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Jyaishta 30, 1902 (Saka)

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(Third Session)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

I

LOK SABHA

Friday, June 20, 1980 Jyaishtia 30,
1902 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Calicut Airport

+

*183. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

SHRI A. K. BALAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress of the proposed Calicut Airport; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). The proposal for construction of an airport at Karipur near Calicut at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.52 crores is under active consideration of the Government. The proposal is included in the current Five Year Plan (1978—83). A token provision has been made in the budget for 1980-81. A decision is likely to be taken very shortly.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: In 1971, 86.5 acres of land was taken over by the Government of Kerala and given to the Government of India for constructing the airport. An approach road was also constructed. When-

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ever the Government of India was approached, they said that it was under active consideration. After a lapse of 9 years, the reply is the same that it is under active consideration. What does it mean? Will the Minister give a final date by which time this airport will be sanctioned?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: It is true that the construction of this aerodrome has been delayed for some reason or the other. Of course, there are a series of reasons but I do not want to read them out. When I said that it is under active consideration of the Government, the position is that on 16th June, 1980 EFC Memo was circulated to the appraising agencies for comments before putting up the proposal before the Expenditure Finance Committee. As soon as the Expenditure Finance Committee clears this, this will become a reality.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Can the Minister give an assurance about the date and time when it is going to be taken up?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: When I said shortly, it does not mean that it will be delayed just like in the past. It means that it will be cleared shortly. I expect that in the next two or three months, it will be finalised.

SHRI A. K. BALAN: The answer is not satisfactory. This is a case of sheer neglect. This is an important airport for the State of Kerala. 10 years ago they acquired 86.5 acres of land and an approach road was also constructed. The State Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 15 lakhs. I would like to ask specifically whether the Minister will sanction this airport this year itself?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: I have said that it will be possible within the next two or three months to clear it. What more can I say?

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Will the Minister tell us that in the three years of Janata rule... (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you agitated? Let him have his own say.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: In the three years of Janata rule when that Government was in alliance with the CPI(M) or it was given active support by CPI(M), was any progress made in the construction of this airport?

(*Interruption*)

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, it is true that the work could have been started towards the end of the year 1976 itself and the DGCA actually submitted an estimate for Rs. 110 lakhs for construction of aerodrome at Calicut. But since 1977 till this year practically no steps have been taken to expedite this decision and go into action, and it was only on the 28th March 1980 that the DGCA again submitted a revised estimate for Rs. 2.5 crores for construction of an aerodrome suitable for HS-748 operation and as I have stated earlier, this proposal now by this Government is going to be finalised within the next two or three months.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Sir, what we are seeking for Calicut is not any charity or any special consideration. I want to inform you, since you have come to this House recently, that this was promised by Rafi Ahmed Kidwai. (*Interruptions*). Right from those days all successive governments have promised this airport.

That is because it is the nerve centre of the area, Malabar region,

with more than one crore of population, and the entire development has been stalled because of want of an airport facility. (*Interruptions*).

It was promised by Raj Bahadur Ji, Dr. Karan Singh and everybody and also allotments were made. Every year it lapsed. What I want to know from the hon. Minister is whether he is aware that Air India sells more than Rs. 80 lakhs or Rs. 1 crore worth of tickets in this city alone which is considered to be a small office, and whether he will, when he has the size of the airport to decide upon, take this factors also into consideration.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: All the factors have been taken into consideration and it is only after that we have come to this conclusion.

श्री रतन सिंह राजडा : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि 71 से यह प्लान बना हुआ था एयर पोर्ट के बारे में तो उस वक्त तो कांग्रेस की सरकार थी 76 तक, तो क्या यह सच बात है कि कांग्रेस (आई) और सी.पी.आई. के एलायंस की दजह से यह काम नहीं हुआ?

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is left in this small question. Next question, Shri Manoharlal Saini.

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: Sir, I want an answer from the hon. Minister.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, this is an irrelevant question. It does not call for an answer.

कच्चे लोहे का उत्पादन

184. **श्री मनोहर लाल सैनी :** क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में प्रति वर्ष उत्पादित कच्चे लोहे की मात्रा कितनी है और उन देशों के नाम क्या हैं जिनमें हरियाणा में बने कच्चे लोहे का निर्यात किया जा रहा है; और

(ख) क्या हरियाणा में निकट भविष्य में किसी कच्चे लोहे के संयंत्र के लगाने का प्रस्ताव है?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The production of saleable pig iron in the country in 1979-80 was about 11 lakh tonnes. In 1980-81, it is expected to be about 15 lakh tonnes. Government is not aware of any pig iron being produced in Haryana. The question of its being exported to other countries does not, therefore, arise.

(b) No, Sir.

श्री मनोहर लाल सेनी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मन्त्री जी ने बताया कि सन् 1979-80 में 11 लाख टन पिग आयरन देश में पैदा हुआ और 1980-81 में 15 लाख टन पिग आयरन का उत्पादन होने की संभावना है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पूरे देश के आर्थिक इन्फ्लेक्शन को ध्यान में रखते हुए साल में कितना पिग आयरन देश को चाहिए और क्या देश इसमें आत्म-निर्भर है?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: In 1977-78 and 1978-79 production was of the order of 14 to 15 lakh tonnes. In 1978-79 suddenly production went down, and we had a production level of 14 lakh tonnes. Normally we used to export nearly 3 lakh tonnes, and the total domestic demand was of the order of 12 lakh tonnes. The demand has been more or less at same level.

श्री मनोहर लाल सेनी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पिग आयरन देश के औद्योगिक विकास के लिए बहुत आवश्यक है। मेरा मूल प्रश्न हरियाणा के मृताल्लिक था, हरियाणा के महेंद्रगढ़ जिले से पिछले कई सालों से जामान को आयरन-ओर एक्सपोर्ट होता रहा और सरकार कई बार वायदा करती रही कि वहाँ पर पिग आयरन प्लान्ट लगेगा। देश को आत्मनिर्भरता को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या सरकार इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि महेंद्रगढ़ जिले में पिग आयरन प्लान्ट स्थापित करने में लगाया जाये ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am not aware of any such promise. If the hon. Member can give some more information, I can look into it, but we cannot have a steel plant wherever there is concentration of iron ore, because this country has iron ore deposits of more than 15,000 million tonnes.

SHRI A. T. PATIL: What is the projection of the probable requirements of this country of pig iron for the next five years, and what is the projection of the probable production of pig iron during the next five years? Will we be able to export or not?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as export is concerned, it is known to hon. Members that we put a ban on it, and that is still continuing. This year's production has been at the level of 15 lakh tonnes as I have already indicated in the text of my main answer. The expected demand would be more. Roughly we are calculating at the rate of 8 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 185. Absent. Q. 186. Absent. Q. 187. Absent. I take very serious note of it. I will have to do something. For the whole of the next session, I would like to remind these Members their questions will be cut out.

SHRI JOTIRMOY BOSU: I want to make a submission on this. We have been writing letters so that the Lok Sabha can establish a co-ordination cell. Members do not come to know the business of the House. Questions are circulated only three days in advance.

MR. SPEAKER: They should give us notice, that is all.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: It is balloted eight days before.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: One can be absent-minded, but not absent.

MR. SPEAKER: That is only natural. This is unnatural.

Loans to Weaker Sections of Society

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

(a) whether Government are aware that asking for guarantees and sureties in respect of loans of less than Rs. 5,000 has discouraged Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of society who have not benefited properly so far as the question of disbursement of loans particularly in the villages is concerned;

(b) whether Government are also aware that even for taking small loans, people are asked to make frequent trips to banks' offices, fill up forms and affix photographs in spite of clear instructions that photographs should not be asked for from literate farmers; and

(c) the details regarding the steps being taken to increase the flow of credit to the Scheduled Castes and to remove the impediments in their getting it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government and the Reserve Bank of India have already initiated various steps to accelerate the flow of credit of weaker sections of society including those of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is specifically provided that the loans upto Rs. 5000 for agricultural purposes should be given against the hypothecation of crops/moveable assets created out of the loan amount and that no guarantee should be stipulated for such loans. The commercial banks have also been advised to ensure that at least 50 per cent of

their total agricultural advances would go to the small and marginal farmers by the end of March, 1982. Recently, a review was made of the share of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes borrowers in the advances of public sector banks and they have been requested to take measures to ensure that the credit needs of this section of society are met in an increasing measure.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank had issued instructions in March, 1979 that borrowers who were literate and were able to affix their signatures to the application forms should not be compulsorily required to attach a copy of their photograph. For illiterate borrowers since it was considered necessary that a photograph might be affixed, Reserve Bank had instructed that for loans upto Rs. 5000 to small and marginal farmers labourers, the banks should not only meet the cost but also make arrangements for taking of photographs. State Bank of India adopt this procedure for literate farmers also. Instructions have been issued that complaints in regard to delays in the sanctioning of loans should be dealt with promptly.

Some of the other steps being taken to increase the flow of credit to the small and marginal farmers including scheduled castes are enumerated below:

(i) Raising the target of banks lending of their aggregate credit to the beneficiaries of the 20-Point Procent to 40 per cent.

(ii) Banks evolving special schemes tailored to the requirements of the beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programmes.

(iii) Establishment of more Regional Rural Banks.

(iv) Adoption by banks of simplified application forms in regional languages as also of simplified lending procedures including relaxed security and margin norms in their lending to agriculture.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: May I know from the hon. Minister what percentage of the lending by banks is specifically set apart for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, marginal farmers and artisans, and whether this target has been achieved so far; if not, what is the shortfall?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The banks have been advised that at least 50 per cent of the total agricultural advance should be to small and marginal farmers. As against this target, the achievement is somewhere about 38 per cent. We shall try to improve.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: In spite of so many steps taken by the Government to improve borrowings by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there is still so much of shortfall. What are the main reasons for this shortfall?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Generally, even the applications are not sufficient. As far as possible, the banks try to meet the requirements. We find that, as a general rule, they do not come forward with worthwhile schemes. It is to be lent for schemes of agricultural development. There are not worthwhile schemes. We feel that we should also provide them with schemes and also provide them credit. That is the correct thing to do. Therefore, we shall try to help them in this direction.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: In view of the fact that in many cases these people are not able to provide enough or adequate security, have Government considered the possibility of advising the banks to accept collective security of groups of people, three or four or five, so that it would be possible for the banks to advance credit?

Secondly, may I know whether the Government would also advise these banks to have an advisory office where it would be possible for our small farmers to go and obtain advice in filling up the forms, in getting

all the preparatory work done, so that it would not be necessary for them to be visiting these offices again and again and go through the usual process, again, of greasing various palms?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: So far as the security is concerned, we have already given instructions that in respect of loans upto Rs. 1000, a mere promisory note will do in respect of these people. They need not furnish any additional security. In respect of loans upto Rs. 5000, the provision now is that any asset created by the loan granted, namely, if they buy a pumping set or an electric motor or any other thing, that itself can be furnished as a security. Therefore, there is no additional security or surety required. These are the stipulations already given and, therefore, there is no need for a community security, as suggested by Prof. Ranga.

The second point is with regard to filling up the forms. We hold advisory committee meetings in every region. The problems of the region are discussed in the meeting. At the last meeting in the southern region, we looked at some of the forms. We now find that they have been considerably reduced. They are very simple now. The officers have been instructed to help the people, particularly, illiterate and poor people, to fill in these forms. We have taken considerable steps to reduce these formalities.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष जी, हमारे देश के पशुपालक किसान जिनकी संख्या करोड़ों की है उनकी गणना कमजोर वर्ग में होती है और सरकार के पास एक योजना है, जिसके अन्तर्गत उनको भैंस खरीदने के लिए बैंकों से कर्ज दिए जाते हैं। लेकिन मेरा, अपने सूबे और अपने इलाके, का अनुभव है कि इस मामले में बड़ी गड़बड़ी है। किसान भैंस खरीदने के वास्ते ऋण मांगने के लिए दौड़ते रहते हैं, लेकिन बैंक वाले उन्हें टरकाते और दौड़ते रहते हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ

किं क्या उन्होंने बैंस खरीदकर दो, दूध ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा उत्पादित कर सके, इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए बैंस पालने वाले या जानवर पालने वाले किसानों को ठीक से ऋण मिल सके, इसकी कोई व्यवस्था की है या इस पर फिर विचार करने के लिए सरकार कुछ कार्यवाही करना चाहती है?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I thank the Hon. Member for giving me an opportunity to give some figures with regard to the priority sector, which is included in the question.

