrigation, and still another suggests about canals. But may I ask as to how can we have drift irrigation of sprinkler irrigation if we do not have water? Tubewells as deep as 330 feet, which are also called bore wells, have been dug up in my constituency, but all of them are dry.

When the question of environment is discussed, we talk of plantation of trees.

[Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil]

The environmentalists should think over as to how forests can be grown if we receive only four inches of rainfall.

There are a number of universities in the country. My suggestion is that one of these universities should be assigned the work relating to the drought. That university should carry out research as well as extension activities. We have our *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*. These are of general nature. We should also effect changes in their set up, so that they could pay attention to the problems being faced by the drought-prone areas. At present, the work being done by the I.C.A.R. and at university level appears all right on paper but when we go to see the actual field work, we do not find the work that encouraging. Their work is like taking a photograph of a building which though looks beautiful on the face of it, but when we happen to see the building actually, we will not find it exactly according to that. The same is true of the production of commercial crops also which these institutes project on paper.

We do not have a single State which is not hit by drought one year or the other. It shows that there is some basic fault with our planning. In one of the meetings of our party I had said that the drought hit farmers were demanding that they no longer needed the dry land, rather Government should acquire it. They say that they should be given minimum wages of an industrial worker because neither they can produce anything on that dry land nor can they sustain without production. Nobody gives them respect. The nationalised or cooperative banks do not come forward to advance loans as are given to other labourers. They count nowhere.

I would suggest that the definition of a small farmer or marginal farmer given under the I.A.D.P. should also undergo a change. It should differentiate between the drought-prone areas and the other areas. The change so effected should be basic and if this change is not done, a

fresh survey will have to be conducted in this regard. The previous survey was done 15 to 20 year back.

Why drought hits successively in the same areas? After a gap of three years, we have drought for two years in succession; after five years, we have drought successively for three years; after ten years, we have drought for five years in succession. How the population of those areas will increase if the drought hits in successive years? In fact, the population of these areas is declining. This decline in population is attributed to migration to other areas. The population is declining not because the family planning programme is doing well, it is because migration is taking place there. We urge the Government that unless the Central Government does not think over it, the State Government also cannot do anything in this regard. As the procedure of assessment being adopted by the different visiting Central teams is different, it also creates difficulty. There should be a uniform pattern of assistance for drought and drinking water. It does not matter if 60 per cent or 80 per cent rainfall is received. If 60 per cent rainfall is received in seven days, how the farmer can sow his field and grow crops there? It is wrong to assess the drought by percentage of the rainfall received. We have also to see how much water is required for growing a crop. For this, drought survey is required to be done. The farmers use lift irrigation and install tubewells for irrigation purposes. But in our areas the farmers have to draw water from the river which is as far as four to ten kilometres away. You have stopped giving subsidy.

16.00 hrs.

You give subsidy only to the tune of one to one and a half lakhs of rupees. The lift costing one to one and a half lakhs does not prove economical. In Maharashtra, even the small farmers have installed lift costing Rs. two crores and for that you have given subsidy of Rs. one crore.

Since you do not give full subsidy, big lifts cannot be installed. You will have to think over it seriously. We talk of the welfare of the farmers but I doubt the authenticity of these figures. If you see the production of the farmers in terms of procurement, you will find that procurement has been less in every State due to the famine. The farmers have to sell their produce at a lower price and the drought hit areas are expanding. Due to this, the farmers do not get much feed-back and thus they cannot invest much in their fields with the result that their production does not increase. So, we shall have to think over it and the interest rate on loans will have to be reduced. Realisation of loans should be waived in those areas which are facing famine for the last two years in succession or at least the interest rate should be reduce to the minimum and it should not be more than four per cent.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN in the Chair]

The farmers are finding it very difficult to repay the interest. Previously there were money lenders but now banks have entered the field. But there has been no change in the plight of the farmers. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices has no relation to price rise whatsoever.

The Agricultural Commission cannot help farmers to increase production and, therefore, you will have to pay attention to it. I have placed these 5 or 6 suggestions before you. I do not know what reply the hon. Minister will give. But unless attention is paid to the problems of the farmers, I do not think much can be done for them.

[English]

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH (Kaiserganj) : This is an important subject. Many of the Members want to speak on this subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I am telling something else. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What have you to say ? (Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I have a Calling Attention in the other House and the time fixed for that is 5 O'Clock. So, before that if you can complete I can go to the other House and attend my Calling attention there also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are a number of speakers. From the Government side also they have to speak.

What do you say, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs please ?

SHRI BALASAHEB PATIL (Kopergaon) : If the Government is not in a position to hear, why are we doing all this ? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, Order. (Interruptions) I will hear the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : This is a subject on which every Member would like to speak.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Why have you taken up discussion to-day?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already spoken. Why do you have a complaint ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : My senior colleague has gone to attend the funeral of somebody and, therefore, he is not available. I can not attend both the House at a time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is right. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, what have you to say ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I would beg to Members to kindly listen to whatever other Members

[Shri Yogendra Makwana]

are saying. We are going to have discussion. We realise this is a very important discussion. Still there are two ours left. Why do we waste our time in just arguing here and asking for more time and not utilising time that has been given to us. I beg all of you to be patient and listen to each other. We are trying to accommodate as many Members as possible. I will also try and find our as we get near Six O'Clock, and I would request the hon. Minister to be hear if he has no other pre-occupation in the Rajya Sabha. We may be able to carry on this debate to morrow. I cannot promise right now but I will try. Thank you.

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH : I hope the Minister has agreed to continue the discussion for to morrow. Also as the Minister is busy elsewhere, we can be given time straightaway.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : It is not that he has not been here. He is very much present here. The Hon. Minister is very much present here, he is going to sit here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, I do not think you will be able to go by five o'clock. Mr Makwana, I do not think it will be proper for you

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir the senior Minister is attending at five o'clock a function. *(Interruptions)*

So he is in some function, he is busy somewhere.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will handle it, please sit down.

SHRI T. BASHEER : Sir, This is Parliament. This is more important than any other function. He cannot go away.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Here me for a minute. When I came here, my senior colleague was in a Conference of

Revenue Ministers. So, I expected him to complete it and to attend the other House. But just now I received a note from the P.A. of the Senior Minister that he is attending the function and he is not able to attend the house.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : But I am sorry, Mr. Makwana, you cannot say like that because even according to the original agenda listing this item, you will have to continue this discussion till Six O'Clock. So how can you, at the same time, stop the discussion at five ? It is not possible and you cannot say that. As far as the Minister is concerned, the parliamentary work is more important than any other function. So, there is no excuse.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Sir, I have a submission to make. Please let us continue with the debate and there will be a Minister here. We will not have to stop the debate. Would you kindly listen to my assurance on that ? Some Minister will be here to take down the points.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Does he not attend to the Business of the House ?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Sir, the Minister is here.

SHRI ANIL BASU : No, it is on record that the Minister is busy at the function and he will not attend the House. We are discussing such an important matter and the Minister has shown disrespect to the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given a Ruling that the Parliamentary work is more important than any other work. Then what more is there to say ? Now, Mr. Sode Ramaiah may speak.

(Translation)

*SHRI SODE RAMAIAH (Bhadra-chalam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bhadra-

*The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

chalam constituency, which I represent was worst victim of the floods in August last. The rivers Godavari and Shabari overflowed causing much damage to property in Khamman, East and West Godavari districts. Many villages were inundated. Many houses were washed away. Sir, my house was also washed away during these floods. Sand has accumulated on thousands of acres of land. All the standing crops have been lost. Tobacco barns collapsed at many places. The farmers are in a miserable condition now. Stored grains, pulses were completely damaged. Thousands of cattle were washed away. There were many breaches in almost all the tanks. Hundreds of people have lost their lives. Roads had been cut off and washed away. People in this region left their homes and hearths and migrated to safer elevated areas.

Our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Chief Minister Shri N.T. Rama Rao have toured the flood-affected areas extensively. Similarly many Central and State Govt. Committee have also toured the areas, to assess the damage and brought it to the notice of the Central Govt. But, the Central Govt. has sanctioned only Rs. 132 crores to Andhra Pradesh so far. This amount is too inadequate. The State Govt. has distributed Rs. 500 per head to those whose houses were completely washed away, Rs. 250 per head to those whose houses were partially damaged, a pair of dhotis, one saree and 30 Kgs. of rice Sir, needless to say that this help is too inadequate.

Due to the callousness of officials there were breaches at four places on Polavaram bund. As a result Gootala, Kotta Pattuseema, Patha Pattuseema villages were completely washed away. 500 bags of rice were also washed away because of the negligence of the officials. Action should be taken against those irresponsible officers. Similarly, Sir, the launches which were supposed to be stationed at Bhadrachalam as per the flood code, were not made available due to the negligence of Khamman district Collector. It is

one of the reasons why so much damage has taken place in Bhadrachalam division. The essential commodities like, rice, kerosene; etc. were not stored in adequate quantities as a measure of precaution. There were no launches during floods to evacuate the people to safer places. The flood victims were starving and yet there was no one to help them. Even the affluent people could not get anything though they were ready to pay higher prices. The officials were so callous that they did not even think of storing the essential commodities in adequate quantities to meet the emergency situation. The condition of the flood victims was utterly miserable. In such a situation, the State leaders of Communist Party of India came forward to rescue the flood victims facing many odds. They visited every flood affected area and distributed rice and clothes to the victims. Both rich and the poor, stood in the queue to receive rice and clothes. They appreciate the dedication and timely help rendered by the State leaders of Communist party. Similarly, many organisations also came forward and contributed their might to help the flood victims. It may take years by the time these victims recover completely from the ravages of the recent floods. According to the Govt. sources, 820 tribal villages were registered as completely destroyed. So I appeal to the Central Govt. to consider the matter sympathetically and extend a help of Rs. 750 crores to Andhra Pradesh immediately. the Central Govt. should :

1. Construct the houses on elevated and safer places who have lost their houses in recent floods ;
2. Grant permission to construct the houses in Reserved forest areas where there are no trees ;
3. Construct the houses through ITDA and hand them over to girijans ;
4. Provide employment to all the educated tribal youth or extend financial help for self employment;

[Shri Sode Ramaiah]

5. Write off all the loans and extend new loans ;
8. Sanction Rs. 20,000 each to the farmers who have lost their tobacco barns for the purpose of reconstruction ;
7. Grant Rs. 2000 per acre to each farmer for removing sand crusts ;
8. Give performance to the local candidates for employment at the Heavy Water Plant at Manuguru. At present persons from the other States are being preferred for employment at the plant. It should not be so ;
9. Extend the railway line from Manuguru to Biledilla via Bhadrachalam ;
10. Establish Alumina factory at KD Pet ;
11. Identify and include only the real Girijans (Koya) in the S T list and do justice to them, at present many communities which are not really tribal, have been include in the list ,
12. Distribute the surplus land to the landless harijans and girijans ;
13. Set up a Beedi factory at Bhadrachalam as Tuniki leaves which are used in rolling the beedis are extensively available at Bhadrachalam and Burgum pahad ;
14. Take up lift-irrigation schemes on both sides of Shabari and Godavari rivers ;
15. Allocate me funds to the drought affected people of Mabubnagar district and save them from starvation deaths ; and
16. Declare Khamman district in AP as drought affected area.

Sir, the Central Govt. should also grant sufficient funds to West Bengal, Assam, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa States to rescue them from natural calamities.

Sir, I conclude my speech by thanking you for the opportunity you have provided me to speak.

[English]

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is hardly a State which has escaped the ravages of floods this year. Eight States and two Union Territories have reported drought conditions in their areas. It has become an annual affair. We discuss it year after year practically in every session of the House without making any headway in the matter of preventing the ravages caused by floods or by drought.

During the last 32 years, out of 40 million hectares of land which has been classified as flood-prone, only 13 million hectares have been provided with flood protection measures and we had spent about Rs. 1,700 crores on this. At this rate, it will not be possible for us to provide flood protection measures even in half that area that has been classified as food-prone. I am afraid we will be entering the 21st century with this large stretch of our area being visited and ravaged by floods every year.

We have heard the speeches. Practically every hon. Member has spoken about the quantum of relief that should be given to the States. Some Members have suggested specific steps that should have been taken in drought-prone areas. My State also suffers from flood as well as drought. This year, there is a peculiarity. Sitamarhi district used to have adequate rainfall. Actually, it had floods always during the season with the result the crops used to be washed away. This year there has been no rainfall. It is almost facing a drought condition whereas in the Southern part of Bihar, we have usual droughts. They are known to be Palamau, Bhabua and Aurangabad which

are drought-prone areas and special steps have to be taken to provide relief to those people.

I am not talking of relief only. I want to talk about providing protection, insulating these areas from the ravages of floods and droughts. So far as floods and drought are concerned, it should be possible for us to know beforehand the behaviour of the monsoon and we should be able to prepare ourselves to meet the challenge posed by floods or drought. Unfortunately, we do not have the disaster management expertise nor disaster management drill. In fact, we approach the question as a very short time measure. When the flood comes, we call the army to our aid. But we do not have any outfit for this purpose. My friend Shri C. Madhav Reddi, while speaking on this motion spoke about having a disaster management fund. I will have to say something about this later on. This is a good idea which he has advanced.

So far as the long-term measures are concerned, I have already explained to you that we do not seem to have any long-term measure. My friend Shri Tripathi said that in 1954 the Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mitra had made certain recommendations that each and every big river should have a plan of its own. Unfortunately this was not implemented. Regarding Damodar river, the plan was implemented. In Bengal, Mansingh Committee was appointed. It prepared a plan of Rs. 125 crores. But in the Fourth Plan, the West Bengal Government provided for only Rs. 11 crores. The plan remained in the cold-storage. Thereafter, they got another plan an outlay of Rs. 1300 crores which will be implemented in 25 years. This has been submitted to the Government and it is under consideration. In 1981, they took up the Brahmaputra project and they have not implemented it. Like that, you will find that no systematic effort has been made to prepare a plan. Therefore, from every State we are receiving complaints that they have not got adequate assistance. The Government of India is

spending on an average of Rs. 400 crores for relief. It is true that whatever demands have been made, only 10 per cent of that have been sanctioned by the Government of India. Also, they have made complaints about the evaluation of loss and all that. I would like to say that in view of the fact that we are not able to meet the situation from our own resources, we should think of having a Central Authority to deal with this situation. Now, we need a Central Authority like the Central Flood Protection Authority or a Central Authority with legal powers.

Sir, in Australia, in the USA or in Canada which are federal States, this subject is in the Union List. I would submit that the Constitution should be amended to include the subject in the Union List and appoint a Central Authority for this purpose.