Now, apart from agriculture, we have arranged that loans shall be given for various items like dairy-farming, poultry, fisheries, cattle-rearing etc. I will give you a few figures relating to last year only. In respect of dairy-farming, up to September, 1978—for which I have the latest figures—412,000 accounts have been opened and Rs. 76.28 crores were given as loans; in respect of poultry, 74,000 accounts have been opened and Rs. 25.11 crores have been lent; in respect of fisheries 73,000 accounts have been opened and Rs. 26.84 crores have been furnished; in respect of others—unclassified items like cattle-rearing etc.—550,000 accounts have been opened and Rs. 71.2 crores have been furnished. But there is scope for improvement always; if further amounts are required, the banks are prepared to place them at their disposal.

श्री चतुर्भुज : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सर्व-विदित है कि इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था कम-जोर बगों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिये है। लेकिन जो किसान दूर आंचल में बसते हैं उन को सामने सब से बड़ी कठिनाई यह है कि राष्ट्रीकृत बैंक 5-7 किलोमीटर की दूरी तक तो लोन दे देते हैं लेकिन जो 7 किलोमीटर से ज्यादा दूर आंचल में बसते हैं, उन को ऋण देने के लिये कोई संस्था नहीं है। इस के बारे में क्या कभी आपने बैंकों का ध्यान दिलाया है या निर्देश दिया है या देने की कोशिश करेंगे?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In order to help people living in rural areas spread over the country, we

have decided that every block will have one bank and every block headquarters will have one bank, and since the headquarters and banks are within ten kilometres, it is not very difficult for people to get loans.

श्री मूल चन्द्र शर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोगों के लिये कितने लोन की मांग का अन्दाजा है और उस में से कितना परसेन्ट लोन आप दे देते हैं?

दूसरी बात—जो लोग इल्लीटेटे हैं उन को फोटो लगाने का नियम बनाया है। फोटो पर कितना खर्चा होगा और लोन बांड को एक्जीक्यूट करने के लिये स्टाम्प ड्यूटी पर कितना खर्चा होगा? मेरी जानकारी है कि 1 हजार के लोन पर 20 रुपये का खर्चा उनको एक्सट्रा करना पड़ेगा। स्टाम्प ड्यूटी पर 5 रुपये 25 पैसे खर्च करना पड़ेगा, कहीं-कहीं यह खर्चा और भी ज्यादा है। क्या यह खर्चा जरूरी है?

MR. SPEAKER: That has been answered already.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In respect of the photographs and the cost, I have not answered.

There is only one answer. So far as the cost of the photographs is concerned, instructions have been given to the banks to meet the cost of the photographs.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Hon. Minister tell us what percentage of the rural advances have been given under the DRI—that is, differential rate of interest.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The provision is that one per cent of the total lending should be given as differential rate of interest. But it varies from region to region. In certain regions and in certain banks one per cent has been reached, but in regions like Bengal it has not been reached. We

took a meeting in Calcutta, and reviewed the position there. In certain States like Bengal, Rajasthan, Orissa and three or four other States it has not been reached. We are trying our level best to improve the lendings.

SHRI A. K. ROY: The service of the bank varies from section to section and also from area to area. If we go through the credit-deposit ratio in respect of the different tribal and Scheduled Caste areas and general areas, we will find that there is a fundamental difference there. As the hon. Finance Minister has said just now, he has instructed establishment of a branch of bank in every Block headquarters. Even with that, we have seen that all the panchayats in that Block do not get the services; the service depends on the distance. Shall I conclude that that particular branch of the bank at the Block headquarters has been instructed to serve all the people under the Block regardless of the distance?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: We have already given instructions that there should be one branch bank in every Block. We have also given instructions that there should be one branch bank at the Block headquarters. If there are any areas uncovered, I will immediately take action to open a branch; I will give them the facility.

SHRI A. K. ROY: I wanted to know whether that particular branch bank has been instructed to cover all the panchayats under the Block regardless of the distance.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Normally it is expected that the two branch banks, that is, the branch at the headquarters and the branch at the Block, will be able to take care of it. After all, it is a small area. It is possible that, in some areas like hill areas and in certain other areas, it is not available. If those cases are brought to my attention, I will certainly help and try to start a branch in that place.

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : मैं मंत्री महोदय को यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि यह जो बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया गया था, वह इसलिए किया गया था कि छोटे किसानों और दूसरे कमजोर वर्गों के लोगों को आसानी से ऋण मिल सके लेकिन पिछले ढाई-तीन सालों में इन बैंकों की व्यवस्था इतनी खराब हो गई है कि छोटे किसानों के लिए जो ऋण दिया जाता है, वह उन को नहीं मिल पाता है। इस के लिए मैंने आप को और प्रधान मंत्री जी को लिखित शिकायत कई जगहों की भेजी है कि जो छोटे-छोटे किसान ऋण लेने के लिए बैंकों में आते हैं, वे बिना ऋण लिये लौट जाते हैं। दूसरी बात यह है कि अगर कहीं पम्पों के लिए ऋण मंजूर भी हो जाता है, तो वहां पर कुओं के लिए पैसा मंजूर नहीं होता। पम्पों का जो ऋण होता है, उस की किस्त बंध जाती है लेकिन कृष्ण न खुदने के कारण वे पम्प नहीं चला पाते हैं। कई-कई बार इन को बैंकों में जाना पड़ता है, तब कहीं ऋण मिलता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप सवाल पूछिये।

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : मैं सवाल ही पूछ रही हूँ। उन छोटे-छोटे किसानों को ऋण लेने में कई तरह की परेशानी होती है। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि इस तरह की जो कठिनाइयाँ छोटे-छोटे किसानों और छोटे-छोटे व्यापारियों की आप के सामने रखी गई हैं, उन को दूर करने के लिए क्या आप कोई तुरन्त कदम उठावेंगे? जो बैंकों में अव्यवस्था आ गई है, या जो वहां के कर्मचारियों में भ्रष्टाचार की नीति बनती जा रही है, उस को दूर करने के लिये कोई ऐसे कदम उठाएँ, जिससे स्थिति में सुधार आ जाये।

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, it is true that, during the last two and a half years, certain banking facilities for weaker sections have deteriorated. (*Interruptions*) the House will remember that we introduced the 20-point Programme and under that 20-point Programme, special emphasis was laid on loans to marginal farmers, small farmers, handloom weavers and a number of people in the very low

income groups. After the Janata Party came to power—and my friend, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, took credit for it—they abolished the 20-point Programme, and the thing which the hon. Member complains arises out of the abolition of the 20-point Programme. That is why the benefit has not gone to the weaker sections. We have restored it, and in a very short time we will see that the weaker sections get it.

SHRI G. S. NIHALSINGHWALA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has received any complaints that the Bank managers and other officials of the banks do not disburse the money unless they get something from the parties.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: It is a fact everywhere.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member wants to know whether it is a fact that the Bank managers take some bribe from the parties.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: If I know or if my Department knows that there is corruption, they will take immediate action. If it happens without our knowledge, then I would like the members to bring it to our attention.

Engineering Goods Export Targets

*189. **SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current year's engineering goods export target has been fixed at Rs. 915 crores;

(b) whether the Association of Indian Engineering Industry has said that the target fixed was unrealistic; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Engineering Export Promotion Council

has recommended target of Rs. 915 crores for 1980-81. Certain reservations about this target were expressed by AIEI. But there has been subsequent consultation between these two bodies and they are understood to have agreed that this target can be achieved if adequate infra-structural support is provided. The Government have adopted this target and are making all out efforts for its achievement.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: What and when were the consultations made with these two bodies and what were the recommendations coming out of those consultations?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The hon. Member knows that when we fix an export target in a particular sector normally, we consult the Export Promotion Council and various other bodies connected therewith. Normally, when the Export Promotion Council fixes up a target, they discuss it through the various channels they have set up covering the various manufacturing sectors. Therefore, this is a continuing process and if the hon. Member wants to know at what particular point of time what discussions and what recommendations were made, it is not possible for me to give because we never ascertain it, we entrust this job to the Export Promotion Council and they discuss it with the individual manufacturers and or a group of manufacturers in various sectors and after that they give the decision. On the basis of that we discuss with the various connected Ministries and find out whether the target fixed is a realistic one or not and on the basis of that we fix it.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: What are the difficulties that were expressed by the Indian Engineering industries regarding infrastructure and other difficulties which you tried to solve?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The difficulties which they pointed out in the infra structure are: non-availability of raw materials, mainly steel

and pig iron and coking coal, power, and transport bottlenecks. These are the major constraints due to which even the production targets of last year could not materialise. When we discussed with the concerned Ministries and projected our demand for the target which we have fixed at Rs. 915 crores, the various concerned Ministries have agreed to provide the necessary materials required for us. So far as steel sector is concerned, it has been agreed that 3,21,000 tonnes of steel will be provided; so far as pig iron is concerned 1,30,000 tonnes of pig iron will be provided and similarly, with regard to coking coal, power and high-speed diesel oil we discussed with the concerned Ministries and they have assured that the inputs necessary to reach this target will be provided.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: How do you solve the power problem?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The Power Ministry has agreed. Let us see.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: One of the ways the Ministry is trying to reach the export target is by extending subsidies. This time the export subsidies have gone up to Rs. 319 crores. I want to know whether the Ministry has come across a study made in the professional journals in India that the problem with the Indian engineering industries was not one of competitiveness but we could not reach the target because of the quantity, reliability and marketability.

Therefore, I want to know whether the Minister would recommend to the Finance Ministry that we can save money on these export subsidies as subsidy is not going to meet the target. The question is how to raise the quality and reliability of the exports.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, quality according to the standard specifications is one factor. The second important factor is the delivery. This is also an important factor. So, merely by providing subsidy, we cannot reduce the competitiveness of our products.

But, Sir, this is a complicated process. The hon. Member is well aware of it. Sometimes, because of the duty structure, we find that our products become non-competitive and we cannot simply do away with the duty part. Therefore, in order to compensate it, sometimes we resort to this type of mechanism. I agree with the hon. Member that merely by resorting to subsidies we cannot improve our export performance. We are laying more and more emphasis on it. The hon. Member is aware that a Committee appointed under the Chairmanship of Mr. Tandon have also looked into this aspect and they have made certain recommendations which are under the active consideration of the Government.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Is it a fact that under the Janata Rule, I will say, in alliance with C.P.M. (*Interruptions*) the quantum of engineering exports have been reduced. If so, what is the reduction? (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down. Why are you agitated about this? I will give you freedom. You had your say. Let other Members have also their say. It should not be allowed like this. It is not parliamentary. You are not a youngman. (*Interruptions*). It is my job. Why are you doing it? Mr. Gandhi. I will give you full freedom. Nothing should be recorded without my permission.

** (*Interruptions*)

I am not listening; I am not allowing you. I will give you full freedom.

This is Parliament. You can have your own views and let them have their own views. Why do you object to this? Mr. Choubey, I deplore this. Let him say so. It is his way. Mr. Gandhi.

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI: Will the hon. Minister kindly say whether it is a fact that our export was reduced in the three years of Janata rule and that there has been a reduction in the exports? If so, what is the extent of reduction and how many years will it take for the engineering industries to recover and get back to the stage where we were in 1976?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, the first part. . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. You ask your own supplementaries. Why are you interrupting like this? This is not Parliamentary Practice. We have agreed to this. I will ask the leaders to do. . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, so far as the first part of the question is concerned, it is true that while we were having the export growth rate in the order of 25 to 27 per cent upto 1976-77, it was reduced to 6 per cent in 1979-80. This is a hard fact of life. This cannot be denied and it is known to the hon. Members. We had a surplus in the trade account in 1976-77 in the order of Rs. 69 crores and we have ended with a trade deficit of Rs. 2,000 crores this year.

So far as engineering industry is concerned, even this year, there has been a reduction of 8 per cent negative growth, and, in absolute terms, it was Rs. 700 crores in 1978-79 and this year it came down to Rs. 650 crores. In the engineering exports, from 1968-69 to 1976-77 we were having a growth rate of 44.4 per cent. These are the hard facts of life. Then, Sir, I am sorry, I cannot give an

assurance how much time. I will require to improve the situation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: May I congratulate the Minister, (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. (*Interruption*) Please sit down.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: May I know from the Minister. . . .

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We have no objection; everything he brings in the Janata Party. . . . (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have to follow the parliamentary practice. Order now. This is not the way.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: May I know from the Minister what will be the projected share of the small-scale industries in this export performance, in regard to the target which has been fixed? I believe he knows the constraints which the small scale industries are facing—especially in the matter of supply of pig iron and steel items. Will the Minister make special efforts to see that the small scale industries are given their required supply of these materials so that they may make their contribution toward the export of these engineering goods?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as the supply of pig iron to the small-scale industries is concerned, it is true that certain difficulties were faced by the small scale industries. They also made certain complaints to us. Therefore, in consultation with State Governments, we have decided that the entire raw material required for the small scale units will be provided through the Small-Scale Industries Development Corporation under the supervision of the State Governments.