My friend Shri Chandrakar said that there should be a Dredging Corporation. Then my friend Shri Madhav Reddi said that there should be a Disaster Management Fund to be operated by the Centre. And, he has gone ahead and said that the Centre must take over the subject. I am at one with him that the Centre should take over this responsibility. They should constitute an Autonomous Authority with sufficient funds and sufficient powers. The Dredgers would also be at their disposal to decide where they have to use the dredgers. We have been talking about the embankment. Mr. Madhav Reddi said that the embankments have to be raised by five feet. The problem is such that in the course of coming years, the embankments become useless. The river-bed goes up due to silt with the result the water overflows the embankments. Therefore dredging becomes a necessity. My friend Shri Chandrakar said about the Dredging Corporation. Therefore, if an Authority is constituted, it will have enough funds to have the dredgers. So is the case of Disaster Management Fund. As you said, they could have experts at their disposal. We should not have this short-term measure when the flood has

[Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha]

come and the people are marooned.

I am happy to say that now it is possible to know the behaviour of monsoon. Thanks to the foresight of our Prime Minister, we have new plans to make area-wise predictions of monsoon for various time periods. We have now got a super-computer for this purpose. It will digest thousands of data and would pinpoint how exactly the monsoon would behave.

Now, a country-wide data collection system is being built up. Government has done well in using the satellite capability of remote sensing of the glacier of Himalayas because 60 per cent of the Indo-Gangetic river get their waters from the Himalayas. By remote sensing of snow-melting and the glacier movements, it would be possible for predicting water-inflow into the Himalayan rivers. Now, the whole of Indo-Gangetic basin can be covered with accurate flood forecasting. These have to be linked up with the river basin plan itself. My friend Shri Madhav Reddy also spoke about the river basin planning. We have got to have river basin plan. There are several agencies today operating in the States. We have the Ganga Control Board, we have the Flood Control Commission, we have the Brahmaputra Control Board. We have a multiplicity of agencies and they are not able to function properly. Therefore, I would again say that there is a need for a Central authority to coordinate the activities of the different agencies and prepare an integrated plan to deal with the situation. Every year we are faced with the problem. Crops worth crores of rupees are damaged, people lose their lives, cattle heads are lost. Therefore, we have got to think of these on a long term basis. River basin plan is necessary. That will include afforestation in the catchment area which will prevent soil erosion and prevent siltation because the river from the catchment area carries the silt and ultimately the river bed becomes shallow. Therefore, river basin plan is a must and it should be done. I am in hundred per

cent agreement with Shri Madhav Reddy that this should be done. But this can be done only by a Central authority. If all these measures are linked up together with data network using satellite channel, the Central Flood Control Authority, about which I have spoken, could have an adequate picture of water-flow as well as means to manipulate the flow. We are only acting as fire-fighters today. If there is some problem, we just go and deal with it. But we have not got an integrated approach to this problem.

Therefore, I once again suggest for the consideration of the Minister that the Constitution should be amended and we should set up a Central Authority to deal with all these problems so that they do not recur and we do not come before the House every Session to discuss these problems, to discuss the hardship and suffering caused to the people and the damages done to crops every year.

With these words, I once again commend my suggestion to the hon Minister for having a Central Flood Control Authority with dredging work and disaster management fund, all rolled into one.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this discussion on natural calamities in our country.

We have been discussing this issue many times in the House. Again and again, in every Session, we have to discuss the same problem. So, it is high time for the Government to apply their mind and formulate some long-term measures to face the situation. We have talked many times about these long-term measures, but I am sorry, the Government has not so far applied their mind in that direction. I think, the Government will move now in the proper direction.

Many of my hon. colleagues have stated about the Authority and all that. I would also like to submit that there should be a permanent agency to deal with this situation. Usually, when our

Minister speaks on the subject; he tells us that this is a subject for the State Government to deal with. But I do not think that this could be completely and exclusively left to the States for their management. The Central Government must take an initiative. We have so many corporations, as our Hon. Member have correctly put it, so many commissions, so many authorities. This is a very serious and important subject basically. So, the Central Government must take steps to form a permanent agency—that may be an Authority or may be a Corporation; but that should be a permanent agency—and that agency must undertake the work of a comprehensive survey of the flood prone areas and the drought prone areas and should formulate long-term measures and policies to face the situation. Then only we could go forward. Here as it has been correctly spelt out, annual grant of Rs. 400 crores or Rs. 500 crores as the relief measures will only help to meet the situation in a temporary manner; but we must think about the long term plans.

In this context I would also like to say that the sea erosion is a serious and big problem. So far as Kerala is concerned I know that it is a serious problem. It is not only in Kerala; but all the States lying in the coastal belt always face the sea erosion. The Central Government must take up this also. I should say that it must be taken up as a part of our planned schemes; then only we can face this menace.

I think the time is limited and therefore I should confine myself to some problems of my home State, Kerala. Kerala has been hit by a series of natural calamities—both floods and droughts—within a span of two years. You know very well that your constituency is also very badly affected so it is for you also that I am speaking. In 1985 there was an unprecedented flood during the south-west monsoon. In the first part of the year 1986 the State was very badly hit by drought. The south-west monsoon was elusive for the first nine weeks; but however, from August there was an

outburst of monsoon followed by heavy rainfall causing floods. Sir, 65 lives were lost, nearly two lakh houses were damaged rendering many homeless, damaged public property has been massive, roads, river banks and irrigation works have been damaged—partially or totally—a large number of buildings and other public properties also have been damaged.

Sir, about agriculture, about 52,000 hectares have been affected by the recent floods. In this context I would like to say that the land pattern in Kerala is different from many other States. We have our cash crop plantation there. Once that is damaged, the farmers will take five to seven years for producing another crop there. So, that should be taken into consideration by the Central Government.

Another point that I would like to make is, the Minister has already visited the State, we are very happy that he had been there. The assessment of the cost of relief measures, repairs and restoration is about Rs. 338 crores. The State Government has requested the Central Government to grant Rs. 200 crores to carry out relief measures and restore the infra-structure of the State. I understand an amount of only Rs. 26 crores has been approved by the Centre for relief and rehabilitation work. I would like to say that this is a very meagre amount and quite inadequate to meet the situation. So I urge upon the Government to apply its mind and take steps to sanction more Central relief to the Kerala State.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the vast country like India which is predominantly an agricultural country has been repeatedly hit by the natural calamities and that is why we discuss the famine and the floods in every session. Why do we not try to tackle this grim situation on a permanent footing and why do we not set up a department or a corporation

[Prof. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat]

so that we may be able to find a permanent solution to this problem? Without going into the details, I shall confine myself to the area from where I have been elected. Famine has become synonymous with Rajasthan. Whenever there is a mention of Rajasthan, one thinks of a State where a grim situation prevails due to the famine. At present, Rajasthan is facing famine for the last 5 to 6 years in succession. It will not be an exaggeration to say that this present famine is the worst of this century. I have not seen such a famine in my lifetime. The drinking water has dried up and there is no fodder for the cattle which are wandering in search of fodder. The people in the villages are longing for a bowl of grains. It is natural that one is moved at the plight of these people. Not only the wells, rivers and vegetation have dried up but the faces of the people also bear testimony, to this fact. A backward State like Rajasthan is facing the calamity of famine. It is finding very difficult to cope with such a situation. The State Government has requested the Centre for an assistance of Rs. 870 crores. If this amount is not given to Rajasthan, it will be a great set back for the State because, all the 27 districts have been, affected by famine. There are 38,677 villages in Rajasthan, out of which 31,407 villages have been hit by famine. In view of the sad plight in which the people and the cattle are, Central assistance should be granted to the State immediately, otherwise the situation can worsen further. I would like to tell about western Rajasthan where small children of 5 or 6 years of age have never seen rains. Fortunately, I represent that part of Rajasthan which has greenery. Chittorgarh is a land of brave people and the land is lush green there. But this time, water has dried up there also and the level of water has fallen considerably. The people are not getting drinking water. So, the Government should take some steps in this regard. First of all, moratorium should be declared on revenues and loans, so that the people could be saved from the acute

hardship. Secondly, the Government should grant financial assistance which the Rajasthan Government has demanded so that famine relief works could be started there and the people saved from starvation.

I have one more submission to make. Rajasthan has been facing acute problem of drinking water and the people are not getting even a drop of water. They have to trudge long distances to fetch water. I have drawn your attention in this regard a number of times earlier also. There is a saying in Rajasthan that a man takes bath only three times in his life. First, at the time of birth. Second, at the time of marriage and third, at the time of death. So, if you do not make special provision for Rajasthan in the wake of this grim situation, the problem will not be solved and the people of Rajasthan will remain without water even after 37 years of Independence. A permanent solution to the famine problem should be found. The Rajasthan Canal, which cherishes the memory of our great leader, should be declared a Central Scheme without delay and it should be completed as early as possible. Besides, approval may be accorded to all the irrigation schemes of Rajasthan which are pending with the Centre for a long time, so that work could be started on them. We should give training to our agricultural scientists so that they may evolve techniques under which cultivation could be done with minimum requirement of water as is done in Israel. You have set up *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* at different places, Training should be imparted there to the farmers to raise a good crops with less water. Chittorgarh is the worst affected area in this regard. The shortage of power is also responsible for this grim famine situation. The people do not get electricity in time. The hon. Minister should pay proper attention to it. The people of our region are compelled to drink dirty water as potable water is not available there.

With these words, I convey my thanks to you for giving me time to speak and

hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention to these problems and take steps to solve them.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN AHMED (Mangaldai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say a few words about the flood and drought situation in Assam. There is no irrigation system in Assam and every year, therefore, there is drought, but this year the drought has been unprecedented. There was no such drought in the past. When the people were still struggling against the effects of drought, in the month of October this year many districts of Assam were flooded and the flood was unprecedented and most devastating. There was no flood of this nature at any time within the last forty years. It covered a vast area of Assam and there was a lot of damage in the area ; the water level was very very high.

Then, the most important thing is that during these sixteen days, during which the flood water receded, not a single drop of relief measure was forthcoming from any other source except the relief fund of the Chief Minister. About 4.42 lakh families were affected by the flood and they had to depend upon the meagre relief measures provided by the Chief Minister from his own relief fund, and the money collected from the people of that place. For these 16 days, no relief is sent from any other source. People have to suffer a lot. Sir, I beg to draw the attention of the hon. House to one important fact. We are very glad that our Prime Minister went to our neighbouring country when there was a calamity. It is indeed a very good thing to keep good friendly relations with our neighbouring countries. We are also glad that when there was flood in other parts of our country, then also our Prime Minister visited those places and distributed relief with his own hands. He air-dashed from one place to another to see the flood situation. We are in the Eastern corner of this country, but we are also his countrymen. We sent messages after messages asking our Prime Minister

to come and see the fate of our people. But the Prime Minister turned a deaf ear to our cry. Uptill now, what to speak of the Prime Minister, excepting our Agriculture Minister, no other Cabinet Minister cared to visit our place.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : On the other day, in this House itself, the Hon. Prime Minister explained the circumstances due to which, he could not personally visit Assam.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN AHMED : I am pressing for the visit of the Prime Minister because our people are aggrieved and they say that he is not visiting our place as the State has no ruling party government and no election near at hand.

Secondly, uptill now no relief is sent to our place. Only Rs. 12 crores have been provided and that too for drought and not for floods. As you know, in Assam there has been a severe drought too. We want that relief measures should be taken up immediately in Assam. Assam is producing two kinds of crops, one is commercial crop and the second is foodgrains. Both the crops are damaged in this year in our area. People have no food to eat. Therefore, if immediate measures are not taken, there is a danger of starvation. There is also an immediate danger of famine. Therefore, remedial measures should be taken up urgently in Assam so that people who are suffering from flood and drought may get some relief.

Moreover, every year there are floods in the mighty Brahmaputra and its tributaries. There are two multi-purpose schemes namely Dhansiri and Dibing Projects. But work is not yet started on these two projects. There is no hope at all that these two works may be implemented in the near future. If these multi-purpose river projects are implemented soon, Assam can be saved from the problem of floods and drought. When we, members from the AGP, contacted the Brahmaputra Board, the officials have stated that there is a constraint of funds, and that there is no money for the

[Shri Saifuddin Ahmed]

construction of these two projects. Thousands of crores of rupees are spent in other places for construction of such projects. But only for these two projects in Assam, there is no money ! Therefore, I request the Central Government to release adequate funds for the construction of these two projects which are yet to be started. If these two schemes are implemented, there will be great relief for the food-affected people in our State.

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI (Madhubani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for having provided me with an opportunity to speak on the problem of drought and floods. I would also like to say that whatever work has been done in this regard so far is confined to only relief work because attention is paid only to the losses caused by floods and no effort is made to take necessary steps to find out a permanent solution to the problem in a planned manner. It is a matter of regret that every year this assistance is given as relief but no attention is paid towards finding a permanent solution to the real problem. Should I expect now that the people who are hit by floods will be relieved of this havoc ? All rivers in Madhubani district of Bihar originate from hills and cause flood havoc in our area. But it is a matter of regret that no special attention has been paid to it since Independence. I would like to cite an example in this regard. The construction work of Kosi project was inaugurated by Late Dr. Rajendra Babu in January, 1955 so that flood water could be controlled and supplied to the farmers for irrigation. But this project has not been completed till today. We do take interest in getting a huge amount sanctioned by the Centre for the State Government, but we do not do proper monitoring once it is allocated. It is a matter of regret that the projects inaugurated in 1955 and again in 1961 by Late Shri Vinodanand Jha, the then Chief Minister of Bihar and thereafter by Late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri at Bhim Nagar

are yet to be completed. The money earmarked for the project is going into the pockets of engineers who are building their own mansions for their comfort and are not taking up the work of these canals.

The second major river which affects our area is *Kamla* river which also originates from the hills. The canal construction work on this river was inaugurated by Late Jawahar Lal Nehru. At present the canal which is known as Kamla Canal is lying dry. In 1963, the then Members of Parliament had drawn the attention of the Government towards it but no attention has been paid to it so far. When I raised this question last year, I was told that the Government of India would take it up with the Government of Nepal and a solution would be found out, Nepal has constructed dams on all their rivers and during the rainy season they open their gates as a result of which the entire northern Bihar is inundated, whereas during Kharif crop they close their gates. I was assured that this problem would be solved through mutual dialogue. But I am sorry to say that no effective step has been taken by the Central Government in this direction. Should I hope now that the people who are affected by flood in successive years will be relieved of this problem for ever and the farmers will get water for irrigation ? Sir, it has become customary to speak on this topic ; some people have to listen to it but nobody thinks over it. That being so, there is no use having a discussion on it. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the fact that so far as the third river—*Adwara* Group of Rivers is concerned, five districts of Bihar are affected by them. Last year, the Chief Minister of Bihar had said that there were no floods in Bihar, it was only water-logging in the low lying areas. I had personally visited the area and had sent some photographs to the Prime Minister of our country, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I was assured by the Ministries of Agriculture and Water Resources that action in this regard was being taken, but I am sorry to point out that no steps has so far been taken in this direction.

With these words, I would like to say that besides sanctioning relief funds we should also try to solve the problem.

*SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing a very vital issue for the past three hours. Every year we discuss about the havoc of floods and drought. I am taking part in such a discussion for the third time in this august House. Some parts of the country are affected by floods and some are under severe drought conditions. In fact these problems have become routine in our country. This year there were devastating floods in Andhra Pradesh taking over 170 lives. North-eastern States were also affected by floods. Karnataka State has been reeling under severe drought for the last three consecutive years. This year fortunately my State has received some rain. This is not at all sufficient and especially in the catchment area the rainfall is scanty.

Such problems of floods and drought would continue to haunt the country until we take long term measures to control them. Dastur Committee has given its report but no action has been taken on its recommendations. Some are of the opinion that Dastur Committee report is not viable. I am of the opinion that this is the only answer for controlling floods and drought in the country. Linking Ganga with Kaveri is the only solution for most of the problems of our farmers. Diversion of river water should also be taken up on top priority basis. If irrigation potential is increased it will help the farmers to progress and ultimately it would lead to the prosperity of the country. Forty lakh acres of land will become cultivable if we spend about Rs. 15,000 crores. It will also provide jobs to lakhs of labourers in the country.

17.00 hrs.

In Karnataka, unfortunately the money that has been sanctioned by the Centre is not being utilised properly. The Chief Minister has no courage to utilise the State funds for irrigational purposes.

There are several projects in Karnataka which are pending for the last several years. Upper Bhadra, Upper Thunga, Bedthi, Agbinashini, Varahi Netrorati are the most important projects which are pending in my State. I urge upon the hon. Minister to complete these projects at the earliest. The completion of these projects would be a boon to the farmers of Karnataka. I hope that the hon. Minister will take immediate steps to connect major rivers of the country and save the poor farmers of the country from the havoc of floods and drought. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi) : Mr. Chairman, I come from a State which is always in the grip of natural calamities due to drought, floods and cyclone. And the constituency which I represent, Kalahandi, has become a national event today especially after the Prime Minister visited it and because of its drought-prone conditions.

I am not going to discuss anything here regarding various measures and programmes about which many speakers have already mentioned, there is a shortage of food, fodder and drinking water. But above all I want to mention my experience in the poverty-stricken or drought-stricken areas and I would like to draw the attention of the House and the hon. Minister because it is high time to evolve a strategy and operational approach to eliminate poverty and eradication of regional imbalances, and that is the socialist concept of our planning.

No doubt today we are in a state when from a country that was importing food-grains from outside, we are exporting now. But simultaneously, at the same time, today shortage of food, fodder and drinking water in a large number of villages is a grim fact of today's India.

Out of the total cultivable land of the country 70 per cent is under-rain fed or

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

[Shri Jagannath Pattnaik]

dry area. And only 4 per cent of the total production comes from this 70 per cent of the cultivable land. Because these areas are under a vicious circle, of high risk, low investment, poor technology, low production and because of high risk institutional credit is very poor and there is large scale under employment and unemployment.

About 73 per cent of the farmers group can cultivate only 23 per cent of the total land and although we are talking of socialism, all over India feudalism exists, so far as our land system is concerned and hardly one per cent—or a little above that—of the land has been distributed through land ceiling, among the poor, out of the surplus land.

So, with these conditions it is not possible to improve all those areas until and unless there is a strategic approach and there is micro-level or district-level area planning and a special Development Board for providing adequate central assistance during natural calamities in the whole country. Otherwise, all these areas cannot come to the national level, so far as irrigation, agriculture and other things are concerned.

Simultaneously, Orissa should be treated as a special category State like Jammu & Kashmir and Assam. Otherwise, Orissa cannot come to the map of progressive India.

Out of my own experience, I want to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister, the following points on which more emphasis should be laid. One is declaring the drought period for the whole year, not merely from cessation of the rains to the normal period of crop.

17.06 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

Secondly, an emergency should be declared so that no economic activity takes place outside the Government approved. Thirdly, an assured job and an assured wage for the whole year should be ensured. Then, marketing network and institutional credit should be assured. Dry farming development with utilisation

of modern technology should be pursued. Drought resistance seeds should be adopted by farmers. All water resources should be tapped. Complete ban on commercial utilisation of forests except for irrigation should be there. More allocation for promoting dry farming, soil moisture conservation under the DPAP programme and attention should also be paid to livestock development, and finally, crop insurance schemes should be properly implemented.

In Orissa, one part of the State, is drought stricken like Kalanidhi, while another part is flood stricken, or is reeling under the havoc of cyclone like Balasore. Only 13 million hectares of land is under some protected drought-prone scheme although there is about 40 million hectares of land in this area.

The total relief expenditure during the Sixth Plan period was Rs. 1200 crores as against Rs. 780 crores only was given towards flood protection. Much of the damage caused by the recent floods is due to inadequate maintenance of the existing bends and embankments. The total outlay on flood control measures is never more than 1.2 per cent. That is why we should give more emphasis on flood protection, repairs and maintenance of bends and embankments including soil conservation and afforestation in various river valleys. Reckless destruction of forest and neglect of soil conservation has compounded the problem manifold. Soil conservation should be stepped up so that there will be proper sustainable development of environment also.

There should be no discrimination while giving the central aid, nor should there be any distinction. At least in the case of the States which are facing continuously natural calamities like drought, flood and cyclones, the central assistance should be converted into grants. There should be one hundred per cent non-Plan aid or grant. Otherwise, the goals of elimination of poverty and eradication of regional imbalances will not be achieved.

Some hon. Members have suggested that the Central Government should take full responsibility so far as these natural

calamities are concerned and there should be a master plan or a national Planning Board should be established in order to develop districts like Kalahandi and other drought stricken areas. The visit of the Prime Minister to such drought-prone areas has also helped. While the present relief measures are indeed much needed and therefore, are welcome, the Government will have to take a long term view of the problem and evolve a scientific irrigation and drainage plan so that this area can develop forward and the State can fully and properly utilise its water resources both above and under the surface. Only when such poverty-stricken areas are developed we will reach our goal of socialism.

SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru) : Flood is one of the biggest problems in the country. I can talk about floods because in our constituency, we have suffered very heavily because of floods. The place where I come from is submerged upto 7 feet of water. We are very close to the Godavari river. For the first time after so many years, this river has threatened both east and west Godavari districts.

The relief measures are very important. The communication is completely cut off. Even the road communication is not there. The Defence Department supplied some boats. But they are not in a position to serve the people. The other important thing is wireless network. Wireless network is required because the telephones are not able to work. The wireless system should be strengthened and the Government should simplify the procedures for wireless system so that we can use this wireless system in the cyclone and flood affected areas. Without this, there is no way of communicating. Even the police wireless system is not able to cope up with the requirements. And it is not even upto the mark. At present, there are lot of restrictions on the procedures for getting wireless network. I request the Government to simplify this for the benefit of the above-mentioned areas.

Even the food and medical supplies we have to get through helicopters. The

Defence Department supplied us some helicopters with low capacity. So, they were not able to serve the main purpose.

Not only that. The amount of damage and the services required are also important. Cyclone shelters should be provided for the people of cyclone and flood affected areas, especially the coastal districts, so that they can protect their lives in these shelters.

The most important requirement is health and medical facilities, vaccine supplies and so many other things which the flood affected areas require. But we are not able to get these things in time. Cattle protection is also very important. We have lot of problems. It is because of the fact that the State Government came to our rescue very quickly and this is why, we were able to save human beings and cattle. But the Central Government has taken long time to come to assess the requirements.

Along with irrigation, the Flood Protection Department should also be developed. This is very essential for the prosperity of the country. In fact, our country's economy is dependent upon these things. Every year, crop worth thousands of crores is damaged due to floods throughout the country. Though we are an agricultural country, still we are not agriculturally strong. We have to import lot of commodities like sugar, edible oils from abroad.

If the Centre approves projects like Polavaram and Ichampalli, the irrigation facilities there will improve and it will also control flood damage besides providing drinking water, navigational facilities, etc. This will help increase the food production in the country.

The amount of damage that is caused in the recent floods in my area is more than Rs. 600 crores. But we have only received Rs. 132 crores from the Central Government. That is a very meagre amount. The Central Government should provide more assistance and it should be

(Shri B.B. Ramaiah)

released on a war footing. We do not know when these calamities may occur. The Government should be able to take quick decisions and come to the rescue of the people.

A lot of damage has been caused to river bunds, canal bunds, roads, houses. All these things are required to be repaired as early as possible.

The crop insurance which is provided in these areas is not serving the purpose. The insurance people say that it is done on the basis of a mandal. Even if a part of the mandal is damaged, they are not coming to the rescue unless it is 80 per cent damage. They are willing to consider village as a unit, but for that the value of the premium goes very high. So, it is not helping the farmers of the areas. Either they should completely stop this insurance or do it in such a way that it is helpful to the farmers.

As I said earlier, recent floods have affected the poultry and fisheries. The most affected area in my constituency is Kolluru where the floods have caused lot of damage to the houses, fishing tanks and crops. After taking into consideration these things, the Government of India should provide sufficient funds so that the loss incurred by the people is made good. They should be able to settle inter-State problems. I know there are lot of inter-State problems in the way of construction of dams. If the Government takes active interest, the inter-State problems which are one of the major problems in the way of construction of dams, can be resolved. This is very essential not only to help the farmers but also to improve the economy of the country. This will also help in lot of other ways. The agricultural base is very important even for the industrial base. That is why I specially request the Government to take immediate measures. Not only the problem of these major rivers, there are other minor irrigation problems also like Errakalava in West Godavari and other minor irrigation projects which are frequently inundating the Kolluru area com-

pletely. The major rivers may be getting floods once in five years or so but these small rivers are causing more damage every year. So, there also the Government should come forward and provide some relief for the smaller irrigation projects and for prevention of the floods.

I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, almost in every session, this problem of flood and drought is discussed. It is not a new problem but is hundreds and thousands years old. Today, our scientists have made tremendous progress and have been able to send the man on the Moon. Therefore, I would like to request the scientists to conduct some research so as to control floods and drought. This year, Madhya Pradesh is in the grip of a severe drought, so much so that 35 out of 45 districts have been declared as drought-affected areas. But the conditions in the remaining 10 districts are also not good either. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that if we could complete the irrigation schemes early, we would be able to deal with the drought situation to some extent. I come from Bundelkhand region which is a backward area. There is no industry in that area and the irrigation percentage is hardly 2 to 3 per cent. The Kain River Irrigation Project of Panna district is pending with the Central Government since quite sometime. Therefore, I would like to say that this project should be taken up. The Harijan and Adivasis constitute about 45 per cent of the total population of that district and you can well imagine how much backward that area would be. The diamond and stone mines in Panna district have been closed due to some reasons. I would like to request that these mines should be re-opened so that the people could get work during this drought period. If they are not opened, the people of Panna districts will be forced to migrate to other places in

search of work. Similarly, about 40 per cent people in Damoh district belong to the backward classes. There is Puncham Nagar Irrigation Scheme which has been surveyed and the Government have also spent some money on it but the scheme does not appear to be heading towards early completion. I want that such schemes should be launched so that people could get employment. If we do so, flood and drought situation can be averted and a permanent solution can be found out. Every year we spend crores of rupees to combat the flood and drought situation but they are all temporary solutions to the problem. We should formulate some schemes to find a permanent solution to these problems and schemes so evolved should be given practical shape. There is every possibility of natural gas and oil being struck in Damoh district if intensive survey of that area is conducted. Earlier, such possibilities were explored during the course of primary survey. I would like to say that for finding a permanent solution to flood and drought problems, we should take up some big schemes in hand. This year the Kharif crop was almost destroyed in our area due to poor monsoon and now the farmers are not in a position to sow Rabi crop due to poor rains. They are praying to God for rains so that they could sow their crop. The drought situation is so grim there that the people say that they have not experienced such a drought in the last hundred years. Therefore, I want that the Central Government should pay attention to it. I thank the Madhya Pradesh Government for taking up some primary works there, but these works are like a drop in the ocean. These works are of no use and are totally inadequate. Therefore, I request the Central Government to make special allocation for the schemes I have referred to above, so that permanent solution to the problems of the backward areas of Bundelkhand could be found. It was with this end in view that the Central Government had set up Bundelkhand Authority to improve the condition of that area and to avert natural calamities. Therefore, the Central Government should pay special attention towards it.

SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD (Mohanlalganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak though I had hardly made any effort for it. Today they problem of floods and drought is being discussed under Rule 193. It is a natural calamity which have its adverse effects. The hon. Members have discussed this problem in the context of their respective States. I would like to bring it to your notice that floods and drought badly affect those States which are successively experiencing such calamities. Examples of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which are affected by floods every year and Rajasthan which is affected by drought are before you. Various Members from Rajasthan have said in their speeches that the people of Rajasthan are pining for as cheap a commodity as water. Therefore, instead of touching upon an extensive area, I shall keep myself confined to some districts of Central and eastern Uttar Pradesh and would like to draw your attention to a few important problems. The villages of Lucknow district and Hussainganj and Purva tehsils of Unnao district form part of my constituency and they are hit by floods every year. Floods cause huge losses to the farmers. The rivers, namely the Gomati, Sai and Beta which pass from there pose problems during floods. When the officers of Unnao district come to Lucknow for relief works, they have to come *via* Sandula—an extra journey of 30 miles. The same is the case with the officers of Lucknow going to Unnao. I have written to you many letters in this connection and invited your attention through other mediums well. Some days back, a committee on floods was constituted in Uttar Pradesh and I had raised this question before that committee also saying that a bridge over the Beta river near Rahimabad be constructed to facilitate smooth transportation of flood relief material. I think the State Government must have given thought to it but the construction of bridge is not possible without help from the Central Government. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister, though I have taken it up

[Shri Jagannath Prasad]

in writing also, that steps be taken in this regard.

Although Lucknow city is located on the banks of the Gomati river but the city has been fully protected by constructing an embankment on the river. Now for the last 12 to 15 years, the city has not been affected by floods, but there are many villages which suffer enormous erosion by the rivers. Construction of embankment is required there also. I have written many letters to the hon. Minister in this regard too.

Now I want to draw your attention to Khiri and Pilibhit districts where the Sharda and the Ghaghra rivers cause floods every year and as a result thereof thousands of acres of land is inundated. This causes extensive damage to the standing crops. The main causes of the floods are accumulation of silt in the river-beds and excess of sand which causes overflow of water resulting in floods in that area. These rivers are very shallow and a small increase in the level of water results in water flowing over the banks. This causes severe soil-erosion in that area and huge losses are thus suffered every year. Besides, there is a bridge on L.R.P. road, i.e. on Assam-Bareilly Road near Nawwapur in Khiri district which was constructed at an approximate cost of Rs. 3 crores. But a nearby village named Area has been cut off due to the river and a large erosion has resulted due to which the distance from the L.R.P. road has shrunk to only two furlongs. If this erosion is not checked in time, this bridge will submerge in the river and a second river will be formed there. In this connection, a team from the Centre was sent there to study the situation. That team has visited that place two or three times, but no action has been taken till now. I urge the hon. Minister to look into this matter as well. If erosion of the land of Area village is not checked, the Sharda river will overflow the L.R.P. road and will change its course to the other side of this road thereby making the bridge constructed at such a huge cost useless.