And, so far as the supply position is concerned, I have already mentioned this in reply to earlier questions. We will have production at the level of 15 lakh tonnes in the current year. Our total projected demand will be a little less than that.

Therefore, in regard to the supply of these raw materials, we will not be in difficulty.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Share of the small-scale sector..

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I don't have the ready figure here. But normally it varies between 35 to 40 per cent. Sometimes it gets beyond that. But I will have to carry the figure from year to year.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: So they need your help more..

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Yes, certainly.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Is it not a fact that one of the major factors which are now operating against our exports of non-traditional goods like engineering goods is that many of the developed countries (which in earlier years were providing a ready market for our goods) including the USA and so on, have recently started imposing countervailing duty on the plea that the subsidy being given by the Indian Government is an unfair sort of protection or help being given to our industry here, and therefore, in order to protect their own markets, they are imposing this countervailing duty? Is it a fact? I think it is quite a serious situation which is developing now. It is not a fact that this is becoming a major constraint on the export of non-traditional goods? The Government has sent out a team recently to try to persuade those governments and

those countries not to discriminate like this, against exports from developing countries.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It is true that protectionism is being resorted to by some of the developed countries (either in the form of countervailing duties or by fixing a quota) in the way of our exports for some of these countries. So far as the countervailing duty imposed by the USA is concerned, the hon. Member is aware that their team came here and we had a discussion with them. Our team also recently visited the USA. But still we have not been in a position to reconcile. We have explained our case. It is not merely the question that we are going to give a subsidy and as a result of that they are opposing it. They have mentioned other difficulties also. And some of these goods are competitive, even otherwise also; but, in order to protect their own domestic industries they would like to resort to all these things.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Target has to be fixed.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as engineering goods are concerned, the position is this. What you talk is perfectly relevant in the case of garments and in certain other cases. But so far as engineering goods are concerned fortunately in the market where we are trying to penetrate, there is not so much resistance. So, perhaps it would be possible for us to reach the target.

SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: We are fully aware of the effective steps the Minister is taking for supplying sufficient quantity of steel and billets; but these industrialists are not properly utilising these subsidised steel billets and other things. They are selling that in the black market. What effective steps is the hon. Minister going to take to check this?

Terms of Trade and Credibility of Indian Exporters in Gulf Area

*190. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's terms of trade have sharply deteriorated and the credibility of Indian exporters in the Gulf has been eroded following the failure of many prestigious firms to meet delivery schedules in the recent months; and

(b) if so, the details of steps being proposed to be taken by Government to improve the terms of trade and regain confidence in the export markets in the coming months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) It is correct that India's balance of trade with the Gulf Countries has become unfavourable recently. The factor responsible for this is large increase in our import bill on account of higher prices of petroleum and petroleum products. No serious complaints against prestigious Indian exporting firms have come to Government's notice recently; nor can this be considered a factor in our balance of trade with these countries.

(b) Government are taking various measures to step up exports to countries in Gulf Area. These include *inter-alia* exchange of high level delegations, encouraging exchange of non-official trade delegations, participation in international fairs held in this region and providing facilities for increased participation in project activities in this region. Whereas no serious complaints have been received from this region recently, any complaints received are attended to promptly and all possible steps taken to ensure that there is no loss of credibility of Indian exporters.

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इधर गल्फ देशों के साथ हमारा व्यापार कम

हुआ है और हमारे माल का निर्यात घटा है। बदकिस्मती से हमारी अच्छी से अच्छी फर्म्स भी समय पर सामान नहीं दे पाती हैं। इससे विदेश-व्यापार पर प्रतिकूल असर पड़ता है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसकी वजह से हमारे देश को कितना घटा हुआ है और क्या इसका कारण हमारी फर्म्स की लापरवाही है, या बिजली की कटाती है या मजदूरों की हड़ताल है।

श्री जियाउर्रहमान अंसारी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सही है कि पिछले दो, ढाई साल में

एक माननीय सदस्य: जनता पार्टी की वजह से।

श्री जियाउर्रहमान अंसारी: मैं वह बात नहीं कहूँगा। अगर माननीय सदस्य कहना चाहते हैं, तो कह लें।

पिछले दो, ढाई साल में हमारा बैलेंस आफ ट्रेड कम हुआ है, नैगेटिव साइड में गया है। लेकिन उसके बहुत से रीजन्स थे, जो एक्सपोर्टर्स के कंट्रोल के बाहर थे। मसलन-मैं गल्फ कंट्रीज व सिलिसिले में अर्ज कर रहा हूँ-बहुत सी चीजों में हमारा प्राडक्शन घटा है और उसकी वजह से हम एक्सपोर्ट नहीं कर सके। जो मैन कन्स्ट्रक्शन्स रहे हैं, जिनकी वजह से हमारी एक्सपोर्ट्स में कमी आई है, खास तौर से इन कन्ट्रीज में, उनमें कुछ चीजों की डामेस्टिक स्कोर्सिटी भी है। या डामेस्टिक मार्केट को देखते हुए कुछ ऐसे रीस्ट्रिक्शन्स लगाने पड़े हैं, जैसे ऑनियम और पोर्ट्स पर, और आयरन एण्ड स्टील प्राडक्शन्स पर, क्योंकि इनका प्राडक्शन दो ढाई साल में गिरा था और उसकी वजह से एक्सपोर्ट्स में कुछ कमी आई। एक और वजह यह भी रही है कि शिपिंग का बाटल-नेक रहा है। हमारे जहाजों की कमी, पोर्ट्स में कन्जेशन या पोर्ट्स में स्ट्राइक्स भी ऐसे सबब रहे हैं, जिनकी वजह से हमारे एक्सपोर्ट्स की कमिटीमेंट बक्त पर पूरी नहीं हो सकी और इस लिए हमारा एक्सपोर्ट घटा है।

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव: मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि हमारा सामान बाहर भेजने में कमी का कारण प्रोडक्शन की कमी और पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स की अधिक कीमत रही है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया है कि वह इस बारे में स्टैप्स ले रहे हैं और कुछ डेलीगेशन विदेशों में भेजना चाहते हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इन डेलीगेशन के बाहर जाने से सामान का प्रोडक्शन बढ़ेगा, या इन की पेट्रोलियम की कमी दूर होगी? इसलिए मैं इस सन्दर्भ में मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यदि ये गल्फ-देश हमें समय पर सामान दे सकते हैं तो हम क्यों नहीं दे सकते और नहीं दे सकते तो उस से हमारी प्रतिष्ठा पर आंच आती है या नहीं? यदि प्रतिष्ठा पर आंच आती है तो उस दिशा में हम क्या कुछ करना चाहते हैं? जैसे आप ने कहा कि उस का कारण है प्रोडक्शन की कमी या पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स का कमी तो इस को आप डेलीगेशन से कैसे दूर करेंगे यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया।

श्री जियाउर्रहमान अन्सारी : जहाँ तक प्रोडक्ट्स की कमी और इंडिजिनस प्रोडक्शन की कमी का सवाल है और उस की वजह से कमी आई है उस को दूर कर के प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाया जाय, यही इस का एक रास्ता है, इस के अलावा और कोई दूसरा रास्ता नहीं है। जहाँ तक और दूसरे रीजन्स का सवाल है शिपिंग बाटलनेक्स या और स्ट्राइक्स बगैरह का उस में भी एक ऐसी डिस्प्लिन कायम करनी चाहिए जिस से वह बाटलनेक्स दूर हों। और जो ऐसी मामूली चीजें हैं, मामूली जो कम्प्लेंट्स आती हैं, जैसे यादव जी ने कहा.....

AN HON. MEMBER: The Minister is not replying to the question..... about delegations.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI: I am coming to the question of delegations.

जहाँ तक एक्सपोर्ट और विदेशों से तिजारत का सवाल है उस में डेलीगेशंस का एक बहुत बड़ा महत्व है। उस से ऐसी एक फिजा पैदा होती है, मूलतः लिफ जो हमारे यहाँ की इण्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स और एक्सपोर्टर्स हैं उन के और दूसरे देशों के इम्पोर्टर्स के बीच में ताल्लुकात पैदा होते हैं, उन की रिक्वा-

यरमेंट हम को मालूम होती है और हमारी रिक्वायरमेंट उन को मालूम होती है। जिस स्पेसिफिकेशन का सामान हम दे सकते हैं यह उन को मालूम होता है। तो इन डेलीगेशंस से एक फिजा पैदा होती है और एक अच्छा वातावरण पैदा होता है। यह एक नार्मल प्रैक्टिस है।

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव: हमारे सवाल का जवाब नहीं आया। मूल सवाल के जवाब में मंत्री जी ने बताया कि प्रोडक्शन की कमी के कारण इंडस्ट्री बाले नहीं भेज पाये हैं और इस के बाद इन्होंने कहा कि हम डेलीगेशन भेज रहे हैं तो हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि डेलीगेशन से प्रोडक्शन कैसे बढ़ाएंगे? इस का जवाब तो इन्होंने दिया नहीं।

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: The Member is well aware that delegations cannot improve production. A delegation is not definitely going to improve the production. In order to improve production, we have taken various steps. (Interruptions). The delegation is going out to identify the commodities. Every time, we have to send the delegations to identify the commodities and to determine the quantum. This is the normal trade practice. Let the hon. Member understand the general practice. It is nothing new; and every year we have to send delegations to identify the commodities, to determine the quantum and to determine the delivery schedule. All these formalities have to be complied with.

श्री हीरालाल आर. परमार: हमारे देश में हर साल 5 लाख टन का हिंड्रियों का उत्पादन है और उस के बाइ-प्रोडक्शन की 8 इण्डस्ट्रीज हमारे यहाँ हैं जिन के लिये 80 हजार टन हिंड्रियों की जरूरत है। 4 लाख 20 हजार टन हिंड्रियों इस तरह बच जाती है। इस का एक्सपोर्ट दो तीन साल पहले सरकार ने बन्द किया हुआ है। इस की वजह से हमारे यहाँ की 130 इण्डस्ट्रीज बन्द पड़ी हैं। तो इस का एक्सपोर्ट क्यों नहीं चाल किया जाता है? इस के लिये सरकार ने क्या सोचा है?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: So far as this item is concerned, it is the administrative Ministry, viz. the Ministry of Agriculture which thought that we should not export it, as a result of which we have put a ban. But we are taking it up with them, i.e. to enquire whether they are in a position to supply them. Sometimes it happens that in order to meet the domestic demand, we put a ban on export.

Setting up of Integrated Port Based Steel Plant

*191. **SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an integrated port-based steel plant in the country other than at Paradeep; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). With a view to augmenting the steel making capacity in the country, Government have been exploring the possibilities of setting up a new port-based steel plant with technical and financial assistance from some of the developed countries. As a result, concrete proposals have been received from certain parties in West Germany, U.K. etc. These proposals including the question of final location as well as other terms and conditions are presently in various stages of detailed technical and financial evaluation and will have to be negotiated further with the parties concerned before a final decision can be taken.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Is it a fact that West Germany and U.K. firms have offered to set up a steel plant at Paradeep on turn-key basis?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It is more or less on the turn-key basis.

but we are not using that term. But all the formalities are not to be complied with, but substantially it is on the turn-key basis.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: The people of Orissa were very glad when the hon. Minister had been recently on tour to Orissa and categorically assured that there would be a shore-bound Steel Plant at Paradeep. It had already come out in the papers that West Germany and other countries sent their team to India, they also visited Paradeep and almost selected the site and that land has already been allotted, so far as this is concerned. I would like to know by what time all the decisions are going to be taken, say, within two months or three months to set up the steel plant at Paradeep.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: We are trying to expedite the matter and it is known to the hon. member that it is a project of more than Rs. 1500 crores. I have already explained that it will be financed 100 per cent by the foreign parties including on-shore parties. In view of that, it is taking some time, but we are in the process of negotiations with both the parties. We are trying to evaluate which will be more favourable to us; and after arriving at a decision, we will take the final decision.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

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193. **SHRI P. J. KURIEN:**

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the foreign exchange reserves have been steadily declining for the last one year;

(b) if so, the facts and reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to boost exports, particularly to Gulf and African countries?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and Special Drawing Rights) declined by Rs. 56.20 crores during the fiscal year 1979-80 as compared to the increase of Rs. 720.11 crores in 1978-79. The foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold and Special Drawing Rights) have further gone down by Rs. 360.64 crores during the current financial year so far.

2. The changes in foreign exchange reserves are the net outcome of India's transactions with other countries, the details of which would become available only with the compilation of balance of payments statistics by the Reserve Bank of India.