I want to draw your attention to one more problem of Khiri district. The Suheli river used to cause floods in that area every year. A canal to prevent floods was constructed there at a cost of Rs. 6 crores but water has not been diverted into it till today. The reason is that thousands of tonnes of wood gets collected in this river. This district is situated on the border of Nepal and has dense forests in it. Trees in large numbers flow with this river hereby blocking its flow, which results in overflowing of the waters. This damages the standing crops in thousands of acres. This Suheli Canal was constructed with the assistance of the Central Government. I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister to it and would request him to get this river cleaned to prevent floods and to flush out thousands of tonnes of teak from the river.

I want to put forward one more suggestion. It is true that crores of rupees are disbursed among the flood-victims in the form of flood relief to save them from starvation, but later on when crores of rupees are sanctioned as house building assistance, it is not disbursed immediately. I urge that some permanent plan should be formulated to control floods.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH (Sonapat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the subject under discussion today is very important and it is discussed in every session because India is such a big country that every time some part or the other is flooded or is hit by drought. This is a very dangerous problem facing this country. If some permanent solution is found out then, I think, the problem of production of foodgrains in India can be solved.

I do not want to take much time and would say that at most of the places floods are caused because of the defective drainage system. Let me take the case of my own state, Haryana, where floods are caused at many places not due to rains but due to the inflow of water from

outside. The administration is responsible for these floods caused by outside waters. The drainage department does not properly maintain the drainage system and as a result of that, floods are caused. The funds provided for drainage cleaning are not adequate. Money is provided only after the floods have occurred. I mean to say that if the funds granted for controlling the floods are properly utilised, this problem can be solved to a great extent. But, generally, it is seen that only 20 to 30 per cent of the sanctioned amount is spent. If 50 workers are employed, 200 workers are shown on the muster rolls and thus the remaining money is simply pocketed. If a proper check is maintained on spending the funds this can bring about substantial improvement in the situation.

If large sized reservoirs are constructed at a distance of 50 or 100 miles to store flood waters, the same can be utilised by channelising it to the drought hit areas. It can prevent floods at some places and famines at other places.

The waters of most of our rivers flow into the Bay of Bengal and goes waste once it mixes with sea waters. If it is properly utilised and channelised, it can be beneficial for many places. A special mentioned in this regard can be made of Gang Canal near Hardwar. The water of the Ganga flows through this canal to the Bay of Bengal. If some canal is constructed from Hardwar, this water can be utilised in the areas of Haryana and Rajasthan. I think it can irrigate thousands of acres of land and, thus, drought situation there can be overcome.

The nature does play her part in causing droughts, but if we could avoid human failure, huge losses can be averted. It is the responsibility of our Government to rectify the short-comings. I would like to mention the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal in this context. Haryana is to get water from it. This issue has been pending for 20 years. Although it has been decided under the Indo-Pak Water Treaty of 1955 that our State would get water, yet we are not getting that water

due to a dispute between the two States. I request that the S.Y.L. canal work should be expedited and the Central Government should take over this project and complete it. Only then this work can be completed speedily. Lakhs of people in Haryana and Rajasthan will get water through this canal. Today this water is being wasted and flowing to Pakistan. The present situation in Punjab is that water level has risen very high. The dispute between the two States is totally uncalled for. Punjab does not need that water and if it is allowed to flow into Haryana and Rajasthan, the lot the people in these States can improve. (*Interruptions*)

It is a question of life and death for the people but Shri Daga is taking it as a joke. All the suggestions put forward today relate to irrigation department but no minister of that department is present here. The only Minister present here is hon. Agriculture Minister. I would request him to pay special attention to the suggestions relating to floods and drought and forward the suggestion relating to irrigation to the Irrigation Department.

The standing 'basmati' rice crop in Haryana has been destroyed. Arrangements should be made to compensate for the same.

With these words, I express my thanks to you.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request each Member to speak for three minutes. Hon. Minister is going to reply at 5.55.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machhapatnam) : It is affecting the entire nation. You must extend the time of the House. It is a very important subject. No. We do not agree.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : The whole House supports it. We all want time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Member speak. We will decide afterwards.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You are the best judge. You can extend the time of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not the sole man to take the decision.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH (Kaisarganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the topic under discussion is very important. You must have realised it by the enthusiastic response from the hon. Members in this regard. As you are very kind-hearted, hence I think, you will not object to the small request of the hon. Members for extension of time.

Sir, every year, the farmers are hit by the floods and drought. Today, one of my hon. friends was saying that science had not made any progress in this direction. But, I would say, that though science might not have made any progress, yet it has certainly made progress in one sense. Whenever there are droughts or floods, the problems of the people are viewed from the air, with the help of the aeroplanes. If our hon. Minister is not pre-occupied with any official functions, he does take the trouble of making aerial surveys of floods-hit areas, whether it is in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal or Uttar Pradesh. Whatever plans are formulated to meet the situation arising out of floods and drought are forgotten as soon as floods recede or there is some respite from drought. What I want to say is that the hon. Minister should not attach undue importance to attending functions and should instead lay greater emphasis on visiting those areas. This is my humble request.

Secondly, the Meteorological Department is a white elephant. Its weather forecasts are rarely accurate. If their forecast is for a flood, take it that drought is in the offing and if they forecast that they will be drought, the probability is that of a flood. Therefore, I would suggest that this Department should better be abolished or else it should be made scientifically more advanced to make

accurate forecast so that the farmers could benefit.

Sir, the extent to which felling of trees is resorted to can be judged from the fact that whenever a new industrial town is built or a canal is constructed, it is the forests that receive the first blow. Forests protect us from floods and drought. When a tree is felled, it is not the tree alone that receives the blow, but the nature too gets an assault. Felling of trees upsets environmental balance. Hence, we should first ensure that no industries are set up, no canals are constructed and no town is built in the forest-bearing areas.

Now, let me say a few things about my own constituency before I come to national issues. The construction work on the Saryu Canal Project has been going on for years in Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh. I am of the view that the Canal work will not be completed during the next three generations. This Canal as it stands now is in the shape of a wall which causes inundation of large areas during floods. The total area of Bahraich, Basti, Gonda and Gorakhpur is comparable to the total area of Haryana State. These flood-prone areas are suffering due to non-completion of this project...

(*Interruptions*).....

Secondly, I would submit that this project should not be put off on the ground of its being a State subject, because the States do not have resources to solve these problems. The Central Government should provide assistance for early completion of big schemes. Hon. Shri Yogendra Makwana should not be allowed to get away by saying that the responsibility for the construction of the canal lies with the concerned State Government, be it Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal or his own State. He must ensure allocation of Central assistance because it is due to the non-completion of the canal that our areas are submerged, Tubewells are not being sunk in our area in the hope of this canal. Hence, the Centre must take over this project. Since the areas of Barabanki and Bahraich

are submerged time and again, they should be exempted from paying land revenue for ever. In Haryana, land revenue has been waived in such cases by Shri Bansi Lal, but the flood-prone areas of Uttar Pradesh are not being treated alike. In my State, most of the 57 districts have been affected by drought, but you do not pay attention to them. You waive the payment of land revenue in some areas of a particular State out of certain compulsions, but you do not apply the same norms to the our areas. As land revenue is not waived uniformly, it causes a lot of heart burning in various regions. Hence, I would request that land revenue should be waived in all those areas of Uttar Pradesh which have been affected by drought.

Another point which the hon. Members have raised is that the Agricultural Prices Commission is not bothered about the difficulties that the farmers have to face. They have their own norms for fixing prices, which do not have scope for upward revision even if there are floods or droughts, which badly hits the farmers. I want that the hon. Minister should instruct the Agricultural Prices Commission to consider the fact that if certain areas have been flooded or hit by drought, necessary relief should be provided either by increasing the procurement price or by supplying subsidised foodgrains. I would submit that the level of the river-beds has risen which results in large areas being inundated. The Ghagra river is one such river in Uttar Pradesh and the people know that is a devastating river. The Centre should formulate a scheme for construction of embankments on Ghagra river, so that confidence could be restored among the people and they are not required to live like nomads any longer. If this is done, they will be able to settle down and carry on with their agricultural activities. This will immensely benefit the people of that area.

I want to submit one more point. Immediate arrangement to provide free education should be made by the Centre in areas which are affected by drought or floods. It is not proper to impose deve-

lopment levy on them. They do not have enough to eat, clothes to wear; yet such taxes are being imposed on them. Hence, I want that the States should be asked to take steps in this direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, finally, I would like to submit one more point. The farmers work hard in order to produce more foodgrains for the people of the country. Hence, the Centre as well as State Governments should formulate certain radical schemes to bring about revolutionary changes in the standard of living of the farmers and to control floods and drought as also to save them from the whims of the Agricultural Prices Commission. They should at least be provided with foodgrains at subsidised rates during the floods and drought. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my place, Goa, is one such place where, I had said in my speech last year in one of the discussions, we had never seen any sort of drought at any time of the year. But hardly one year had passed since I had uttered this sentence in this very House, we got this year, an acute shortage of water and consequently a drought situation. Normally we get on an average about 100 inches rainfall, but we had this year only 75 per cent of the rainfall and there has been shortage to the extent of 25 per cent. This has created a situation of drought in our Union Territory. This much of shortage of rainfall in any other part of the country would not have created drought-like situation because this much shortage is normal for any other part of the country. But because we have never experienced this before, this has created an alarming situation in Goa. In the circumstances, I would make this request to the Central Government. The Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu have asked for assistance, not very much but a little over Rs. 10 crores. If this assistance of Rs. 10 crores is sanctioned to the Union Territory urgently, then most of our problems in the coming six months will be over. Goa is a tourist place which is visited by lakhs

[Shri Santaram Naik]

of people from all over the world, particularly in the coming six months. In the circumstances, we have to lay stress not only because of the local population but also to cater to the tourist trade which we cannot ignore under any circumstances. I would also like to submit that crops have totally failed and there is also acute scarcity of drinking water. Human beings somehow manage to get some drinking water for them, but what about the animals? Right from February onwards upto May, the condition of animals will be worse.

The progress of all our Five-Year Plans has been washed away in the entire country by floods and drought in the last 25 years. If there had been no floods in different areas, we would have made progress three times of what we have been able to, we would have had more schools, three times the number of schools we have, more roads and so on. In all fields we would have made a tremendous progress, three times more progress. We have to see whether we can also take some expertise from foreign countries with respect to the control of floods. This is a situation where some scientific knowledge is involved. Unless we take some expertise from all over the world, wherever it is available, this situation may not be able to be controlled to the extent that we would like to.

Secondly, whatever projects the Goa Government have proposed to the Central Government should be cleared. Presently two irrigation projects are pending with the Central Government on some pretext or the other. The Mandovi and Tilari irrigation projects are pending for clearance of the Central Government. This should be cleared at the earliest.

When we are discussing floods or droughts, the Minister in charge of Agriculture is before us. Actually there should be a Ministry for natural calamities. It is not only agriculture that suffers when there is flood or drought, there are various other things also which

get affected. How are we supposed to express ourselves unless you carry our points and feelings to all the Ministries because there is not one thing which is affected? Therefore, I suggest that there should be a Ministry for natural calamities.

As far as Goa is concerned, I think that powers of the administration and the Council of Ministers should be enhanced. It is true that recently from Rs. 50 lakhs the powers have been raised to Rs. 3 crores. It is very fine. But this alone will not do. If we have sufficient funds, we would have been able to do much more.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to give a new dimension to this whole discussion. I always believe that a parliamentarian has basically two responsibilities; one is to create an initiative within his own constituency and the other is to represent before the State and the Union Governments. I would concentrate only on the first aspect which is, what can we do in our own constituency. Within this ambit I would like to say that when we are talking of calamities, there are two aspects. one is the natural and the other is the man-made. Within this, I want to speak only on the man-made impact on the environment.

We have a voluntary forum called the Parliamentarians' Environment Forum. I made a specific suggestion to the Hon. Minister. In our Parliamentarians' forum there was a scheme for producing an audio-visual film called "Akal Hum Le Aaye—We have brought this famine", in which I would like to spell out deforestation, excessive grazing, soil erosion which is counter-bunding also, over withdrawal of water sources, also fewer cattle and family planning. If such an audio-visual film is produced in the name of Parliamentarians' Environment Forum, we can make ourselves felt throughout our constituencies that we are doing well in this field.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, It is a very important subject as everybody has realised. The flood and the drought situation in this country cannot be taken independently because it is inter-connected with irrigation. The loss that is normally caused by floods is immeasurable and the loss is bothways. In this respect the Government, either State or the Centre, should pay immediate attention and see that at least it is taken up regionwise so that we can sort out the problem of not only irrigation ; but also floods.

For example, you take the case of Andhra Pradesh. The loss due to the unprecedented floods in the recent past is said to be about Rs. 1683 crores and the annual budget of Andhra Pradesh is about Rs. 1200 crores. Obviously we can understand how much damage has been done and how much could have been saved if only the water is tamed in the rivers. Instead of allowing many States to complain about the inadequate help from the Central Government, the States will be too happy if the Central Government undertakes these measures.

As we know there is constraint of resources with the Central and State Governments. So, I suggest that Government must take immediate measures to give clearance to the projects asked for by the State Governments and they may be allowed to raise funds through bonds for the projects which they want to construct.

Further, Sir, when we are considering the funds given to the farmers for digging bore wells as loan. We can as well adopt a method of asking the farmers to take loan for constructing a project involving thousand crores of rupees which can cultivate 10 lakh acres of land. The farmers will be happy to come forward. It will solve the problem of irrigation and avoid flooding. The water level will also come up by which the drought situation in other parts of the country will get solved. Instead of allowing the States to complain the Central Government and State Governments must sit

together and find out proper and immediate measures to sort out the problem.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the hon. Minister will reply.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

AN HON. MEMBER : I have not been given an opportunity to speak.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : The discussion should continue tomorrow also.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I request the Members to take their seats. You can speak on so many other Bills. There are lot of chances for you to speak. Do not insist to speak on this subject alone. Already many Members have spoken on this subject. We allotted four hours for this discussion and already four hours are over. We are going to come across similar type of Bills and discussion under Rule 193. You can speak at that time. How it is possible to allow all the Members to speak on this subject alone.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You please respect the wishes of the House. Many members want to participate in the discussion. So either you give time today by extending the time of the House by one hour or we can continue with the discussion tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Tomorrow it is not possible.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Rajasthan is very much affected by drought. The condition there is very miserable.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat. We have already decided about it in the BAC. Lot of other things are coming by way of Calling Attention and discussion under Rule 193, and we

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

have to end by 5th December. How it is possible to give so much time on one subject. It is also not possible to take it up tomorrow as there are other things. You have to discuss price rise. We are going to discuss so many things.

18.00 hrs.

Therefore, if you want, I will ask the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs if she wants to say anything. We can extend the sitting of the House today, if possible.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Why not tomorrow ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is not possible. Why not today ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I appreciate the feelings of the hon. Members, but I would like to submit to this very hon. House that from every State one or two Members had the opportunity to express their views either on drought or flood, whatever is affecting their State. Now, if the other Members want to say the same thing over and over again, or certain specific difficulties about their constituencies, I would suggest that we can sit today for another hour.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Nobody has spoken from Rajasthan.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is not correct. Prof. Bhaktawat has spoken.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I am sorry, I was not there at that time.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Let there be no famine for discussion at least.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : We can extend the sitting of the House, if you want, to sit for some time more. We cannot, however, carry the discussion

to tomorrow. The Minister has also to reply today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will extend the sitting of the House for one hour. Within that time, the Minister's reply also must be over.

I will give two or three minutes to every Member. Kindly give your suggestions only. The Minister will reply at 6.30.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Let us start with the discussion. We have about half an hour. I would request all the Members to cooperate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Sultanpuri.

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, without taking much time, I want to submit that the maize crop in Himachal Pradesh withered for want of rains at a time when it was passing through the grain formation stage. As if that was not enough, the rains come at the time of harvest. As a result thereof, the farmers suffered huge losses. The rains were so heavy that the entire traffic in the Kinnaur district, which is situated on the Indo-China border, came to a grinding halt, and the entire crops in the lower reaches of Himachal Pradesh were destroyed.

18.04 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *In the Chair*]

In the recent past, there has been a severe earthquake in Himachal Pradesh for which Central assistance was sought for relief work. The Hon. Prime Minister, who was present in the House just now, has always been very sympathetic to the people of Himachal Pradesh. It was at his instance that a survey team was sent there. The State Government has spent Rs. 13 crores for providing relief to the earthquake victims, but the Centre has given so far an amount of Rs. 4 crores

only. This has been pointed out several times. The money which was earmarked for development of villages including electrification and construction of roads is now being diverted for providing relief to the earthquake victims. As one hon. Member from Uttar Pradesh has just now pointed out, the serial surveys which are conducted do not yield any results, I think that the same is true of Himachal Pradesh as well. What I want to say is that the Centre should pay the relief funds to the Himachal Pradesh Government at the earliest as promised by the Prime Minister. A loss of Rs. 79 crores has been incurred due to the earthquake. I visited my constituency on the 20th of this month. The entire market place of Chopal Tehsil has been destroyed by fire. Some solution sought to be found to deal with such unforeseen calamities. Steps for controlling floods in the rivers and rivulets are not taken nor any efforts made to harness the hydro-electric potential in the State. The result is that the fertile soil of the hills is washed away to the plains. The dams in the foot hills of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are getting silted which need to be desilted. The heavy rains in the hills cause losses worth crores of rupees in the plains. I want to suggest that in order to check soil erosion, more and more plantation should be done in Himachal Pradesh. This is not being done. plantation work is undertaken in the plains, but the higher reaches are left out. Besides, no proper arrangements are made by the Government in regard to the cultivation of apples, potatoes and other seed fruits. The middlemen are pocketing all the profits. The farmers must be freed from their clutches. The farmers, whether they belong to Uttar Pradesh, Bihar or Karnataka, have now awakened. They are not getting remunerative prices for their produce. Agriculture should be treated more or less like an industry. When industries are set up, 25 per cent subsidy is granted, but the same is not done in case of agriculture. I want that this should be given consideration. We can march ahead towards socialism only by paying attention to the poor.

The small farmers, having 2 or 4 bighas of land, have also come under the land ceiling, but the big farmers are exempted from it. Therefore, the small farmers should be given their rights. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you also belong to a farmer's family and most of the Members present here are farmers. Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Shri Dhillon, presents the same report,—which he receives from his officers and the quantum of relief funds is determined accordingly. If Rs. 2 crores were sanctioned, the amount that Himachal Government has received is even less. I do not know whether it has been released from here or not. I want to say that a team should be immediately sent to the drought—hit areas so that a correct report could be obtained. It should not happen that the team presents its report quite late and recommends the payment of a certain amount. We shall have to see for ourselves as to what is happening in the villages. I feel that you should consider it and should try to remove the shortcomings in the matter. I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

(English)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I thank you for allowing me to participate in this discussion. I shall confine myself to the long-standing demands of our State Government. The proposals which are sent to the Central Government for clearance are kept pending for long years. And these projects are not given clearance. I come from Arambagh Constituency, which is a highly flood-prone area. For protecting this area from floods and also to evolve a better drainage system in this area, the revised Lower Damodar Flood Control Scheme had been sent to the Union Government in the year 1979. Till date, that scheme has not been cleared on some plea or the other, that scheme has been cleared by the Ganga Flood Control Commission and the Central Water Commission. That has been kept pending by the Planning Commission for the last one year. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps, they propose to take to clear all these schemes which are urgently required

[Shri Anil Basu]

for controlling the floods in the area concerned.

Sir, similarly, there is the Teesta Barrage Scheme. The State Governments have already spent to the tune of Rs. 167 crores for that project and they sought for the special Central assistance, but you will be astonished to hear that Rs. 5 crores had been provided to the same project, till now. So, I would urge upon the Union Government to see that more funds are allocated for this special project, i.e. the Teesta Project. The Central Government should give assistance to them at the earliest.

Similarly, there has been a serious problem in the down stream of the Farakha Barrage. The whole erosion down Farakha Barrage is frustrating the whole Farakha project. You know that in the down stream of the Farakha, in the Raghunath Ganj block and in the Farakha, every year there is a continuous erosion of the feeder canal and there is a chance of mixing up of the feeder canal with the 'Padma' river frustrating the whole Farakha project. There is a proposal from the State Government—from the Farakha Barrage Authority—to take up the anti-erosion programme in the feeder canal area, but till now, no clearance has been given to the anti-erosion programme, at Raghunathganj and down Farakha Barrage area. Sir, through, all these, we have come to the conclusion that the schemes which are urgently required for the flood control, are not cleared by the Central Government and they are keeping all the schemes pending for a long time without any reason. If this casual approach to this serious problem is not stopped and the scheme is not taken up on a war footing, then there will be a feeling among the people, among the States, that the Central Government is not at all willing to protect the people from the devastation of the floods. That is why, I submit that in respect of these projects which are not only submitted by the State Government of West Bengal but also by the other States, there would be an appeal from

all sides of the House that the Central Government is keeping all the schemes pending for long years and they are not giving clearance. In the meantime, the problem will get accumulated. The problem is becoming serious and serious every day. That is why, I submit that all the schemes which are submitted by the State of West Bengal and all other States should be cleared by the Planning Commission as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this year, Rajasthan has been hit by a severe famine and the worst hit areas are the desert areas of Jaisalmer and Barmer. We have been experiencing famine successively for the last 3 to 4 years for which we have also submitted a memorandum to the Central Government and have demanded a grant of Rs. 869.10 crores. We had submitted this memorandum on 31st October, but so far we have not received the grant. A Study Team should immediately be sent there to make assessment of the situation and to recommend relief grant. We want that an *ad hoc* grant of Rs. 250 crores should be given to us till the Study Team submits its report so that we could start famine relief work there. Till date, no relief work has been started there. Neither there has been any arrangement for drinking water nor for fodder for the cattle. On the other hand, the employees are on strike which has paralysed the administration there. I also want that the present grant should not be given under the advance plan. The grant that was given to us during the last 3 to 4 years had no relation to the gravity of the situation. Seventh Finance Commission and Eighth Finance Commission also have recommended that during such a grave situation, the Central Government should provide 100 per cent grant. Therefore, the Central Government should provide 100 per cent grant to Rajasthan so that we may be able to solve this problem in an effective manner. The Central Government have already provided us 10 rigs and 100 tankers for the drinking water scheme

but, in my view, these are insufficient. Considering the gravity of the situation in Rajasthan, we should be given at least 100 tankers and an equal number of rigs more, so that we could implement the drinking water schemes smoothly. Rajasthan needs to be given full assistance in this regard.

I also want to submit that the new formula recently evolved by your Department for giving assistance for the drinking water schemes is totally against the guidelines of the Planning Commission. It has been clearly laid down by the Planning Commission that Rajasthan be given assistance on special priority basis for the drinking water schemes. If you put this condition that grant to a State will be determined on the basis of their minimum needs programme, then the size of the Rajasthan Plan being very small, we shall be able to get very small grant, as a result of which we shall not be able to provide drinking water to the people of Rajasthan during the Seventh Five Year Plan period. If there is any permanent solution to this problem in Rajasthan, it is the Indira Gandhi Canal. But the speed at which the work is being done on this canal is very slow and unsatisfactory. We want that it should be completed during the Eighth Five Year Plan. It is possible only if the Central Government provides special assistance to Rajasthan. With these words, I hope that considering the gravity of this problem in Rajasthan, the Central Government will take prompt decision to save us from the severe famine and will also effect changes in the norms regarding quantum of assistance. It is hoped that the Centre will give us 100 per cent assistance so that the people and the livestock could be saved and relief work started.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsore) : I am very grateful for the opportunity given to speak for a few minutes on this very important subject. I am conveying my gratitude to our revered Prime Minister who is evincing a keen interest in this matter, and is visiting the disaster

areas, and areas affected by floods, cyclones or any other type of natural calamities immediately after occurrence. This is acting as a great morale booster to the affected people.

The Centre has realized the gravity of such calamities. For this purpose, they have revised the rate of Central assistance, e.g. the ex-gratia grant, and also compensation for fish seed farms which are washed away, and for houses, utensils and clothes which are also washed away. They have enhanced the rate of such Central assistance. But all this is just a drop in the ocean in considering the magnitude of loss. I would request hon. Minister to increase the amounts of Central assistance.

After independence, we have spent thousands and thousands of crores of rupees till now on flood control. But we know that flood devastation is causing a huge damage in our country. The main reason is deforestation, erosion, as also putting up embankments for flood control whatever we liked, without examining the technical side of it. In fact, these embankments are causing havoc. Even when there is a small breach in these embankments, there is a great disaster and devastation. They are also harming the community and the villages. So, I would request hon. Minister—that before putting up such a kind of flood control embankments, they should be technically approved. I would request the hon. Minister to give priority for the execution of drainage system, which will discharge flood waters quickly. For that purpose, saline inundation, protection of embankments etc. are necessary.

We have seen the position of the lower Himalayas as also of the Western Ghats. The eco-system should be revived. About 20 years back, we did not hear floods in Kerala. Now, every year, in Rajasthan and Kerala, etc. where there was no flood, they are being affected by floods. This is due to the reason of large scale deforestation. We have already forgotten about linking of Ganga with Cauvery. That file has been perhaps misplaced in the Ministry. That project should be given

[Shri Chintamani Jena]

the top priority ; it should connect Ganga with Cauvery via Orissa.

Regarding drought conditions, I would like to point out two or three things. During the past several years of experience, we have not learnt anything like severe drought of 1965, 1966, 1972, 1975, 1978, 1982, 1984 and also the current year. The central assistance is given through a lengthy and complicated procedures which we know. I would only request the hon. Minister that bargaining mentality should be forgotten from the central side and also from the State side, because in the current year upto 31st April, 1986, 13 States which are affected by drought have sought Rs. 4,300 crores as central assistance, but the Centre has sanctioned only Rs. 550 crores only. So, this bargaining system should be stopped.

I would submit before the hon. Minister that a National Institute of Disaster Management should be established at the central level and experts and technical personnel from all the States should be taken therein. That institution should have its branches at least in each State which will function with full coordination coordinate with the State Government.

For drinking purposes in flood affected areas, in drought prone areas, pipe water system should be executed on the basis of 50 per cent central assistance, 25 per cent should be contributed by the State concerned and 25 per cent by the local bodies or village panchayats ; that pipe system should be at least taken up in eight earnestness in a village having a population of 2000 or more at the moment.

In my State in my own constituency, there is a long coastal belt, hilly areas and mountainous areas. Every year in one part or the other in my State and also constituency, there is drought, flood, cyclone, tornado, etc. So, I would request the hon. Minister and the government to kindly look into it and release the assistance sought by the State Government.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar): For want of time, I wish to confine myself only to a few points. First, I would plead with the Minister for revision of the norms on assistance both for floods and drought.

Referring to Andhra Pradesh and the devastation caused by floods, I want the government to note that the flood level this time was much higher than recorded earlier. The norms that are now being observed in the country are guided by pre-floods level ; those norms are no longer pertinent, more particularly in the context of the unprecedented floods that devastated Andhra Pradesh recently.

Secondly, with regard to drought also, I would plead for radical revision of norms.

Sir, the norms applicable for floods are not the same as are applicable for drought. I would like the Minister to enlighten the House as to why different yardsticks should be adopted for floods-relief and drought-relief.

Secondly, in regard to drought the Government of India has identified the the drought-prone areas all over the country. So, I would like the Government to enlighten us as to what are the long term plans to eliminate the causes for this drought-proneness in these identified areas.

And then, coming to drought in Andhra Pradesh again and more particularly to Mahabubnagar district which I have the honour to represent here, the conditions there are so severe that many starvation deaths have been reported by daily newspapers in Andhra Pradesh.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Excepting the Government.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The daily newspapers which are owned by Congress (I) Members also have reported starvation deaths. I am not going to raise a controversy as to what are the reasons for the starvation deaths—whether they were due

to long term under-nutrition or anything else—because such a controversy of the semantic kind is totally irrelevant. But if a particular area is totally drought-prone and the same area is hit by drought for three years in a row, then how can the ordinary norms be made applicable? I am told that the Reserve Bank of India has special guidelines in respect of areas which are hit by drought for three years in a row. And for the last three years, Mahabubnagar district in Andhra Pradesh, and some parts of Telangana and Rayalaseema have been hit by drought for three years in a row.

Against this background, what kind of special assistance would the Government give to these areas? I would like to know that.

I know that the central team is visiting Andhra Pradesh and some other districts on the 27th of this month, and I know that nothing will come out of it because I had gone round with the central teams on two occasions, and I do not want to repeat the same this time. They just visit and do nothing. And whatever little assistance they give to the State is adjusted against the Plan funds to be given to the State Government in the succeeding years.

I would like to hear the Minister on these issues.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Chairman, floods and droughts rains are a regular feature so far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, and particularly so in the Ladakh region which is my constituency. I would only request the hon. Minister to kindly see to it that proper and adequate relief and assistance is provided to all the flood and drought affected parts of the State, particularly the far-flung areas like Ladakh, Doda and Gurez which normally do not get the assistance in time.

Sir, denudation of forests and destruction of forests and training and providing protection of the banks of the major rivers and river basins are interrelated

with floods and drought which are facing, throughout the country. Therefore, I would like to give you a few suggestions for your consideration so that proper steps can be taken in time to prevent frequent floods and drought.

(a) Forests should be declared as a national property. This subject should be taken from the State List to the Central List so that scientific and systematic exploitation of forest wealth could be ensured. Some States are exploiting forests indiscriminately without proper planning and replantation programme. With the result, frequent floods and drought are caused every year.

(b) My second suggestion to check, reduce floods and drought would be that all the rivers should be declared as a national asset and brought under the Central control, so that the Central Government could take up training the course of rivers, giving priority for construction and protection of embankments of the most flood prone river basins. The Central Government can utilise and distribute the river waters in the drought affected parts of the country, wherever it is feasible.