3. The broad indications, however, are that the decline in foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and SDRs) during 1979-80 and thereafter was due mainly to the larger trade deficit brought about, on the one hand, by the sluggish growth in exports and, on the other, by the substantial increase in the import bill as a result of large imports of intermediates and raw materials, items of mass consumption like edible oils and increase in the international prices of crude oil and petroleum products, fertilizers, ferrous and non-ferrous metals etc.

4. The Government is, *inter alia*, taking the following steps to boost exports during the current year.

- (1) To identify and remove the various constraints on production, such as, shortage of power, basic raw materials etc., with a view to ensure fuller utilisation of industrial capacity. -
- (2) To lay stress on production of items having export potential

so that larger export surpluses are available.

- (3) To take fuller advantage of managerial talent and advanced technology available in the country.
- (4) To encourage export of value-added items particularly finished and semi-finished goods.
- (5) To solve problems of shipping and port congestion.
- (6) To coordinate and strengthen marketing intelligence abroad.

The Import Policy for the current financial year 1980-81 has accordingly given due weightage to export effort as above.

The Government has been taking a number of measures to promote exports to Gulf and African countries. These include exchange of trade delegations, participation in international exhibitions/fairs held in various African countries, organising exclusive Indian trade exhibitions in the Gulf countries, opening of offices of public sector firms and branches of Indian banks, and agency arrangements with nationalised banks of these countries to facilitate trade exchanges. Other steps taken in this direction include improvement of shipping facilities to various African countries, increasing the frequency of Air India operations to various Gulf countries, increasing project exports to these areas and holding official level trade talks with various countries of this region periodically to explore possibilities of further increasing the bilateral trade.

SHRI P. J. KURIEN: Is it not a fact that our foreign reserves are there because of the remittances by Indians working abroad and the decline of the foreign remittances is due to their deportation and coming back due to severe labour laws? If it is so, what steps he would take to give encouragement to the Indians abroad and also to give protection to them

in order to increase the remittances from them?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In the year 1979-80, remittances have not gone down. But we know it for a fact that some of these countries are now imposing restrictions on our labour. The Government has taken up this matter wherever it is necessary and we shall see that the interests of our labour are protected.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Air Taxi by Private Operators

*185. **SHRI AHMED M. PATEL:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in the proposal to allowing private aircraft operators to run air taxi and helicopter service outside the Indian Air-lines net-work; and

(b) when the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). The question of allowing private operators to run air taxi and helicopter service is under consideration of the Government. Applicants who have sought permission for operation of air taxi services have been advised to await the decision of the Government in the matter. None of these applicants possesses his own aircraft.

However, a non-scheduled operator, namely, Sarya Aviation, who has a three-seater aircraft, applied for a single party charter on Delhi-Agra and Delhi-Jaipur routes and was permitted to operate for six months effective from 1st February, 1980.

Import of Tyres

*186. **SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of tyre permitted under open general licence by the former Janata Government has affected the indigenous tyre companies; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government for helping the indigenous tyre companies?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The present Import Policy has not adversely affected the indigenous tyre industry.

(b) Does not arise.

Take over of Sick Tea Gardens

*187. **SHRI SUBODH SEN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal requested the Central Government for taking over five sick tea gardens in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, steps taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In April, 1980 the Minister-in-Charge, Departments of Commerce and Industries, Public Undertakings and Closed and Sick Industries, West Bengal had requested the Central Government to consider the take-over of some tea gardens in that State.

(b) The provisions of sections 16B to 16E of the Tea (Amendment) Act, 1976, enumerate the circumstances under which the Government can cause investigation, assume management or control or take over a tea undertaking even without investigation.

The decision to take over the management of a tea garden depends on the merits of each case.

Government is seized of the problem of sick tea plantations in West Bengal and action is being taken in respect of gardens which come under the purview of the Tea Act, 1953.

Proposal to Abolish Sales Tax

*192. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item in the Indian Express dated 23rd May, 1980 regarding 'Anti-Sales Tax move to be revived';

(b) whether it is a fact that the President of All India Sales Tax abolition Committee has called the traders all over the country to chalk out the future plan of action;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to abolish Sales Tax in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). Government has seen the Press Report referred to.

(c) and (d). The Government will explore, with the cooperation of the State Governments, the possibility of reforming the existing sales tax structure into a more modern and effective system in the interests of consumers and traders.

Supply of Essential Commodities to Tripura

*194. SHRI AJOY BISWAS:

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) steps taken by Government to supply essential commodities, cement,

steel to Tripura when Railway wagons are not available; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Efforts are being made to improve the supply of essential commodities to North-Eastern States including Tripura despite movement constraints. Keeping in view the rail movement problems some steps have been taken to increase the movement of cement and steel by road to North-Eastern States including Tripura. The State Government can take cement by road either directly from the cement factory or from the dump point for which reimbursement of freight is allowed. The validity period for release orders has been raised from 3½ months to 4½ months. Extension beyond 4½ months is also being given liberally. As regards steel, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has drawn up a plan to move large quantities of steel by road from Calcutta and New Bongaigaon to Gauhati/Tinsukia and some other destinations in the North-Eastern Region without any extra burden to the consumer. This is in addition to the scheme of road movement from Gauhati to State Capitals of North-Eastern States which is in operation since July, 1979.

Bank Credit to Artisans and Agriculturists

*195. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the artisans, weaker sections and agriculturists have not been getting their due share of bank credit under various schemes from nationalised banks under the Rural Investment Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to liberalise the scheme to give maximum benefit to these sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b): The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the provision of credit by the public sector banks for the implementation of the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Credit support for this programme is a part of the scheme being followed by the public sector banks for lending to the priority sectors. The broad category of priority sectors covers all beneficiaries of the weaker sections including those covered by the IRD programme comprising artisans, small and marginal farmers, small industries, self-employed persons etc.

Government have recently decided upon the following steps to increase lending by the public sector banks to the priority sectors and to the rural areas:

(i) Banks have been advised to raise their credit to the priority sectors to 40 per cent of their aggregate credit over the next five years.

(ii) Under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme Banks have been advised to advance at least one per cent of their total lending to the eligible weaker sections at a concessional rate of interest of 4 per cent. The Banks have been asked to ensure that at least 40 per cent of the credit under this scheme goes to Scheduled Castes/Tribes.

(iii) The programme of setting up of Regional Rural Banks is being accelerated.

(iv) Banks have been asked to adopt simplified application forms and lending procedures and to relax security norms to facilitate lending to the small borrowers in agriculture and allied activities.

Income Tax Raids in Bhavnagar and Ahmedabad

*196. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA:

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently Income-tax intelligence raided about 45 places in Bhavnagar and Ahmedabad in connection with an inter State racket involving re-processing and selling spurious petroleum products;

(b) if so, full details thereof; and

(c) action already taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) (a) Acting on reliable information that dealers in petroleum products were engaged in the illegal trade of adulteration and black marketing in diesel and lubricating oil, the Income-tax Department authorised search in 21 places at Ahmedabad and 11 places at Bhavnagar on 2nd April, 1980. Searches were also simultaneously carried on in other cities in India. The number of persons affected in the searches at Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar is 61.

(b) During the course of the search operations, it was discovered that these dealers were engaged in systematic manufacture of spurious petroleum products under the brand name of Caltex, Castrol, H.P., Sarvo etc. The Department also discovered machinery used for converting light oils into engine oil by addition of wax and other chemicals. The Department was also able to find underground storage tanks, pumping equipment etc. indicating large scale black marketing operation in petroleum products. The Department has seized unaccounted for cash, jewellery, FDRs, Promisory Notes and shares, silver and gold with foreign markings etc. of the value of Rs. 99,80,288 from parties affected in the raid all over India i.e. Delhi, Julundur, Ahmedabad, Aligarh, Kanpur, Ludhiana, Calcutta and Madras.

(c) The seized materials are under scrutiny and investigation is in progress in these cases.

Removal of Eleven Textile Machinery items from Banned Category

*197. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association has stated that the new import policy would mean heavy losses to machinery manufacturers keeping in view the announced import policy for 1980-81 which has removed eleven textile machinery items from the banned category; and

(b) whether it has also been stated that the machinery was available indigenously in sufficient quantities and could be delivered within a reasonable period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) The Textile Machinery Manufacturers Association has represented against the removal of certain textile machinery items from the list of Banned items of Capital Goods in the import policy for 1980-81 on the ground that it will adversely affect the indigenous industry.

(b) The Association has made this claim.

Accommodation at Concessional Rates to Government Employees Availing L. T. C.

*198. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Central Government employees going on L.T.C. have to face great difficulties in getting accommodation at different places and they have to pay exorbitant charges at private hotels; and

(b) whether the Tourism Department propose to help the Government employees by providing them accommodation at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No specific instances of non-availability of proper accommodation or of exorbitant rates charged by private hotels to Government employees have been brought to the notice of the Department of Tourism.

(b) The Central Department of Tourism has no scheme of providing accommodation at concessional rates to Government employees. It has, however, constructed a number of tourist bungalows at various tourist centres which are being managed by the State Governments. The charges range from Rs. 8/- to Rs. 45/- per head per day depending upon the type of accommodation used—whether dormitory type or air conditioned rooms.

However, in pursuance of the recommendations made by the National Council of Joint Consultative Machinery, the Government has set up Holiday Homes for the Central Government employees at Mussoorie (U.P.) Digha (West Bengal) and Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra). The charges range from Rs. 2/- to Rs. 12/- per day at these Holiday Homes.

Revision of wage Structures in Public Sector Undertakings

*199. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether revision of wage structures in Public Sector Undertakings is under the consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the tentative time by which a final decision in this regard would be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b).

Revision of wage structure in a public undertaking is taken up periodically according to the terms and duration of the settlement. No general revision of wage structure of public sector undertakings is either envisaged or under consideration of the Government. Wage revision is undertaken enterprisewise through bilateral negotiations between the management and the employees in the enterprises and is given effect to after approval of the Government is obtained to such revision.

मांडा में पर्यटक केन्द्र

*200. श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा: क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार मध्य प्रदेश में धार जिले में मांडा को "पर्यटक केन्द्र" के रूप में बनाने का है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य वाले प्राचीन और ऐतिहासिक स्थल को स्थायी "पर्यटक केन्द्र" बनाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाने का विचार है; और

(ग) तत्संबंधी पूरा ब्यौरा क्या है?

नावहन और परिवहन तथा पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा):
(क) मांडा में पहले से ही भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के अधीन एक यात्री लाज और मध्य प्रदेश पर्यटक विकास निगम द्वारा संचालित एक एल. आई. जी. रस्टे हाऊस है। जब कभी आवास की मांग में वृद्धि होगी, तब राज्य सरकार और इसके पर्यटन संगठनों से परामर्श करते हुए अतिरिक्त आवास की व्यवस्था की जाएगी। अपने ऐतिहासिक संसर्गों तथा परातात्विक स्मारकों को देखते हुए मांडा पहले से ही एक पर्यटक केन्द्र है जिसकी बड़ी संख्या में स्वदेशी पर्यटकों और साथ ही कुछ अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों द्वारा यात्रा की जाती है। किसी स्थान के बारे में एक पर्यटक केन्द्र के रूप में कोई औपचारिक घोषणा नहीं की जाती। कोई स्थान अपनी पर्यटन संभावनाओं और आकर्षणों के कारण,

जिन्हें वह पर्यटकों को आकर्षित कर सकता है, एक पर्यटक केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित होने लगता है।

(ख) और (ग) : केन्द्रीय सेक्टर में निर्मित तथा परिचालित किए जा रहे यात्री-लाज के अतिरिक्त, मांडा में, इस समय अतिरिक्त पर्यटक सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करने संबंधी कोई खास प्रस्ताव नहीं है। तथापि, भविष्य में पर्यटक सुविधाओं का विकास इस बात पर निर्भर करेगा कि मध्य प्रदेश में जिन यात्रा परिपथों (ट्रैवल सर्किट्स) का पता लगाया जा रहा है, वे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों में कितनी अधिक लोक-प्रियता प्राप्त करते हैं।

Annual Rate of Interest on World Bank Loan

*201. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual rate of interest on loans from World Bank is being increased;

(b) whether Government has had some dialogue with the officers of World Bank in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (c). The Executive Board of the Bank has fixed the Bank's lending rate at 8.25 per cent effective January 1, 1980. The Executive Board had decided that the lending rate should be kept under review and should the course of interest rates or structure of Bank borrowings vary significantly from what had been forecast earlier, a proposal may be presented around June, 1980 to adjust the lending rate. Such a proposal is currently under consideration of the Bank. The lending rate is reviewed by the Bank from time to time keeping in view the cost of borrowing. Any change in the lending rate requires the approval of the Board of Directors on which India is also represented.

Effects of Import of Stainless Steel Sheets and Plates

*202. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of stainless steel sheets and plates has led to Alloy Steel Plant stocks remaining unsold; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) If the Honourable Member has the import of stainless steel by MMTC in mind, the answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

Application of Tandon Committee's Norms to Maltings

1411. SHRI MOTILAL HASDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tandon Committee's norms are not applied to maltings who manufacture raw materials for preparations of different type of liquor, rums, beers etc.; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The Tandon Committee has suggested norms for inventory and receivables in respect of 15 major industries only. The industry engaged in the manufacture of raw materials for different types of liquor, rums, beers etc., does not figure in this list.

Memorandum for Streamlining methods of Tax Collection

1412. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the

newly-formed organisation "Common Cause" regarding streamlining of methods of tax collection from the tax payers;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations indicating which of those have been accepted; and

(c) which of the recommendations have not been accepted by the Government with reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Government have received a Memorandum titled "Tax Burdens of Middle Class (Personal Taxation and Direct Tax Laws)" from the Director, Common Cause.

(b) and (c). A statement containing a summary of the suggestions made in the Memorandum is placed on the Table of the House. A number of these suggestions, along with similar suggestions received from other, were considered as part of Budgetary exercises this year and the Government's decisions thereon are contained in the Budget proposals. The other suggestions are under consideration of the Government.

STATEMENT

Suggestions made by "Common Cause" in regard to direct taxes are as under:—

INCOME TAX

(1) The exemption limit should be raised to Rs. 15,000.

(2) Maximum marginal rate inclusive of surcharge should not be more than 50 per cent and that should be attracted on income exceeding Rs. 3 lakhs.

(3) Surcharge on income-tax should be abolished.

(4) Compulsory Deposit Scheme should be withdrawn.

(5) Standard deduction should not be less than 25 per cent and should

be calculated uniformly at all levels of salary.

(6) Standard deduction should also be available to a pensioner.

(7) Whether the assessee can establish that the actual expenditure by him is more than the allowable standard deduction, he should be entitled to it.

(8) The income from house property in the shape of rent should correspond to the real income, for example, where expenditure on repairs and maintenance exceeds 1/6th of the letting value, it should be allowed.

(9) The deductions allowable in respect of items of long-term saving, such as Life Insurance Premiums, Contributions to Provident Fund and Super-annuation Fund and certain Cumulative Time Deposits in Post Offices, need to be brought in line with the present day realities and the requirement of providing greater incentive for savings.

(10) The deduction limit of Rs. 3,000 allowable against interest on Bank deposits and other specified investments needs to be revised to at least Rs. 10,000.

(11) The household savings should be given added incentive by granting additional exemption equal to 50 per cent of the dividend income in excess of Rs. 10,000.

(12) There should be total exemption from income tax to all productive savings which are invested in Bank deposits, Industrial Securities and Government Securities. Investments upto the minimum period of 10 years should be exempted from tax to the extent of 100 per cent with corresponding adjustments for shorter periods.

WEALTH-TAX

(1) The exemption limit should be raised to at least Rs. 3 lakhs, besides excluding a self-occupied house.

(2) It needs to be provided that for house constructed after 1971-72, the valuation would be adjudged on the

basis of the value and cost criteria of 1971-72.

(5) In the case of an individual, the net wealth, for the purposes of assessment of wealth-tax, includes value of assets transferred after 1-4-1956 to his/her spouse, minor child other than a married daughter, property converted after 31-12-1969 into the property of HUFs, and 'jewellery' with retrospective effect from 1-4-1963. These provisions of the Act need to be reviewed in the light of practicalities and for avoidance of hardships and arbitrary application.

(4) The present aggregate limit of Rs. 1,50,000 in respect of the bank deposits and Rs. 25,000 in units of Unit Trust, are very low in the context of present circumstances of eroded value of the rupee and constitute an unnecessary limitation on savings which the Government should in fact stimulate by removal of these limits.

(5) Wealth-tax should be levied only on unproductive assets, so that the taxpayers are encouraged to save and invest in productive assets.

(6) The maximum marginal rates should not exceed 2 per cent and this rate should be applicable only at the property value of not below Rs. 50 lakhs.

(7) Investments in productive assets, whether in shares, equity, deposits or business, should be altogether exempt from tax.

(8) One house property used for residence of the assessee should in any case be exempt from tax.

(9) If the sale of assets in the open market on the valuation date is presumed, it should also be presumed that the assessee will have to pay capital gains tax on sale or transfer of the asset. It is, therefore, necessary that the in-built capital gains liability should be taken into account in determining the wealth of an assessee.

GIFT-TAX

(1) The maximum rate is very high and needs to be scaled down to a

reasonable level, say, 50 per cent, applicable on gifts exceeding Rs. 20 lakhs.

(2) The basic exemption limit should be raised to at least Rs. 25,000.

(3) The entire provisions relating to aggregation of gifts need to be carefully reviewed.

(4) In many countries, the liability of gift tax is on the donee rather than on the donor. The desirability of introducing this change needs to be considered.

(5) Presently, premium paid under the Insurance Policies taken out by a tax payer for the benefit of members of his family under Married Women's Property Act is subjected to tax. As premium paid under such policies are designed to cover the risk of life under the contract of insurance, it is inequitable to levy tax either on the premiums or any other notional sum as gift in the hands of the taxpayer.

CAPITAL GAINS TAX

(1) The appropriate measure to determine the date of substitution would be not on a fixed basis but on a moving basis which may be say a period of five years preceding the transfer.

(2) It would be appropriate to allow the investment of the consideration of transfer in other assets which are used directly or indirectly for production purposes including deposits in nationalised banks and shares of new industrial companies.

(3) The monetary limits in respect of capital gains arising on sale of house property need to be enhanced.

(4) Where evidence of a gift or a deemed gift is available in relation to transfer of a capital asset, there should be no question of the imposition of this tax.

(5) Denial of the provision of the exemption under section 54 to Hindu undivided families is unwarranted.

(6) The exemption in respect of acquiring a residential property should

be available also where an assessee converts his capital assets for the purpose of acquiring residential property, irrespective of the condition of his previously owning residential property.

ESTATE DUTY

(1) One house is the basic necessity for an individual and should, therefore, be altogether excluded from the dutiable estate of the deceased.

(2) The exemption limit in respect of residential property should not be less than Rs. 3 lakhs.

(3) The rates of estate duty should also be re-examined.

(4) The present financial limits of exemptions need to be altered to bring them in accord with the present inflated values of movable and immovable property.

(5) In respect of the immovable property it is suggested that where the property comprises of a house or part thereof, exclusively used by the deceased for his residence, the value for the purpose of assessment of estate duty should be accepted in the Wealth Tax Return prior to the year of demise and where no Wealth-Tax Return has been submitted or where no Wealth-Tax is due, it should comprise the value as would have been assessed on during the financial year 1970-71.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

(1) It should be prescribed by the Government that where any notice is eventually found to have been issued unjustifiably, the department should be held liable to refund to the assessee the expenditure incurred for appearance or representation in connection with it, and eventually the concerned officer should be answerable to the department for the default in connection with it.

(2) There should be emphasis on expeditious assessment and expeditious grant of reliefs prescribed under the enactments and their procedures.

**PROPERTY TAX (HOUSE TAX)
(DELHI AND NEW DELHI)**

(1) The matter of assessment of rateable value of houses for the calculation of Property Tax has been the subject of an important recent judicial pronouncement by the Supreme Court in the case of M/s. Dewan Daulat Rai Kapoor Vs. New Delhi Municipal Committee and others. The problems connected with the administration of Property Tax need to be considered also against the background of the decision of the Supreme Court.

(2) In order to obviate any difficulties in the application of Rental Data for assessment of the gross fair rent, where reliable information on rent is not made, available, it is necessary that the Rental Data prepared by the Department should be such that it has general concurrence of the owners. It is necessary that in collecting the Rental Data, the associations or societies of house owners should be provided an opportunity of providing information. Before the Rental Data is finalised, opportunity should be provided to the associations or societies of house owners to express their views and to raise their objections against the proposals made by the officers of the Department. It is of primary importance that this Data should be openly collected and finalised. It is also necessary that the Rental Data should be collected once in three years. In the present rules there is no mention of items such as garages, servants' quarters and open verandhas, and these leave loop-holes and an element of discretion in the assessment.

(3) Where owners take recourse for the determination of standard rent by the Rent Controller, on their own initiative, facilities should be available for this purpose. In doubtful cases and where the standard rent is not available, the mode and manner of fixing standard rent should be adopted in finalising the "Rental Data".

(4) Where property has been self occupied from the very beginning the Rateable Value is determined with re-

ference to the cost of construction and the capital value of the land and the date of commencement of construction. It is an incontrovertible fact that there has been an enormous escalation in the prices of the land during the last few years. It is suggested that on the lines of similar decision taken in relation to wealth-tax assessment, capital value of land should be taken as that prevailing in the financial year 1970-71 (Income Tax Assessment 1971-72, where the building has been constructed subsequent to the financial year 1970-71.

(5) where a part of the house is constructed later than the original construction, the capital value of land should be taken as that which prevailed at the time when the original construction was commenced, or in the financial year 1970-71, whichever was earlier.

(6) Where the property has been constructed after the financial year 1970-71, the cost of construction should be computed on the basis of the cost which prevailed in the financial year 1970-71 in respect of the construction of different grades schedule of the cost of construction prevailing in 1970-71 should be prepared for this purpose and finalised after inviting objections.

(7) The mere rebate of 20 per cent (previously ranging from 15 to 25 per cent) for self-occupation becomes meaningless and insignificant when it is considered in relation to high increases in rents which have come about in recent years. There should be no distinction between the property which may have remained self-occupied from the very beginning and the property which has become self occupied after being on rent. In both cases the Rateable Value should be assessed on the basis of cost of construction and the capital value of the land on the date of commencement of construction.

NDMC PROPERTY TAX

(1) It is very anomalous that the rate of Property Tax in the contiguous

areas of MCD and NDMC should vary so much, 12½ per cent of the Rateable Value in the latter case and up to 30 per cent of higher slabs of Rateable Value in the case of MCD.

(2) For the residents of Delhi and New Delhi it is necessary that there should be some rationalisation of the tax structure. The existing differentiation is anachronistic and irrational. The Delhi Administration and the Government of India owe a responsibility to the citizens to bring about the harmonisation in the tax structures of these two authorities.

Conference of Tea Exporting Countries held in Bandung

1413. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of eleven Tea-Exporting countries was held in Bandung recently; if so, whether India was represented on it;

(b) whether this Conference suggested the introduction of quota system in the international marketing of tea; and

(c) if so, its impact on India's Tea exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. A conference of Tea Exporting countries was held in Bandung from 5 to 9 May, 1980, and India was one of the participants.

(b) and (c). The Conference considered proposals for introduction of a system of supply management based primarily on export quotas. It was agreed that further consideration of some aspects of this question would be required before allocation of the global quota could be finalised.

Deposits with Non-Banking Companies

1414. SHRI G. Y. KRISHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some years ago, the Reserve Bank had taken note of the notable rise in deposits with non-banking companies and had appointed a Committee to study the problem; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the report of that Committee and the suggestions submitted to Government regarding remedies to prevent misuse of the deposits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). In June, 1974 the Reserve Bank of India appointed a study Group on Non-Banking Companies under the Chairmanship of Shri James S. Raj, to examine, *inter-alia*, the provisions of the various Directions issued by the Bank to regulate the deposit acceptance activities of Non-Banking Companies and to suggest measures for further tightening up the provisions so as to ensure that the activities of such companies subserved the national interest as an adjunct to the regulation of the monetary and credit policies of the country, besides affording a degree of protection to the depositor's moneys. The Study Group submitted its report in June, 1975. Most of the recommendations of this Group which related to the prescription of the maximum period for acceptance of deposits, revision of the ceilings in certain cases, maintenance of liquid assets and giving of certain further particulars in advertisement issued by the Financial and Non-Financial Companies soliciting deposits from the public, have already been implemented by amending the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules 1975 in 1978 and the issue of the revised Directions by the Reserve Bank in 1977.

Another recommendation of the Group regarding banning of prize chit business has also been given effect to by enactment of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978 which has come into force with effect from 12th December, 1978. The Act is to be administered by the State Governments who have been invested with the power to frame rules thereunder in consultation with the Reserve Bank.

Imported Copper

1415. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that off-take of imported copper has been very poor during the last few months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. On the whole, the off-take of imported Copper has been normal during the last few months.

(b) Does not arise.

Stock of Imported Edible Oils with STC

1416. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is presently stock of imported edible oils with STC and since which time STC stopped supplying oil to private traders for sale;

(b) is it true that STC is again going to supply oil to such traders, if so, on what terms and from when; and

(c) what factors have led to change in STC policy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Stock

of imported edible oils as on 7-6-1980 is 2.91 lakhs tonnes. Sale of edible oils to private traders has been stopped since 9.1.1980.