(c) The power generation from various hydel projects in the country can be utilised equitably for drawing underground water or over-ground water for irrigation purposes in the drought affected areas.

If these three suggestions are implemented, not only frequent recurrence of floods and droughts can be checked and reduced but also solve the unending water disputes going on among different States.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI (Rajkot) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak on floods and drought.

Today, there is drought in most parts of Gujarat. It is a matter of solace for us that the hon. Minister Shri Makwana

[Smt. Patel Ramaben Ramjibhai Mavani]

belongs to Gujarat and he is aware of the situation prevailing there. I would like to speak a few words about the prevailing situation in my district Rajkot. There has been drought for the last two years in Rajkot. There is no river nearby. We are mute spectators to the people's sufferings. Last year, when Hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi paid a visit there, the State Government and the Central Government provided assistance, but today even after a lapse of one year, the situation continues to be the same. This year, the water level has fallen further thereby making the situation all the more grave. The women folk trudge two miles in order to fetch water. When this is the situation in this season, what will happen in summer ?

So far, the drought used to hit Saurashtra for about four years in a decade but at present there has been a drought successively for the last four years. Therefore, the acute problem of drinking water in that region should be tackled on war footing. Today, the villages are being driven towards poverty and hunger. Therefore, it is our duty to save them, otherwise, villages will give a deserted look in the near future. Our State has formulated a number of schemes for drinking water, which should be implemented as early as possible. These days we find that newspapers in Gujarat are full of drought news. The Hon. Prime Minister is greatly concerned over it. Our Government has prepared a Master Plan for this purpose which needs to be implemented, especially in the regions like Saurashtra and Kutch. There has been drought in Kutch for the last four years, for which measures should be taken to make arrangement for drinking water after giving it a serious thought. A Central Team is due to visit our State. Narmada Scheme is the last alternative to solve this problem. You should immediately formulate a scheme for drinking water. This plan would require help from other States also. Narmada Scheme has been pending for many years. This scheme had two-three important

conditions to which our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has agreed. This is a matter of great happiness. If this scheme is not implemented immediately, the people would feel hurt as they are looking to this scheme with high hopes. In order to give relief to the people and to save the livestock, arrangements should be made for drinking water. I would submit to the hon. Minister that there has been no crop in our area for the last two years. The people have no other source of livelihood. Therefore, the Central Government should provide loans at subsidised rates of interest to the farmers to save them, because they are unable to repay the loans amounting to crores of rupees. The Government should, therefore, waive these loans. I hope that the hon. Minister would expedite this matter and would help them so that we may not have to raise this matter time and again. Therefore, you should formulate such schemes as may be capable of providing drinking water there immediately.

With this words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. Because of the constraint and restraint of time, instead of going into the generalities, I will confine myself only to one point. There are number of areas in the country where drought is persistent for years together but there are some areas where drought period is just a year or two. The Government is trying to equate these two areas and is trying to give the same aid which is not a very correct system. For example, I come from Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. This is a very chronic drought-prone area. In the last century, that is, from 1800 A.D. to 1900 A.D., only fifteen times drought had taken place. From 1900 A.D. to 1950 A.D., seven times the drought had affected this area. From 1950 to 1979, that is, when we were ourselves ruling this country, the frequency of drought has increased to 15

times. Within a period of 29 years, fifteen times drought has been there. Then from 1979 to 1986, the famine has invaded this region every year. The rainfall in this area is very very low. It is the second lowest in the country. Even though the district has been the playground of chronic drought, the Government is not paying any attention to it. People are suffering. Whenever the State Government sends a report, say for Rs. 300 crores or Rs. 400 crores, the Central Government makes it a point not to believe it. Then they send a Central team. The Central team goes there and visits some areas. I know of some cases where the Central team visited the areas between 12 p.m. to 12 mid-night. In the light of torches they tried to assess the damage to the crops, and then they said there was not that much of drought. Why don't you believe the State Government? They are the proper persons to see whether the area is affected and what is the intensity of the drought. The Central Government sends its team to those areas not to get a correct assessment but with an idea so as to underplay the severity of drought and give a handle to the Central Government to reduce the quantum of assistance to be given. Merely because Andhra Pradesh is being ruled by another party, please don't try to discriminate. The people there have been suffering from ages together and now every year they are being affected by drought. Why don't you at least have some pity and compassion for them? See these people. They are half-starved and half naked. They do not even have money to want a pair of *chappals*. When such is the position, why does this Government not take some steps to come to the aid of those areas? I know, the usual reply of the Minister will be that they are spending so much money through NREP, RLEGP, Minimum Needs Programme and Drought Prone Area Programme. He is going to narrate the figures. The same reply has been given every time such discussion takes place. So, I request the Minister please don't read the statistics. I say that statistics are nothing but an ass and will not give the correct picture. So, I request the Minister to please depute a team of

Parliamentarians to go to the villages of this area. Let them go to the dilapidated houses, see those people and then come to their own conclusion. It is high time that you come to their aid otherwise I do not know what is going to be the fate of those people. I request the Government not to neglect these people and do something to help them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak on the situation of floods and drought. I also thank the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs for extending the time of this discussion.

Generally, farmers, labourers and people of poor sections of society are affected most by the natural calamities like floods and drought. The Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Agriculture, had toured Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and other affected States and have sanctioned funds to them, but so far Uttar Pradesh has not been granted any funds, as a result of which relief works have not been launched there. I would, therefore, like to request that funds should be allocated to Uttar Pradesh. The Hon. Minister of Agriculture has said that the State Governments should not demand more funds; instead, they should formulate comprehensive schemes to prevent drought and floods. When the hon. Minister himself is of this opinion, this work should be done under the supervision of the Central Government so that it can be done in a better way. I would like to submit that Uttar Pradesh being a large State, it should be given its due share. I would also like to add that in order to check large scale bungling in the relief works undertaken by the States, the Central Government should monitor them. The misuse of funds should be stopped so that the farmers and other poor people could be benefited.

I want to mention one thing in particular. Dams and reservoirs should be constructed in large numbers to store the

[Shri Ram Pujan Patel]

rain water because so far it has not been utilized properly. This causes floods and heavy losses to the people. If this is done, it would help in reducing the frequency of floods. Besides, dams can help in generation of electricity and its water can be utilized for irrigation, thereby reducing the warth of drought. The main reason for floods in the villages is the absence of outlets for rain water which in turn badly affect the villagers. I would, therefore, request that a comprehensive scheme should be formulated for discharging of water. I would also request the hon. minister to pay special attention to tree plantation. I would like to submit that as the farmers have to face huge losses in the wake of floods and drought therefore besides providing them fertilizers and seeds at concessional rates, the payment of their land revenue should also be waived as they do not get any assistance and are unable to carry on with agriculture as an occupation. Under Kaurihar Development Block, at least 40 to 50 villages are affected by floods every year. I would like to submit that a dam should be constructed between Mubarakpur and Sitakund. I had already written a letter in this connection to the hon. Minister of Water Resources and as a result thereof a survey of that development block was also conducted. Constuction work of the dam should, therefore, be immediately started. Soil erosion is posing grave thereat to Mubarakpur as well at Lilapur, which are situated on the banks of the Ganga and, therefore, construction of a dam is urgently required. You cannot solve this problem by merely providing relief of Rs. 50 or Rs. 100 to the villagers. The Central Government should formulate a comprehensive scheme in this regard.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for granting me an opportunity to speak through my turn has come very late.

The hon. Minister was previously looking after another Ministry and re-

cently he has assumed the charge of this Ministry. He will earn a bad reputation because he has taken over the charge at a time when there is a severe famine in Rajasthan and people are facing starvation. He has not provided any monetary assistance to Rajasthan to meet this contingency. Had there been some other Minister, he would have advanced some money but despite being a neighbour, he has not provided any help to Rajasthan. Some relief should have been given in advance prior to the submission of the report of the enquiry committee in order to enable the State Government to provide some employment to the people. There is a severe famine in the State. Even cattle do not get fodder and if labourers there do not get employment, how will they make their both ends meet. Therefore, immediate arrangements should be made to obviate the situation. The State Government has submitted a memorandum to you in this regard. A Central Study Team is being sent to Andhra Pradesh on 27th but no date has been fixed so far to send such a team to Rajasthan in spite of a serious famine prevailing there. It shows that he is not serious in this regard and does not want to pay any attention despite a severe famine and a lot of difficulties being faced by the people. Rajasthan has been in the grip of severe famine for the last three to four years and all 27 districts have been hit by famine. Neither drinking water, nor fodder, foodgrains of employment is available in the State. There is a heavy exodus and 30 to 40 per cent people have already migrated to other places in search of livelihood. The situation in Rajasthan will worsen if you do not provide help immediately by way of employment to the people and fodder for the cattle. If this is not done the live-stock will perish in no time. The people of Rajasthan are running here, there and everywhere in search of food. Never before has such a situation developed. When Shrimati Indira Gandhi was alive, she used to say that nobody would die of starvation in this country. Today, Shri Rajiv Gandhi says the same thing and the ruling Congress Party is committed to it,

But the hon. Minister is not paying attention to it. He is bringing a bad name to the Government. This casual approach on his part is causing enormous difficulties to the people of Rajasthan. You should help the people of Rajasthan at the earliest so that they could be saved from this severe famine.

I also want to submit that in the case of famine, the Centre releases the entire money as advance fund under the Plan whereas it gives 75 per cent of the total amount as subsidy in the case of floods. It is a gross injustice. When there is a flood, atleast one crop can be raised but during the drought, not even single crop can be raised. These norms have been continuing since the days of Britishers and our bureaucrats are also following them. Neither Rabi, nor Kharif crop can be raised during a drought, but our hon. Minister has never cared to pay attention to this problem. If there is a flood, atleast one crop can be raised. Wheat crop can be raised or rice crop can be raised. On the other hand, nothing can be produced during drought. But Central Government does not think about it. It is gross injustice to the famine stricken people. These norms which have been continuing since the British days, should be changed.

The Rajasthan Government had demanded Rs. 870 crores from the Centre to provide relief to the affected people, Rs. 450 crores for providing employment, Rs. 200 crores for providing drinking water, Rs. 200 crores for providing fodder and Rs. 20 crores for other things. He is well aware of the financial condition of the Rajasthan Government. The State Government employees are on strike. The Centre have landed us in trouble by constituting the Fourth Pay Commission for their employees. When the Central Government have already implemented the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission, then why do they not grant money for increasing the salaries of State Government employees of Rajasthan, U.P. and Bengal? They should try and help those employees.

Why should there not be parity in the pay scales of State Government and Central Government Employees?

I would request as Shri Virdhi Chander has also done that the Centre should grant us Rs. 250 crores in advance and should give the remaining Rs. 620 crores when their team visits the State. The Central Government should send their team at the earliest and should release the remaining amount to the Rajasthan Government so that employment, food and water could be provided there. The people would get work and they will not die of starvation. Otherwise, our Government will be defamed. Our Government have always come to the rescue of the people whenever they were in trouble. But today the Government is a silent spectator. You are our neighbour but you are not doing anything. You should help the Rajasthan Government at the earliest.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very important issue but the Government does not recognize it as such. Flood and drought are the bane for our country. Sometimes the country is hit by floods and sometimes by drought. Flood and drought have become a regular feature in our country. Sir, I want to submit to the hon. Minister that the floods in our area this year have rendered thousands of small and marginal farmers landless. They have slipped into the category of agricultural labourers and have fallen below the poverty line. This calamity of floods has adversely affected thousands of people and has brought them below the poverty line. Therefore, I would say that the Government have never paid attention to the problems of floods and drought. Today, the Government spends crores of rupees on flood relief work but I think if some scheme is formulated to control floods, the country can be saved from this calamity.

Two of our flood control schemes are pending with the Central Government. The first one relates to the construction

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

of embankments on the Baldiya, Punpun, Phalgu and Dardha rivers which is pending for the last 10 years. The second one is the Punpun—Dardha project which is pending since 1980. If these two schemes are approved by the Government, I dare say that we can find a permanent solution to floods and drought in at least five districts. These two schemes will cost less than the amount that is spent every year on relief activities without any permanent results. By approving these two schemes the problem can be solved permanently. The extremists are using these problems as a tool to mislead the poor farmers, labourers and children. Murders are committed there in large number these days and the Government also knows about it. Today the flood problem has turned into a spate of murders. Therefore, you should immediately accord approval to these two schemes to save the people there from flood and drought.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I am not making any speech. I am just placing some points for the consideration of the Government.

Natural calamities like floods etc, should not be left to the States to be dealt with. It should be brought to the Union List, as in Federal States like USA, Australia and Canada because these floods and droughts have been a regular feature and the State Governments have no capacity to meet the situation. This should be brought within the Union List. In other matters, the States might be quarrelling with the Centre. But in a matter like this, they will be only too happy to agree.

There should be a Cabinet Committee with Agriculture Minister, Minister of Finance, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources, and the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies etc. We are discussing many things coming under this drought and flood situation which are dealt with

by different Ministries. There should be a Committee to deal with the situation.

As has been pointed out by many previous speakers, the policy should be changed. It should not be advanced to be adjusted against the ways and means against the future plan assistance but there should be grants but there are no grants. In many States crops may be spoiled and affected due to serious floods and droughts, but they are not spending the money required to meet the situation with the fear that the more they spend, their plan will have to be squeezed correspondingly.

The Famine Code or Relief Code should be updated. In many States, they are not updated. It is outmoded. They should have also a provision to deal with earthquake but in Orissa it is not there. In my Constituency, last year they found it difficult to provide relief, when earthquake visited some area of Dhan Kanal district.

I think the Government for having introduced the crop insurance scheme. But it has got to be modified so as to give benefit to the agriculturists who are afflicted by drought conditions and floods. What is the position at present? The position is that the district is the basis in respect of khari crop and in respect of rabi, the basis is the block. Proper assessment of crop damage is not there. It should be modified with such areas being considerably reduced for forming the basis. Crop insurance policy should be modified and properly implemented,

Hirakud is a very major river valley project. Modernisation is very much called for. Cracks have developed in the Hirakud dam endangering the safety of that area. That should be modernised. That should be attended to on priority. The Sambal barrage which is the second stage of Rangali Dam project over the river Brahmani, with canal provision, has been stopped. That has not been funded in the Seventh Plan. That should be

attended to so that canal work would start immediately.