(b) No resumption of sale of imported edible oils by STC to the private traders is presently envisaged. However, the edible oil situation in the country is kept under constant watch by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Representation by Retired Officers of Military Accounts Department

1417. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received, in the first week of May, 1980, any representation addressed to the Prime Minister from Shri S. A. Kulkarni and others, retired officials of the Defence Military Accounts Department, PUNE (Maharashtra) stating their grievances and demands;

(b) if so, what are their demands;

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No such representation seems to have been received in Prime Minister's Office. Representation when received will be attended to.

(b) and (c). Do not arise at this stage.

Number of Employees in Indian Overseas Bank

1418. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAILANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of employees category-wise and region-wise in Indian Overseas Bank;

(b) the number out of them belonging to SC/ST Communities;

(c) whether the quota reserved for SC/ST communities is complete in all categories of posts; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or being taken to fill up the backlog?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b): A statement showing the total number of employees in the Indian Overseas Bank in each state in the category of Officers, Clerks and Subordinate Staff as on 31-12-1979 is enclosed. It also shows the number of employees belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities.

(c) and (d): The quota reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities is not complete and there is a backlog in all the categories, namely, officers, clerks and sub-staff. While the bank has indented with the Banking Service Recruitment Boards for allotment of adequate number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates to clear the backlog in the clerical cadre, and will also recruit adequate number of sub-staff to clear the small backlog, in so far as the officers are concerned, the backlog cannot easily be filled because of shortage of officers with adequate seniority to fill in the promotion quota.

Statement

Total number of employees in the category of Officers, Clerks and Subordinate staff in each State/Union Territory and number among them of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Services of Indian Overseas Bank as on 31-12-1979.

State/Union territory	Officers			Clerks			Sub-Staff		
	Total	of whom SC	whom ST	Total	of whom SC	whom ST	Total	of whom SC	whom ST
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	219	10	3	543	79	15	157	67	1
Assam	12	2	1	33	12	8	10	4	—
Bihar	23	2	1	68	6	22	22	6	3
Gujarat	147	9	—	422	89	10	120	67	16
Haryana	24	1	—	85	25	—	20	13	—
Himachal Pradesh	7	1	1	21	6	2	5	3	—
Karnataka	181	5	—	372	63	12	95	56	6
Kerala	210	5	1	576	105	13	150	62	—
Madhya Pradesh	15	1	1	65	14	8	14	4	2
Maharashtra	268	9	1	688	141	13	190	79	9
Manipur	2	—	—	3	1	—	3	—	—
Meghalaya	4	—	—	7	—	2	3	1	1
Orissa	87	12	5	185	43	21	54	20	6
Punjab	95	14	2	360	96	1	83	44	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rajasthan	23	1	—	94	13	1	24	11	—
Uttar Pradesh	155	12	3	469	141	2	134	66	1
West Bengal	196	7	1	369	176	16	174	62	11
Chandigarh	30	2	—	43	19	3	8	3	—
Goa	26	1	—	58	7	—	19	5	—
New Delhi	186	11	2	515	81	2	126	62	—
Pondicherry	18	1	—	58	11	—	13	3	—
Tamil Nadu	1343	30	1	3911	871	43	856	293	3
Total	3271	136	23	1945	1999	194	2280	931	60

**निवारक निरोध अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत
मजूरबन्द रखे गये व्यक्ति**

1419. श्री आचार्य भगवानदेव: क्या नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि निवारक निरोध अधिनियम के लागू होने के बाद उसके अन्तर्गत कितने जमाखोरों और चोरबाजारी करने वालों तथा मुनाफा खोरों को मजूरबन्द रखा गया है?

नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल): 127।

**Third Airline to Cover Places in
Madhya Pradesh**

1420. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cover Bhopal, Rewa, Gwalior, Jagdalpur, Raipur, including Bairagarh, Budni, Durg, Bhilai, Satna, Bastar in Madhya Pradesh under the scheme of third level airlines keeping in view the industrialisation of the places; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND

CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDU-
LAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b)
The general question of operation of third level air service and the stations to be served, is under consideration of the Government. However, Bhopal, Gwalior, and Raipur are already covered by the net-work of Indian Airlines.

**Audit of Accounts of Madras Branch
of Handicrafts and Handlooms Export
Corporation**

1421. SHRI NIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras Branch of the Handicrafts and Handlooms export Corporation of India Ltd., has not got its bank credits and accounts audited in a regular manner and nor has it invited open tenders for the procurement of goods; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the Corporation for flouting the Companies laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND
CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. AN-
SARI):

(a) The Accounts of Madras Branch
of Handicrafts and Handlooms Export

Corporation of India Ltd. are subject to audit by Internal Auditors, Statutory Auditors under the Companies Act and the Government Auditors (Indian Audit and Accounts Deptt.) No serious irregularity regarding the purchase of goods without inviting open tenders has been reported by the Auditors.

(b) Question does not arise.

Import of Coking Coal

1422. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL has requested for immediate import of 5 lakh tonnes of coking coal; and

(b) if so, Government's decision thereon and total amount involved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under the active consideration of the Government.

Acquisition of Aircraft for use of executives by Firms

1423. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of industrial establishments have approached Government to acquire aircraft for executive use; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the names and other particulars of the applicants is enclosed.

Statement

Details of applications for the import of executive aircrafts received during the period 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80.

S.No.	Name of applicants.	Date of receipt	Present position of the case.
1	M/s. Mand'la Exports P. Ltd., Bombay.	15-6-77	Rejected because of incomplete application.
2	M/s. Happy Travels P. Ltd., Bombay.	1-4-78	Do.
3	M/s. Tata Services Ltd., Bombay.	1-4-78	Do.
4	M/s. Kirloskar Electric Co. Ltd., Bangalore.	22-6-78	Application withdrawn.
5	M/s. Suessen Textiles Bearings, Bombay.	11-4-79	Rejected as time-barred.
6	M/s. Gwalior Rayons & Silk Mfg. Co. Ltd., New Delhi	1-4-78	Rejected as there is no provision in the current import policy.
7	M/s. Ballarpur Industries, Ballarpur.	1-6-78	Do.
8	M/s. R.K. Machine Tools Ltd., Ludhiana.	20-2-78	Do.
9	M/s. Garware Nylons Ltd., Bombay.	18-5-79	Do.

1	2	3	4
10	M/s. Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd., New Delhi.	5-4-79	Rejected as there is no provision in the current import policy.
11	M/s. Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys, Orissa.	20-6-78	Do.
12	M/s. Mac-eil and Magor Ltd., Calcutta.	22-6-78	Do.
13	M/s. Alembic Chemicals Works Co. Ltd., New Delhi	1-4-78	Do.
14	M/s. Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., Bombay.	24-7-78	Do.
15	M/s. Jyoti Ltd., Baroda.	1-4-78	Do.
16	M/s. Lakshmi Mills Co., Coimbatore	6-7-78	Do.
17	M/s. Tata Services Ltd., Bombay.	28-2-79	Do.
18	M/s. Utkal Automobiles, Calcutta.	1-4-78	Do.
19	M/s. Raymond Woollen Mills Ltd., Thana.	28-8-79	Do.
20	M/s. Vintair, New Delhi	20-9-79	Do.
21	Shri R.J.G. Le Breton C/o. World Bank, New Delhi	4-8-79	Do.
22	M/s. Golden Sun Aviation, Bombay.	25-9-79	Rejected as time-barred.

Multinational Companies Dealing in Rubber Products

1424. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the multi-national companies which are dealing in rubber and rubber products;

(b) whether there is any proposal to nationalise rubber industry in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The names of companies having more than 40 per cent foreign holding and dealing in rubber and or rubber products

are given below:

- (i) Dunlop India Ltd., Calcutta.
- (ii) Bombay Tyres International Ltd., Bombay.
- (iii) Ceat Tyres of India Ltd., Bombay.
- (iv) Good Year India Ltd., Calcutta.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Exchange Reserves and Stock of Gold with R.B.I.

1425. DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange reserves as on any date in March, 1977 and in July, 1979, and at present; and

(b) the stock of gold with RBI as on any date in March, 1977 and in July, 1979 and at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and Special Drawing Rights) amounted to Rs. 2862.99 crores as on 31st March, 1977, Rs. 5333.89 crores as on 31st July, 1979 and Rs. 4857.90 crores as on 6th June, 1980.

(b) The stock of gold held in the Issue Department by the Reserve Bank of India was 222.5 tonnes, 260.1 tonnes and 266.3 tonnes as on 31st March, 1977, 31st July 1979 and 6th June, 1980 respectively.

Cheap Cloth Production and Distribution Scheme

1426. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government Cheap Cloth production and distribution scheme is at jeopardy;

(b) whether the private sector produced only 33 million hectares of cheap cloth instead of the agreed minimum of 42 million hectares;

(c) whether N.T.Cs. performance in this respect is also unsatisfactory;

(d) whether the agreed 25 per cent trade margin is more often than not being violated by the producers as the fine cloth market is booming; and

(e) whether a statutory sanction for implementation of cheap cloth agreement is necessary?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Cheap Cloth Scheme is operated on a

voluntary basis both by private sector mills and by NTC mills. According to the provisional figures from September 1979 to April 1980, against a target of 42 million metres per month, average production from private sector has been around 31 million metres and that of NTC around 25.5 million metres.

(d) Surveys conducted by the Textile Commissioner have indicated that by and large the mills have adhered to 25 per cent trade margin. Instances where the mills have charged more than 25 per cent for some sorts have also come to notice.

(e) No such proposal is under consideration.

Improvement in the Performance of J. C. I.

1427. **SHRI CHITTA BASU:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the performances of the Jute Corporation of India for the last ten years in respect of its purchase of raw jute from the growers, supplies to jute industry and export; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to further improve the performances of the Jute Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A statement showing figures of procurement, sale and export of jute year-wise since the Corporation's establishment in 1971, is attached.

(b) The Corporation plans to provide requisite price support operations on a larger scale through involvement of cooperatives and increased purchases through primary markets. The Corporation will also follow an appropriate marketing strategy for sales both in the domestic market and abroad.

Statement

Figures of procurement, sale and export of Jute year-wise since 1971-72.

Year	Procurement	Internal Sales (In '000 Bales of 180 KGs)	Export
1971-72	3.9	0.7	68.2
1972-73	89.3	186.4	27.9
1973-74	724.8	825.0	196.8
1974-75	560.9	523.0	398.6
1975-76	580.7	667.0	121.1
1976-77	813.4	939.5	16.8
1977-78	67.7	123.4	18.2
1978-79	330.8	1.9	27.7
1979-80	868.5	210.0 (estimated)	Nil

Take-over of Wholesale Trade in Raw Jute

1428. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what action, if any, has been taken by Government to ensure remunerative prices to the jute growers;

(b) whether Government are considering to take-over the entire wholesale trade in raw jute; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government fixes a statutory minimum price for varieties and grades of jute and mesta. The Jute Corporation of India will play its role in providing requisite price support operations, through larger involvement of co-operatives, progressively intensifying purchases from primary markets etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It is not considered necessary to do so at this stage.

Printing of Fake Notes

1429. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fake notes cases registered in the country in 1979-80 so far;

(b) the number of cases in which punishment has been awarded; and

(c) the steps which Government have taken to check the printing of fake notes in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) According to the information received from the Central Bureau of Investigation, the total number of fake note cases registered in the country during the period from 1st April, 1979 to 31st March, 1980 was 295.

(b) Information regarding the number of cases in which the punishment has been awarded is not available. The same will have to be collected from the various Courts spread all over the country. Time and labour

involved for that will not be commensurate with the purpose.

(c) The law provides for deterrent punishment for offences relating to counterfeiting of currency notes. The State Police authorities keep a constant vigil in this regard and organise raids on information about counterfeiting being done by any person. The Central Bureau of Investigation also keeps the problems of counterfeiting of currency under continuous study by keeping records of different techniques adopted and by reviewing periodically the appearance of counterfeit Indian currency. A 'Cell' has also been created in their Economic Offences Wing to undertake investigations of serious offences of counterfeiting currency and co-ordinate the investigations in the States

Duty List of Income Tax Inspectors

1430. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the duty list of Income-tax Inspectors in the Income-tax Department has been finalised;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for not finalising the duty list of Income-tax Inspectors and since when it is pending with the Central Board of Direct Taxes;

(c) whether the Work Study for Inspectors has been resumed; and

(d) by which time, it is to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The duty list of Income-tax Inspectors has been finalised and is likely to be issued very shortly.

(c) The Work Study for Inspectors will be taken up after the duty list of Inspectors is issued.

(d) A work study will be fruitful only when the work flow on the basis of the new duty list gets stabilised.