Again, there is a Flood Forecasting Division, presently functioning at *Burla* where the Mahanadi, the biggest river, touches Orissa. There is also an attempt, a conspiracy to shift it outside Orissa. Instead, that should be retained there. It should be upgraded as the Flood Forecasting Circle. Liberal grants should be provided for Orissa. As you know, Orissa is the homeland of natural calamities. Seven Districts, out of a total number of 13 Districts, have been affected by rains and floods. Besides, there are so many drought affected areas like *Dagorah, Kuchinda, Jharguguda*, Sub-Divisions, *Kalahandi* and *Dhenkanal* districts. So, liberal grants should be given to Orissa to meet this situation.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, 2.57 crore people have been hit by famine. The famine is of three types. The first is fodder famine, the second is water famine and the third is employment famine. Shri Viridhi Chander has demanded Rs. 800 crores i.e. Rs. 4 per person. We have to manage with this meagre amount for 9 months. Time is short and some amount will be spent by the Ministers in their own constituencies. The first thing that should be done is to allot funds to every block. The condition of the blocks should be reviewed monitored regularly. The greatest weakness with the Central Government is that it does not monitor the spending once the funds are sanctioned. Highly influential persons living in the capital manage to spend the funds in their own areas to ensure that the situation in their respective areas improves. I say that you at least visit all the districts. Why do you and Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh believe us? You send a Parliamentary Team and find out honestly what is to be done there. It is a national problem and is not confined to Rajasthan alone. If people die in Rajasthan, the news will be that people

in India are dying of hunger. It will be shameful for the country. The people are becoming disabled and you are making them so. Even today people do not get two square meals a day and water is not available despite the Accelerated Rural Water Scheme. We put forward demands but who is benefited by them? Rs. 7 crores have been granted for flood relief but has it been utilised or not. I want to say that the Government should allocate funds to the blocks according to their shares so that people could know about it. You will be surprised to know that people are selected for the issue of identity-cards by the Patwari to determine as to who is poor. Money is taken for issuing such cards to poor persons. Even this much work is not done impartially. A lot of favouritism is shown while doing so. They are told that only two out of five will be given identity cards or one out of seven will be given work. 2.57 crore persons are hungry and you are constantly ringing the bell.....(Interruptions.) In the same way, Andhra and Maharashtra have also been hit by drought. It is a national issue and all should collectively think how money should be allocated. Rajasthan has been facing famine for the last four years. You need not give anything if famine lasts for a short period. But how much Rs. 600 crores mean for a State which has been facing famine for four years in succession? Not only that, it is also not certain when that amount will be granted. Your officials sit in air-conditioned buildings; how can they feel the difficulties of others. Our people have become used to their fate. The canal which was to be completed in 1960 has not been completed upto now. I request you to raise this question in the Cabinet, otherwise 2.57 crore people of Rajasthan will die and cattle heads will perish.

19.00 hrs.

They have lost their livestock which numbered about four crores. They have sold their houses and jewellery as they could not get any work for the last three

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

years. Kindly take this problem seriously. You should properly monitor the allocated funds till it reaches the block level and should ensure that the political people do not get any personal benefit out of it.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : The Ganga, Bhagirathi, Padma, Bhairvi, and Talangi rivers cause heavy erosion in my district. The total affected area is 120 kms. and the distance between the Ganga and Bhagirathi near Raghunathganj Block—2, is barely one kilometre. 27 lakh cusecs of water flow in the Ganga and 40,000 cusecs of water flow in Bhagirathi. If these two rivers meet each other, not only Murshidabad district but the area upto Shantipur in Nadia district will also be inundated and form part of the river. The Rani Nagar Block-2 and Bhagwangola Block-2 are located along the Bangladesh border. The Nirmalchar area of Bhagwangola Block-2 is already a part of Bangladesh now. If you fail to check the heavy erosion for another two years, the entire area of Bhagwangola Block-2 and Rani Nagar Block-2 will no more be in Murshidabad district but will form part of Bangladesh. It is very difficult for the State Government to undertake this work, therefore, the Central Government should take up this responsibility. The Revised Lower Damodar Flood Control Scheme is pending with the Centre since 1979 and the Planning Commission is also not approving it. So you should try and get it approved.

While participating in the discussion, many hon. Members from Rajasthan pointed out that the State was experiencing continuous famine for the last 3 to 4 years. I have myself visited Rajasthan and have seen the famine-stricken and drought stricken areas. I have full sympathy with them. Their demand for Rs. 800 crores is far from adequate and more funds should be allocated to them for this purpose.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, like other hon. Members of Rajasthan, I would also

like to make special mention about Rajasthan. There are 27 districts in Rajasthan. Out of 204 tehsils, 194 tehsils are famine stricken. Out of 38,670 villages, 31704 villages are hit by famine. Out of 270.51 lakh population, 257.11 lakh people are badly affected by famine. The total livestock population in the state is 308.34 lakhs and their condition is very bad. I would therefore, request you to allocated Rs. 870 crores immediately to Rajasthan to enable them to deal with the worst famine situation and until this amount is granted, an immediate advance amount of Rs. 250 crores must be provided to Rajasthan to meet the contingency. It is necessary to start relief work immediately and you should also depute a team to supervise the proper execution of relief works. I come from Jhunjhunu district which is quite far away from Indira Gandhi Canal. Therefore, under famine relief programme a canal should be constructed there so that the SYL or Ganga Canal which is to be dug from Haridwar could quench the thirst of Jhunjhunu district, the land of which has been parched for centuries. Earlier famine used to strike once in three or four years but now there has been continuous famine for the last four years. Under these circumstances, special aid should be given to Rajasthan so that people may get some relief. The condition of the cattle is very pitiable, and, therefore, arrangements should be made to provide fodder for them. Employment should be given on a regular basis to the people for the whole year and you should make necessary arrangements for it.

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA (Tonk) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to put forward only few points before you. Presently, the entire Rajasthan is in the grip of severe famine and all the 27 districts are badly affected. The condition is deplorable everywhere and the sufferings of the people have increased, especially those of the Harijans and Adiwasis. In this regard, I would like to submit that Rajasthan Government has submitted a memorandum to you and I would request that Rajasthan should get aid according to this memorandum.

The condition of my Tonk district has become more aggravating as compared to the neighbouring districts of Alwar and Bharatpur, because in these districts people are suffering due to the failure of rain but in my district the problem is two-fold. Firstly, there were no rains and secondly, the under ground water level has fallen sharply. So it is becoming very difficult to exploit the underground water and make it available to the people. The Government is fully aware that the water of Banas river which flows from my area can be utilised for drinking and irrigation purposes but it is unfortunate that this matter is being put off since a long time. Now our Hon. Prime Minister has approved the construction of the multi-purpose Bisalpur Dam, and as such, we are very grateful to him for this. I request you to provide adequate funds for this dam. Two years of the Seventh Five Year Plan have already lapsed and now there are only three years left of this plan. Rs. 52 crores have been sanctioned for the construction of this dam but till now no progress has been made. I would request you to pay more attention towards this important project so that people may be saved, otherwise this time the condition will become very critical. Therefore, it is necessary to pay attention towards this area to save the people from starvation.

I would like to raise one point about the people belonging to the scheduled castes. They have very small land holdings and have no other work. As a result of it, they are migrating from their native places. I would request that the Government should also pay attention towards this problem.

I would like to submit one point about Agriculture University. Every State has an Agriculture University of their own but till now there is no Agriculture University in Rajasthan. The Sukhadia University has been made multi-purpose University. Therefore, I request you to take immediate steps to open an Agriculture University in Rajasthan.

I hope that you will give these points a serious consideration. These points are not only important but are very serious also. Besides, more and more funds should be made available to Rajasthan.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, about 19 per cent of the total area of our country is affected by drought and most of it is in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. So long as the Central Government does not create a national fund to deal with the drought problem, we cannot save ourselves from drought and people cannot get proper relief. Therefore firstly I would suggest you to create a National Drought Fund so that necessary aid may be provided to all drought affected areas in the country.

Secondly, I would suggest that a National Institute of Disaster Management should be set up in the country. We always write to the Central Government to depute a Central Team to conduct survey of the flood affected areas. Till now no Central Team has been sent to Rajasthan. So it should be the duty of this Institute to collect information from all drought affected areas in the country and make it available to the Central Government. The Central Government should provide funds for drinking water schemes and other schemes on the basis of their report.

Ours is a pastoral economy. Out of a total livestock population of 4 crores in Rajasthan, about 3.02 crores are affected by drought. There is neither water nor fodder available for them. So I would suggest that on the lines of FCI, which is responsible for food supply all over the country, a Cattle Fodder Store or Bank should be set up at the national level, to collect fodder throughout the country and to make it available where it is required.

One more thing I would like to say is that the funds allocated for Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme are not utilised properly due to the condition of

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

matching grant. Not only this, the money does not reach in time. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Government to provide drinking water to those areas which are facing problem. The Hon. Prime Minister has also assured that during Seventh Five Year Plan period, drinking water facility will be made available to every village of the country. So, in view of this, it is necessary to provide more funds to the Rajasthan Government under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. Our State Government has demanded an amount of Rs. 200 crores from the Centre. I hope that the Centre will provide this amount to the Rajasthan Government so that drinking water could be made available to the people and the problem of fodder for the cattle could also be solved.

In the end, I would like to say that works have been stopped there because the payment of Rs. 14 crores from last year's famine relief, has not been made to the Rajasthan Government. So I would request you to make immediate payment of this amount and in addition to it, an advance amount of Rs. 250 crores in advance plan should be given as adhoc grant to the Rajasthan Government. I hope that in view of the special circumstances prevailing in Rajasthan, the Central Government will grant Rs. 250 crores immediately to Rajasthan.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister Shri Yogendra Makwana.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister should speak after visiting all parts of Rajasthan and should not rely exclusively on paper statistics.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : Sir, I am

thankful to all the 41 Members who have participated in the discussion under Rule 193. Many members have made good suggestions. My friend, Mr. Daga and many others have said that I should not give statistics but it is not possible for me to substantiate my arguments without giving statistics. Even if Mr. Daga becomes the Minister, I am sure, he will give figures and he will substantiate his arguments by giving figures and facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : As a member also he gives statistics.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : So it is necessary to give figures to the House. There are good suggestions like afforestation and silting in river beds. A suggestion has been made about the national fund. It was made by Shri Madhav Reddi and repeated by everybody. They have repeated the same suggestion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We are very consistent.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Surely you are very consistent but I would like to inform the House how the system has developed. Upto 1950 there was no such provision for scarcity relief or for natural calamities. This point was discussed at length in the Second Finance Commission and many suggestions were made by the State Governments and representatives of the people that there should be some fund to meet the calamities immediately because natural calamity comes without any notice and the funds are not available. So some provision should be made.

Now this provision was introduced during the Second Finance Commission in the name of margin money and an outlay of Rs. 100.55 crores was made as margin money during the Second Finance Commission. Looking to the nature of the calamities and their occurrences this amount has been revised. The Eighth Finance Commission revised it and made

it Rs. 240.75 crores. So this amount is now made more than double.

Sir, upto the Sixth Finance Commission the system was to give an advance Plan assistance. There was no provision for grant which has now been introduced by the Seventh Finance Commission about floods, cyclones, hail-storms and earthquakes. The grant provision was introduced from the Seventh Finance Commission. Till then it was only advance plan assistance and it was the State Government who was responsible to meet with these calamities and they were managing from their own funds.

Now, I would like to give some figures. During the Sixth Plan the total amount spent on drought relief, floods, etc. was Rs. 2783.97 crores. This is for the entire period of the 6th Plan. As against that, during the two years period, Rs. 1745.31 crores have already been released ; that is the ceiling of expenditure for the State Governments. It is very difficult for the Central Government also to help the State Governments for all the work they undertake for providing relief to the people. The funds are limited and within that limited funds, we have to help the State Governments. All of us know that last year we had unprecedented drought and floods all over the country. Fourteen States and two Union Territories suffered from drought and all the twenty-two States and four Union Territories suffered from floods, hailstrom, cyclone etc. and even fire. Fire was never the subject for giving relief to the States. But that was introduced by the Eighth Finance Commission recently. This time we have given money for fire to West Bengal, Assam and others. The areas for providing relief measures which the Government has to undertake and the help that it gives to the States are increasing every year. That is what I wanted to say.

This year, nineteen States and Union Territories have reported damage due to floods, heavy rains etc. Eleven States and two Union Territories have already submitted their memoranda for droughts.

There are three others, whom we are expecting to submit, because we have received preliminary reports from them, from States like Gujarat and others. They have not submitted their memoranda but in due course they will submit,

Then, the demands for funds by the State Governments are increasing. I do not say that it is inflated, though it is inflated, because it is objected to by the Members. They are very keen to protect the interests of the States and whatever the State Government says, they say, is right. They want to justify that here. It is our experience and we have seen it from the memoranda which we receive and the damage which has occurred in the States, that there are some inflated demands also. but I would not like to go into that at present.

So far as drought is concerned, I have just got a report from the Meteorological Department and they say that due to the deficiency in the rainfall this year, only 26.6 per cent of the areas are affected by moderate drought this year. I have received this report during the course of the day when I was listening to the hon. Members. (*Interruptions*). You can say ; you have a right to say, but I would not be able to say like that.

Though the Meteorological Department says that the drought condition is not as bad as in the previous years, the State Governments say that it is worse. It is, therefore, very difficult for me to say anything on this point.

While we say that the money given to the States is not utilized, Shri Madhav Reddi emphatically said that it is utilized and he would like to know if there was any instance where it was not utilized. Here are the figures for the various States, but I would mention only about the Andhra Pradesh. Shri Madhav Reddi, said that there was difficulty of drinking water. Now, in the year 1985-86, a sum of Rs. 1587.45 lakh was released under ARWSS, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Scheme, for Andhra Pradesh. But what is the utilisation ? Only Rs. 582 lakhs, i.e.

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36 per cent had been utilised. Now, who is to be blamed? Is the Government of India to be blamed? Or, is it the State Government who have not utilised the funds that have been given?

SHRI ANIL BASU : When did you release the funds? If you release them at the fag end of the year, how is it possible?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This is for 1985-86, financial year.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : You see the agriculture year and not the financial year.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDI : Sir, we protest. This is misleading. If the money is released towards the end of the financial year and if the State Government is asked to spend it by the end of the financial year, how is it physically possible? Is it the way to deal with this matter?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I am sorry that Shri Jaipal Reddy is not aware of the facts and he wants to justify the State Government. But that is not possible. They have not utilised the funds. It is so not only in the case of Andhra Pradesh. Other States have also not utilised.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDI : I am a critic of both the Central as well as the State Governments.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This will show as to how the State Governments are not utilising the funds which they have got with them and also those funds which have been released by the Central Government. In fact, there are a number of schemes and I would like to take them up one by one. I gave this just as one example.

One another point has been made by Shri Madhav Reddi with regard to basin-wise master plan. This is a good idea. And this also requires funds. I have

taken note of it and I will communicate it to the Ministry of Water Resources, because that Ministry deals with the matter and so it can look into that suggestion. It is a good suggestion and it is repeated by two or three other members also.