The study itself is likely to be time consuming as it will have to be spread over at least a period of 6 months. No clear indication can be given at this stage about its completion.

Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur

1431. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur had original blue print to produce cold stainless steel; and

(b) if so, the reasons why that has not been done so long?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Cold rolled stainless steel is already being produced at Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur. A mill for this purpose was installed in 1968-69.

Rate of Inflation

1432. DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHACK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inflation rate has crossed the 20 per cent mark compared to last year;

(b) whether the index for wholesale prices during the week ended May 17, 1980 stood at Rs. 239.0 compared to 237.1 the previous week;

(c) if so, whether at this level, the index was higher by 0.8 per cent than the previous week which is a record one;

(d) if so, the main reasons for this unprecedented rise; and

(e) what were the items on which this rise has occurred and steps taken to check this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The annual rate of inflation as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (1970-71 = 100) on May 17, 1980 was 20.3 per cent. On the basis of the latest available Index for the week ended May 31, 1980 the annual rate of inflation works out to 19.4 per cent.

(b) and (c). The Wholesale Price Index showed an increase of 0.8 per cent from 237.1 for the week ended 10th May, 1980 to 239.0 for the week ended 17th May, 1980. The increase of 0.8 per cent was not a record one. The record increase in a week during the last year was 2.5 per cent in the week ended 7th July, 1979 over the preceding week.

(d) Besides the seasonal pressures the main factor accounting for the rise in the prices during the week ended 17th May, 1980 was the 11.1 per cent increase in the prices of petroleum crude and natural gas group.

(e) A statement showing items which largely accounted for the price rise during the week ended May 17, 1980 is annexed. Various anti-inflationary measures already taken by the Government have been discussed in the Economic Survey 1979-80 laid on the Table of the House on 13th June, 1980. Further measures will be taken as and when necessary in the light of emerging trends.

Statement

Items which largely accounted for the increase in the Wholesale Price Index (1970-71 = 100) during the week ended 17.5.1980.

Item	Percentage increase
Foodgrains	1.4
Fruits & vegetables	1.5
Oilseeds	0.6
Petroleum crude & natural gas	11.1

1	2
Sugar, khandsari & Gur	1.6
Edible oils	0.4
Leather & leather products	3.1
Chemicals & Chemical products	0.8
Electrical machinery	0.8

Producers Committee for House Builders

1433. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Producers' Committee for House Builders has been functioning in New Delhi through the offices of the Steel Authority of India;

(b) if so, who are the members of this Committee;

(c) what are the functions of this Committee; and

(d) whether the Staff employed to work for this Committee is on the pay-roll of the Steel Authority of India?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a Producers Committee for House builders which meets in the office of one of the producers by rotation.

(b) The Committee consists of the representatives of the Steel Authority of India Ltd., Tata Iron and Steel Company, and Indian Iron & Steel Company.

(c) The committee meets once in a week in one of the offices of the three main producers. The functions of the committee are to consider applications for allotment of steel for construction of buildings and tenements including individual house builders, co-operative

housing societies on behalf of the members of the society and public utility buildings as per guidelines issued by the JPC.

(d) The committee do not have any separate staff for this purpose. The main producers get their work done by the staff available with them in the Zonal and Branch Offices.

Income Tax Commissioners Conference

1434. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-days conference of Commissioners of Income-tax took place recently;

(b) if so, details of the decisions taken at the conference;

(c) whether it has been decided to concentrate on big cases and not fritter away energies on relatively smaller assessments or those of salaried people;

(d) what would be the method/criteria to select big cases, industry-wise; and

(e) what action Government propose to take against the companies against whom cases amounting to evasion of taxes are more than one crore and are already being investigated/assessed by the Income-tax authorities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir. The annual Conference of Commissioners of Income-tax for 1980 was held in New Delhi for three days during 12th to 14th May, 1980.

(b) The gist of important decisions taken at and in pursuance of the Conference are given in the statement annexed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All big cases irrespective of the industry or the business carried

on would be taken up for detailed scrutiny.

(e) Appropriate action under the Law, including penalty/prosecution wherever called for, will be taken in all such cases.

Statement

List of important decisions taken to and in pursuance of the Conference of Commissioners of Income-tax, 1980

1. Action Plan for the Income-tax Department for the year 1980-81 was finalised. Quarterly targets for completion of various types of work were prescribed. The Action Plan, *inter alia* prescribes realistic work norms for assessing officers having regard to the need for making proper scrutiny of important company cases, cases of searches and seizures, other big cases and cases selected for scrutiny on random basis from smaller cases.

2. The departmental officers will devote the major part of the 1st quarter of the current financial year for attending to the house keeping jobs.

3. For reducing income-tax arrears, targets of collection/reduction out of arrear demand as well as current demand were finalised. A "Tax Arrears and Refunds Clearance Fortnight" will be observed in the second fortnight of January, 1981. The arrangements for appointing separate Income-tax Officers in difficult cases of recovery will be strengthened wherever feasible. Efforts will be made to get out of turn hearing of appeals/references where large unpaid tax demands are involved.

4. Controls over advance payments and tax deductions made at source will be tightened.

5. Proposals for provision of sophisticated equipment to the Intelligence Units, to enable them to func-

tion more effectively, are under consideration. An organisation will be set up for collecting higher intelligence. This organisation will also be used to build up dossiers of cases involving tax evasion on large scale.

6. Commissioners will take vigorous steps, as are permissible under the law, to intensify search and seizure operations. They will spot out, from among the officers in their charge, persons who are considered specialists in tackling cases falling in particular fields of industry. Cases in which tax evasion on a large scale is suspected will be investigated thoroughly. Every effort will be made to increase the number of prosecutions particularly in cases involving substantial revenue or wilful attempt to evade tax. Due multimedia publicity would be given to cases in which tax evasion has been established, immediately after the conviction of any person prosecuted for any tax offence.

7. To bring the largest number of persons enjoying taxable incomes within the tax-net, the survey work initiated last year would continue so as to cover all important areas by March, 1982.

8. Assessee_s would be encouraged to make full and true disclosures of their incomes voluntarily and to take advantage of the legal provisions for waiver/reduction of penalty/interest in such cases

9. Steps would be taken to reduce litigation. In order to avoid high-pitched assessments and consequent accumulation of infructuous tax arrears, the Income-tax Officer will be required to seek guidance under section 144A of the Income-tax Act, 1961, from his Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax before completing an ex-parte assessment beyond a certain income limit. The Department's representation before the Income-tax Appellate Tribunals will also be strengthened.

10. A tax payers' information programme would be launched after the passage of the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1980. Meanwhile, publicity in the newspapers will be made requesting the assessee_s to furnish particulars of the pending rectification claims etc. Arrangements for making expeditious utilisation of this information would be tightened. A drive would also be launched to adjust payments already made by the taxpayers.

11. A large number of training programmes for Income-tax Officers, particularly in the field of investigations, will be organised.

12. Grievance Cells similar to the one presently functioning under the direct supervision of the Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, would be set up in all the charges of the Commissioners of Income-tax.

Functioning of Metal Detector at Srinagar Airport

1436. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the metal detector at the new terminal building at Srinagar Airport has not been functioning;

(b) whether it is a fact that the metal detector installed at the old terminal building has not been shifted to the new terminal building so far;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to improve the security arrangements at Srinagar Airport in view of its location on the border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a), (b) and (c). The Metal Detector at the new terminal building at Srinagar which

was shifted from the old terminal building is an old one, and its utility has diminished. It was not shifted to the new complex at the time of its commissioning, and was installed there later on 11th June 1980. Firm order to procure a new Door Frame Metal Detector has already been placed, and it is expected to be installed at the new terminal building at Srinagar by middle of July 1980. Besides, three units of Hand-held Metal Detectors will also be provided by August 1980.

(d) Security arrangements are reviewed from time to time. In May 1980, Director Civil Aviation Security visited Srinagar, and held detailed discussions with Senior Police Officers of Jammu & Kashmir, and decided to implement more measures for further strengthening the Airport Security.

Tea Exports affected by Shortage of Railway Wagons

1437. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the shortage of railway wagons hits tea exports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There is no information about tea exports being affected directly due to shortage of railway wagons.

(b) Does not arise.

Guidelines for Transfer of Field Officers in Central Excise and Customs Department

1438. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down any guidelines for the transfer

of field officers in the Central Excise and Customs Department, and if so, whether a copy of the orders will be laid on the Table of the House;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of such general orders there are several cases where officers are continuing at the same station for over a decade in some capacity or other;

(c) whether the designations of posts are being changed and different nomenclature given for fitting such officers and posts designated as Senior Technical Officers, Inspecting Officers, Under Secretaries and certain officers are rotated from post to post to circumvent the orders and enable such officers to continue at the same place; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to stop this non-compliance of general orders on transfers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) There are no formal orders/instructions prescribing the period of stay of Group 'A' officers of Central Excise and Customs Department at one place. However, officers of the level of Assistant Collector, Deputy Collector and Collector are liable to transfer anywhere in India and they are generally transferred from one posting to another after a period of about 4 years. Sometimes, however, this period may vary having regard to administrative considerations, bonafide cases of hardship etc.

(b) There are a few cases where officers are continuing at the same station beyond the normal tenure. This is, however, in different capacities and in the interest of work.

(c) The posts of Senior Technical Officer, Inspecting Officer and Under Secretary have been designated keeping in view the organisation in which the posts exist and the nature of work to be performed. Whereas the posts of Inspecting Officer Group 'A' and Senior Technical

Group 'A', the panel for appointment of officers as Under Secretaries in respect of all the Ministries/Departments is prepared by the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms. An officer posted as Inspecting Officer or Senior Technical Officer, on his selection as Under Secretary, may thus continue to be posted in Delhi.

(d) In view of (a), (b) and (c) above, the question does not arise.

Unsold Stainless Steel Stock increasing at Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur

1439. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:

SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that the unsold stainless steel stock increasing at Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur;

(b) amount of such unsold stock in 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80 and loss for that during same period, year-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Plant management is responsible for this state of affairs; and

(d) steps taken by Government for boosting market for the product?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The stock position of stainless steel sheets and plates is as below:—

Period	Total stock (Tonnes)
1-4-78	925
1-4-79	1587
1-4-80	2850

No loss is expected on this stock as the materials would be sold in course of time and no reduction in the price of the materials is likely.

(c) The main reason for accumulation of stocks is the fall in demand for stainless steel.

(d) Through a combination of import duties and import policy measures, adequate protection is being provided for domestic producers of stainless steel.

हरिजन और आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा दिया गया ऋण

1440. श्री छोटू भाई गामितः क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के प्रभावी क्षेत्रों में व्याज की कम दर पर दिए गए ऋणों की राशि से सम्बन्धित सूचना एकत्र कर ली है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो गुजरात राज्य को दिये गए ऋण की राशि का ब्यौरा क्या है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मगन-भाई बरोट) (क) संभवतः माननीय सदस्य, 'विभेदी व्याज दर योजना' के अंतर्गत दिये जाने वाले अग्रिमों का जिक्र कर रहे हैं। इस योजना के अंतर्गत बैंकों को यह परामर्श दिया गया है कि वे अपने अग्रिमों का काम से कम 40 प्रतिशत अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के सदस्यों को प्रदान करें।

(ख) सितम्बर, 1979 के अंत तक की स्थिति के अनुसार, सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों द्वारा विभेदी व्याज दर योजना के अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों को दिये गये अग्रिमों की बकाया राशि 856.98 लाख रुपए थी जबकि राज्य में इस योजना के अंतर्गत दिये गए ऋणों की कुल बकाया राशि 1332.38 लाख रुपए थी। इस प्रकार, गुजरात राज्य में इस योजना के अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों को दिये गये अग्रिमों की राशि कुल अग्रिमों के 64.3 प्रतिशत के बराबर थी।

**Schemes of State Bank of India under
20-Point Programme**

1441. **SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-
SHEKHARA MURTHY:**

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Bank of India has decided to spend Rs. 200 crores during the current calendar year on various schemes under the 20-point programme;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the expenditure under each scheme; and

(c) when the schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). The State Bank of India has tentatively projected for an expansion in credit of about Rs. 247 crores in 1980 under the 20-Point Programme. Details of the schemes are given below:

	Rs. Crores
(i) Subscription to Bonds/Debentures of Electricity Boards/Rural Electrification Corporation:	35
(ii) Financing of Fair Price Shops, Consumer Cooperatives, Super Bazars and Retail Traders in Essential Commodities.	20
(iii) Financing of Agricultural labourers allotted surplus land, allottees of House-sites, released bonded labourers and to small & marginal farmers and rural artisans for clearing rural indebtedness.	106
(iv) Minor Irrigation	45
(v) Assistance for accelerated power programme.	15
(vi) Assistance to weavers in handloom sector	10

Rs. Crores

(vii) Assistance to suppliers of standard cloth, essential commodities to students in hostels, books, stationery etc.	4
(viii) Assistance to transport operators holding National Permit.	12

Total

247

Schemes for assisting agricultural labourers allotted surplus land and house-sites and released bonded labourers would be prepared and implemented on identification of beneficiaries. The other schemes are already in operation.