Shri Madhav Reddi and Shri Dandavate both referred to 'impressionist approach' of the officers who go and assess the problem in the field. Those officers who go there, they are drawn from different disciplines. Some of them are from Works and Housing, some are from the Ministry of Rural Development, some are from the Ministry of Finance and some others are from Water Resources Ministry. They are all experts. These experts go to the States, visit the areas, discuss with the State Government officials and they are also accompanied by the State officials. I know that when they go to the States, they do not fly in helicopters. It may be true in the case of a Minister. I will say that it may be true in my case. I have flown over the areas in helicopters. But, these officers who go there, are really doing the job. They go in the morning and return late in the evening. And sometimes they have to skip even their lunch. Let us be fair to them also.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Even though they are experts, they cannot find out or assess the intensity of the floods or the damage caused to the crops, just by visiting the fields in the midnight with the help of a torch.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Assessment differs from man to man. The experts may say one thing and the laymen may say some other, It is a question of laymen and experts.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Just a minute. I was not referring to the officials. But at the village level, there is, what we call, the *Thalati*. He just takes what we call a 'vision' of the crop and on the basis of that, submits a preliminary report on the percentage of crop that has survived.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Yes. That is *annawari* system. I will come to it later on because somebody also mentioned about this *annawari*. Now this *annawari* has been changed into *palsawari*. And in doing so, I am sure, they might not have changed merely the name, but they must have changed the system also. It is expected of the State Governments that they change the system if it is not proper.

Then there is this suggestion about long term measures. This is a common suggestion made by many hon. members. I would like to inform the House that a number of long term measures are taken by the Government of India. Here again, this is a matter of constraint of funds. Otherwise Government have all plants. Government know it. The vageries of monsoon are not unknown to the Government of India. Therefore, there are a number of schemes which we have undertaken including dryland forming.

Sir, the surest solution and the effective solution for the drought is irrigation. If the irrigation is increased, the intensity of the drought can be decreased. The irrigation facilities, if it is extended, the farmers can get the benefit. If we harness all our resources—all our water resources—like rivers, streams and other things, then there potential of 113.5 million hectares can be irrigated. 113.5 million hectares potential is there, in the country. But because of the constraint of funds, we are not able to harness this entire thing.

In 1950-51, 22.6 million hectares, irrigation facilities were available, which is now, in 1984-85, 62.9 million hectares. The investment made during the Sixth Plan was to the tune of Rs. 10,899 crores. Now, see with Rs. 10,899 crores investment, the irrigation potential which is increased is to us, it looks very small. It is very less. But the amount spent on it is much more. Therefore, it requires huge amount to harness, all our resources to achieve this potential of 113.5 million hectares. But the Government is doing

it. The State Government also has to spend a some amount for this.

Now, somebody here, I will see my notes and say, has said that the Government should appoint a Commission to identify the drought prone areas and to frame the schemes. Now, the areas are identified already. Desert areas and drought prone areas are identified and schemes are there. At the end of the Sixth Plan, 13 States, 70 districts and 511 blocks were covered under DPAP—Drought Prone Area Programme. This is at the end of the Sixth Plan. Here again the constraint of funds comes in. The total allocation was Rs. 404.30 crores and the expenditure was Rs. 337.42 crores. That comes to 83.46 per cent.

Now, this is the scheme which is a Centrally sponsored scheme—50 per cent from the States and 50 per cent from the Government of India. State has limited resources. The Government of India has also limited resources. Therefore, we cannot cover the entire drought prone areas, but we have to do it phase-wise.

So far as the DDP—Desert Development Programme—is concerned, at the end of the Sixth Plan, 5 States, 21 districts and 126 blocks were covered and an expenditure to the tune of Rs. 73.55 crores were made.

Then, there is a Soil and Water Conservation Programme. There is a National Rural Employment Programme. I will give the figures, if the hon. Members want. For NREP also, I have got the figures here. Then, for the National Rural Employment Programme, the amount released was.....

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Figures for Soil Conservation. NREP does not solve the problem.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Soil Conservation is one of the components of DPAP. Now, RLEGP is also 100 per cent assistance from the Government of India. Under, NREP, the

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amount which was released during the Sixth Plan.....

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : For NREP, you have not released funds this year.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : About this year, I will tell you. I am coming to it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : What about the figures for Soil Conservation ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Figures for the soil conservation, I can communicate to the Member who wants separate figures for it. Desert Scheme is also for soil conservation. I will communicate it to him. But, under RLEGP scheme, during the Sixth Plan, we have released some amount Rs. 435261.77—it is in lakhs.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : That is not relevant.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : It is very relevant, because your States are not doing it. Let me tell you very frankly and emphatically that because they are not implementing these programmes properly, there is the problem of drought and floods. (*Interruptions*) You never intervene there. Here you are asking for things.....(*Interruptions*)

I will explain to Mr. Jaipal Reddy who is a very knowledgeable man, as to how RLEGP helps : it helps in bunding, it helps in drainage. These are capital works. (*Interruptions*) We have introduced crop insurance also, to help farmers in distress, in case there is a drought.

Then, in respect of drinking water programme, I said just now that we have ARSWP; and for flood control, there is a scheme for embankments. So far, 1416 Kms. of embankments have been made; drainage channels 26,109 Kms. and town protection works 375 Kms. and villages raised 326—so far.

These are the measures which are of a long term nature. For cyclones, we have cyclone shelters. We have built them in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. Government of India has helped State Governments in this matter also.

These long term measures which we have taken, have to a certain extent helped in controlling floods and other calamities. But as I said earlier, all these require funds; and when funds are limited, it is very difficult to do it immediately, because we have priorities. Planning Commission goes by priorities, which are priorities according to them. According to the best of their knowledge, they fix priorities; and according to these priorities, they are making allocation of funds.

I should thank Shri Ranjit Singh Gaekwad who has really understood the problem and who appreciated the efforts made by Government of India. (*Interruptions*) He made suggestions, but never made any allegations which had no basis.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We are appreciative of your appreciation of that hon. Member.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Shri Amal Datta was pleading the case of West Bengal. He said that Prime Minister had declared Rs. 15 crores as ways and means advance. This is margin money; it is the share of the Centre. This margin money, as I said, has been increased by Finance Commission—50% by the State and 50% by Government of India. This 50% is nothing but a ways and means advance. What is this ways and means advance? To meet the situation immediately it is provided. So, Rs. 11.87 crores is the margin money of Government of India for West Bengal, and Rs. 3.5 crores given to them as ways and means advance. So, it is Rs. 15.3 crores given as a ways and means advance to the State Government.

SHRI C. MADHA REDDY : It is a grant; not an advance.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : It is a grant ; but it is a ways and means advance for meeting the immediate requirements of the State Government. They have to utilize this money. (*Interruptions*) He was asking about the teams, and said that the team visited on the 20th. He said that the team visited very late, i.e. much later than the occurrence of the event. This memorandum was submitted on the 13th October 1986 ; and the team visited on the 20th October. If he says that seven days is too much of a delay, I have nothing to say. I told you just now that a number of States are affected, and we have to send teams to these States. Officers are limited in number, and we have to draw them from different Ministries. If they send them, then we can send them.

And we take care to see that the officer who go there are impartial. On the contrary, he tried to blame the Prime Minister for his visit. He said that it was all political. If Prime Minister is not going to Assam, the Assam Members say and just now they were saying that he is neglecting Assam. It is not like that. The Prime Minister himself has replied here that the Assam Government said that was not the proper time to visit Assam because all roads are blocked by the floods. So, he can visit Assam only when he can travel by road so that he can see the conditions, he can meet the people. That is what he said. It is on the request of the State Government that he had not visited Assam. But the members say that the Prime Minister is not visiting Assam. When he visits West Bengal, the members say that it is a political visit. Now what is this ? How to reply and how to understand the members' psychology ? I do not understand it. On the one hand, they say that it should not be made a political issue ; on the other they themselves are making a political issue by making certain allegations.

Mr. Chandrakar made a good suggestion about setting up a Dredger Corporation in the Centre as well as in the States. I have taken note of it, but that also requires fund.

Dr. Tripathi mentioned about water-logging and salinity. These problems are created by irrigation. If the water is not properly manage, then after irrigation, salinity and water-logging is the resultant. It is there in the Punjab also. The water table has come up. In many other command areas, the problem of salinity is there. Now for this, we have to train our farmers for the best use of water which is available to them ; that is called water management. Now, this water management we taught to our farmers through KVK (Krishi Vigyan Kendra). Dr. Tripathi mentioned that this is the result of the irrigation. We have to take care of that.

Prof. Madhu Dandavate mentioned about Annawari. I have just replied to that. He represents the Konkan region. He said that it is a backward region and requires to be helped. The Government of India wants the development of all regions including the backward regions and particularly for backward regions, there are a number of schemes for industry also, we are giving priority ; we are giving certain facilities in order to develop the backward regions.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Have you received any official communication from the Maharashtra Government regarding the financial assistance ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I have received a memorandum regarding flood and it was sanctioned also on the 30th of October. About drought I will just now tell you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : A memorandum re : flood is yet to come.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : No, for flood, they have already given a memorandum. From the Maharashtra Government, we had received a memorandum on the 12th of November, 1986. The amount is Rs. 450.51 crores including Rs. 176.30 crores for 1987-88 ; and that is under consideration.

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He mentioned about the employment guarantee scheme. It has done a good work. I myself visited the State. I have seen Karnataka and Maharashtra States. But all the State Governments are not introducing this scheme because of their limited resources and the Government of India cannot force the States to do it. Maharashtra has another scheme of cotton monopoly procurement scheme. But that is not there in other State.

Then about the norms not only Shri Madhu Dandavate, but almost everybody said that these norms should be changed, the norms for giving relief for floods, cyclone, etc., and for drought. They want everything should be given as grant. But that is not possible. And these norms are fixed by the Finance Commission. When the Finance Commission is appointed, the State Governments have an opportunity of meeting the Finance Commission and giving their memoranda, representing their case. Members of parliament also meet the Finance Commission and represent. So, after taking all these into consideration the Finance Commission has fixed up these norms. So, the norms which are today in existence are those fixed by the Finance Commission.

But so far as the relief norms are concerned, the Government of India has recently revised and we have changed in certain cases so far as the gratuitous amount is concerned, per deceased person earlier it was Rs. 2,000 and now it is Rs. 5,000. For ex-gratia payment for less of limb or both eyes earlier there was nothing, now it is Rs. 2,500. Now we are giving according to these norms to the State Governments. Relief for old and infirm and destitute children per head per day Rs. 1.50 was given earlier, now it is Rs. 2 per day and Re. 1 per child. Like that these norms are revised.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : When did these norms come into force.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : These are now being given, I think, from the last year.

AN HON. MEMBER : Not last year.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This year, this crop year, we considered ; in the midst of the year, these were changed and some States have got the advantage of the revised norms. This year everybody will get the advantage of these norms.

Then, Shri Madhu Dandavate mentioned about machines, that there is some machine in foreign countries which shows the water table.....

The new norms came into force from the 1st of July, 1986.

He mentioned about the machines which can show the water table and then if the dilling is made the tubewell will not fall. We have such machines. I was also not aware of them. But I am now told that we in India have also such machines and the Central Ground Water Board and some State Government departments have equipment for locating the suitable points where water is available and for locating also the depth of the water. They have such machines, they are using them also.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Instal them immediately. Do not wait till the twenty-first century.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : They are using them. It is not a question of installing. The Central Ground Water officers are using them.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Mention about Rajasthan.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I am coming to Rajasthan ; do not worry.

Then he mentioned about the housing societies which construct houses in the villages. Time and again, we give the guidelines to the State Governments. We circulated a model bill also that in low lying areas nobody should construct houses. But, except Manipur no other State Government has enacted a law. It is very difficult to for certain things which we tell them.

SHRI ANIL BASU : What is the alternative then ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : What is the alternative ?

Alternative is, it is for the State Government to enact a law and implement it. That is the only thing to do.

Then Shri Digvijaya Singh—he has gone—was very keen that the amount should be sanctioned. I wanted to inform him that the amount was sanctioned only yesterday, on the 24th.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR : What about M.P. ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : It is Rs. 5.29 crores.

Shri Balasaheb Vfkhe Patil was mentioning about irrigation facilities. Most of the Members have made the same suggestion. Over and above that, Members have said that money should be provided to their States and constituencies.

Then comes the question of monitoring. We do monitot. But it is very difficult to be a police man on the State Governments. After providing funds, we request the State Governments to review the work done. Whenever I visit any of the States, I also review the work done by the State Governments. I have reviewed the work done by two or three States. I do not discuss with the Minister, but I discuss with the officers. If the Minister wants to be present, he can do so. My experience is that most of the States have utilised the money sanctioned by the Central Government.

A number of Members have mentioned that there are a number of projects which are pending. I will say in one sentence that whatever projects are submitted to the Government of India and are pending with us, I will request my colleague in the Ministry of Water Resources to look into them. I will communicate to him that there is a feeling among the Members that their projects are delayed and that they have expressed concern about it, so that he can take immediate action.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I along with other Members have pleaded for revision of norms of assistance.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : It is fixed by the Eighth Finance Commission. About the criteria i.e. pattern of assistance, that is decided by the Eighth Finance Commission. So far as norms are concerned, they are revised.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : In cases where the severity is rare, these norms need not be made applicable. Take the case of areas which have hit by drought for three years. In such rare cases, the norms prescribed by the Finance Commission would not be applicable. Would the Government of India apply some other standards ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Shri Madhav Reddi has also mentioned that the situation is rather severe because of unprecedented floods in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Drought is also there.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Drought is less and flood is more. For that I have said that I will look into it and I will see how best we can help the State Governments.

Shri Ramaiah mentioned about crop insurance. He said that mandal is the unit now and village should be the unit. There is no objection in making village as the unit. But only thing is that it is difficult for the State Government. Actually, at present, managing mandal as the unit is also difficult for the State Governments.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The farmers are paying premium but they are not getting the relief.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You can submit it to the Mandal Commission.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Then, Shri Rana Vir Singh—I do not think he is here—made a point. Everybody said about afforestation, but he said that the students in the flood-affected areas should not be charged any fees. This is for the State Governments to decide.

I do not think any new suggestion or any new query was made from anybody except by Members from Rajasthan. So far as Rajasthan is concerned, their memorandum we have received on the seventh of November 1986 and it is under consideration. But recently during the financial year 1986-87, we have released Rs. 98.70 crores to the State Government for drought of the previous year. Then, Rs. 1.1 crore have been released for pre-monsoon floods and Rs. 7.59 crores have been released recently on 30th October 1986 for floods. This is for Rajasthan.

I have covered all the points made by the hon. Members.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : When are you sending the study team ?

[*English*]

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We will send the study teams.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : You must send within a week.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : So far as study teams are concerned, there are certain difficulties. Why it is delayed, let me explain. It is delayed because it depends upon the availability of the officers because we have to draw them from different Ministries and if the officer is not available with the Ministry, then we have to postpone the visit of the team. Therefore, it is delayed. But I will see that the team visits Rajasthan at the earliest.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : *Ad hoc* grant must be paid.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : If the State Government requests for that, I will look into it. Let the State Government request for the Ways and Means Advance. I will look into it.

Ours is not a country but it is a sub-continent and in a sub-continent there are different types of climatic zones. In some areas there is excess rain, in some areas there is drought. So, this problem is a perennial problem and it can be solved only with these long-term measures which the Government has taken which I have just described. But because of the funds constraint, it is not possible to do everything at time. Thank you very much.

19.52 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[*English*]

Thirty-first Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI SHARAD DIGHE) : The House now stands adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at 11 a.m.

19.53 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Wednesday, November 26, 1986/Agrahayana 5, 1908 (Saka)