**Rebate on Excise Duty to Sugar Mills
at Mahidpur Road and Jaora in
Madhya Pradesh**

1443. **SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rebate on excise duty is given to sugar mills at Mahidpur Road and Jaora in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Sugar Incentive Rebates announced by the Government from time to time. It may be stated that no Incentive Rebate Scheme for Sugar is in force at present.

It may also be stated that no such incentive rebates have been allowed to the sugar mills at Mahidpur Road and Jaora, Madhya Pradesh after 1975.

(b) Does not arise.

Flow of Credit to Scheduled Castes from Nationalised Banks

1444. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has asked the Chairman of the Nationalised Banks to supply it with information on steps being taken to increase the flow of credit to the Scheduled Castes and to remove the impediments in their getting it; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the performance of the Nationalised Banks regarding disbursement of loans in the village to the weaker sections of the society particularly in the State of Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Guidelines have been issued to the public sector banks by the Government and the Reserve Bank to endeavour to enlarge the flow of credit to the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Communities. Recently, the Chief executives of the public sector banks have also been advised to indicate the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to secure this objective.

(b) The outstanding advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks' rural and semi-urban branches in Orissa amounted to Rs. 95.03 crores as to the end of June 1979. The data reporting system does not yield figures of advances for 'Weaker Sections' as a separate Group. However, under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme which is directed towards the weakest of the weak, the public sector banks had as the end of the June 1979 outstanding advances of Rs. 2.75 crores in Orissa.

Role of J. C. I.

1445. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to restrict the role of the Jute Corporation of India to that of undertaking minimum price support operations;

(b) whether over 60 per cent of J.C.I.'s purchases in 1979-80 were made at the statutory minimum price level and consisted of inferior fibres; and

(c) whether effective steps to ensure remunerative prices to the growers will be taken by strengthening and expanding J.C.I.'s operations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (c). The functioning of the JCI remains under constant review of Government. Its activities came under closer scrutiny during the current year owing to the accumulation of large stocks of raw jute procured by them during the preceding two years. JCI will have to formulate its commercial buying policies in accordance with its capacity to sell the stocks in the market, both domestic and foreign. JCI will, however, continue to play its role in providing requisite price support operations.

(b) It is reported by JCI that 61 per cent of their purchases in 1979-80 were at statutory minimum price of which 45 per cent represented low grade jute and mesta. s,

Malpractices Indulged by Industrial Concerns under Public Deposit Scheme

1446. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL
KOCHACK:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

Reserve Bank of India has decided to

probe into certain malpractices indulged by some of the industrial concerns under the public deposit scheme;

(b) whether a large number of complaints have been received by Government in this regard;

(c) the nature of the complaints;

(d) if so, whether it is a fact that the industrial concerns make payment of interest and swindle the principal amounts of depositors;

(e) whether the Reserve Bank of India has undertaken any survey of the complaints and made a probe; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d). The acceptance of deposits by companies is regulated, in the case of Non Banking Non Financial Companies by the provisions of Section 58A of the Companies Act, 1956 and Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules 1975 administered by the Department of Company Affairs, and in the case of Non Banking Miscellaneous and Financial Companies by the set of Directions issued by the Reserve Bank. Complaints have been received from time to time by the Government and Reserve Bank from depositors against some Non Banking Non Financial Companies about non-refund of deposits on maturity and/or non-payment of interest thereon. But neither the Government nor the Reserve Bank is statutorily empowered to compel such defaulting companies to repay the deposits and/or to pay interest thereon to individual depositors. Acceptance of deposits is a contract between the depositor and the concerned company and in case of breach of contract redress can be sought in a Court of Law.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Provision of Funds for Construction of Calicut Airport

1447. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, although a project report of Rs. 2.5 crores was submitted to the Ministry for the Construction of Calicut airport, no fund has been provided in the current year to start the work;

(b) is it true that the money intended to utilise for this project was diverted to the Mangalore airport in Karnataka; and

(c) whether his Ministry proposes to take early steps to see that the construction of the much delayed Calicut airport is found momentum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c). An estimate of expenditure amounting to Rs. 2.52 crores for construction of an airport near Calicut suitable for operations with HS-748 or similar other type of aircraft is under active consideration of Government for sanction. A token provision has been made in the current year (1980-81) to start the work. No funds allocated for the project of Calicut aerodrome have been diverted to the project of development of Mangalore aerodrome.

Shortfall in export of Engineering Goods

1448. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHACK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports of engineering goods have slumped against after showing marginal improvement in November-December, last year when exports rose by 2 to 4 per cent respectively;

(b) if so, whether in January last it had registered a sharp decline of 15 per cent this year;

(c) whether the latest overall figure for the last ten months of 1979-80 show a shortfall of 19 per cent against in April, 1978-79;

(d) if so, what were the main causes of this shortfall;

(e) what were the major items which accounted for this shortfall during January-April, 1979; and

(f) what steps are being taken by Government to improve the engineering goods export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) The main causes of the decline in the export of engineering goods during 1979-80 have been the shortages of essential inputs like steel, pig iron, aluminium, coke, coal, high speed diesel oil, furnace oil etc.; disruption in power supply; infrastructural difficulties like congestion at ports, lack of shipping facilities etc., labour problems and general decline in the engineering industry in the country.

(e) The major items which accounted for this shortfall during this period are industrial plant and machinery steel structurals, electric wires and cables, steel pipes and tubes, bright bars, ferrous hollow wire, sanitary castings and aluminium products.

(f) The Department of Commerce have already taken up the matter of the supply of essential raw materials and inputs like steel, pig iron, aluminium, coke, coal, high speed diesel oil, power etc. to the units engaged in export production of engineering goods with the concerned Ministries. Infrastructural difficulties like congestion in ports, lack of shipping facilities etc. are sought to be removed in consultation with the concerned authorities. In addition, the Department of Commerce are undertaking a number of export promotion measures such as holding

of and participation in trade fairs abroad, deputation of trade delegations and market survey teams to selected countries, dissemination of market intelligence to the exporters through the Engineering Export Promotion Council, etc. in order to boost the export of engineering goods.

Request from Iran for supply of essential items

1449. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Iran Government for immediate supply of essential items of consumers goods and engineering items; and

(b) if so, action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b): Indications have been received by Government in recent months that Iran urgently requires a number of items, including agricultural and food products, drugs and pharmaceuticals, and engineering goods. Concerned organisations, both in the public and private sectors, have been asked to examine the possibilities of effecting supplies for necessary follow-up action.

Steel Yard in Jaipur

1450. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Steel Yard in Jaipur is inconvenient to the traders as also to the public, it remains closed for most of the time and is unsuitable for heavy traffic;

(b) whether the Centre propose to set up a Steel Yard along the railway track in Jaipur; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The stockyard is kept open during working hours. It has been located at the available site having regard to all relevant considerations including convenience of customers, availability of railway siding etc.

(b) & (c). Setting up of stockyards etc. are matters of commercial nature to be decided by the producers themselves taking into consideration various relevant factors. SAIL has no such proposal under consideration at present.

Gold Mines in Chittor District

1451. SHRI P. RAJAGOPALA NAIDU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government found gold in Bisanattam mines in Chittor District; and

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to develop the above mines?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Bisanattam gold mine in Chittor District was being worked for intermittent periods from 1893 to 1956. The mine has been closed for the last 24 years and there is, at present, no proposal to reopen and develop it.

Ad hoc Workers Working at Headquarters of SAIL

1452. SHRI T. S. NEGI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of *ad hoc* workers working at Headquarters of the Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) the number of those who have rendered a continuous service for 240 days or more;

(c) the number of workers out of these who have been regularised; and

(d) the reasons for not regularising the remaining workers who have put in 240 days' continuous service?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Presumably the reference is to persons working on daily wages. There are 22 persons working on daily wages at Headquarters of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi.

(b) 9 of the 22 persons working on daily wages at SAIL Headquarters have put in more than 240 days of continuous service (2 in Class III category and 7 in Class IV category).

(c) None of the above 9 employees has been regularised so far.

(d) Regularisation of Class III workers could not be done because their names were not sponsored by the Employment Exchange during the recruitment for this category in the past. Class IV workers could not be regularised due to non availability of posts.

Selection of certain Trades and Industries for Special Tax Scrutiny

1453. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to choose certain trades and industries for special tax scrutiny where blackmarketing is rampant; and

(b) if so, which are the trades, where blackmarketing has been detected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trades and industries in which there is considerable tax evasion and blackmarketing are being identified

and selected. Thereafter, they will be taken up for detailed scrutiny and investigation. It is not in the public interest to disclose the names of such trades and industries.

सीमाशुल्क के भुगतान के बिना वस्तुओं का आयात और निर्यात

1454. श्री तारिक अनवर : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि कुछ व्यापारी सीमाशुल्क अधिकारियों के साथ साठ-गांठ करके सीमाशुल्क का भुगतान किये बिना वस्तुओं का आयात और निर्यात करते हैं तथा बिना नोट करवाये देश में विदेशी मुद्रा लाते हैं तथा इसे देश से बाहर ले जाते हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मामले में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस मामले में सही स्थिति को जानने के लिए सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मगनभाई बरोट) : (क) सीमाशुल्क अधिकारियों के साथ साठ-गांठ, सीमाशुल्क की चोरी, विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के उल्लंघन के मामलों का समय-समय पर पता लगता ही है और उन पर संगत कानूनों के अधीन कार्यवाही भी की जाती है। परन्तु हाल ही में सरकार की जानकारी में ऐसे कोई मामले नहीं आए हैं जिनमें किसी व्यापारी ने सीमाशुल्क अधिकारियों के साथ साठ-गांठ करके माल का, उस पर लगने योग्य सीमाशुल्क अदायगी किये बिना, आयात अथवा निर्यात किया हो तथा बिना नोट करवाये विदेशी मुद्रा देश में लाया हो और देश से बाहर भी ले गया हो।

(ख) प्रश्न के भाग (क) के उत्तर को देखते हुए यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता है।

(ग) सीमाशुल्क हवाई अड्डों और सीमाशुल्क समुद्रपत्तनों दोनों पर ही कड़ी निगरानी रखी जाती है जिससे सीमाशुल्क अधिकारियों के साथ साठ-गांठ करके अथवा उसके बिना

आयात और निर्यात के धोखा-धड़ी-पूर्ण मामलों का पता लगाया जा सके। प्रश्न के भाग (क) के संदर्भ में यदि ऐसे कोई विशिष्ट मामले हुए हों, तो कानूनसम्मत उचित कार्यवाही हेतु ऐसे मामले सरकार के ध्यान में लाए जाने पर, उनकी और जांच की जा सकती है।

Minerals in Bastar

1455. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Bastar is very rich in minerals and apart from the Bailadila iron ore mines, there is another extensive deposit, south of Bhilai near Rowghat, with reserve of nearly 720 million tons and also of as rich a quality as Bailadila; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The estimate of the Rowghat Iron Ore Deposit is 830 million tonnes. The iron content of this deposit is generally comparable to that of the Bailadila reserves. Because of the proximity of the Rowghat Deposit to the Bhilai Steel Plant, this can be considered as a possible source to meet the iron ore requirement for long-term needs of the Bhilai Steel Plant.

Export Duty on Turmeric

1456. SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) from what date the export duty was levied on turmeric and what is the total earning;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that after levying of the export duty the market price has been very much reduced as a result of which the agriculturists are directly affected;

(c) whether he is also aware that the present market rate of turmeric is not economical to grow thereby resulting into agriculturists not growing and scarcity being created; and

(d) whether he proposes to remove the export duty so that turmeric growers of this country can grow turmeric this year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The export duty on turmeric was levied with effect from 20th January, 1979. The revenue earnings from this levy have been as follows:—

Period	Rs. Lakhs
1978-79 (upto March, 79)	62
1979-80 (Provisional)	532
1980-81 (Budget Estimate)	700

(b) and (c). It is correct that the prices of turmeric have fallen. This is mainly due to the increase in production which was 146.8 thousand tonnes in 1978-79 as compared with 126.3 thousand tonnes in 1977-78. Despite the export duty, exports of turmeric amounted to over 18,800 tonnes upto December, 1979 as against a target of 11,000 tonnes for the whole of 1979-80. For improving the prices realised by the growers, other methods may have to be employed, such as purchases by official or co-operative agency at a remunerative price.

(d) The effects of the export duty on turmeric are being kept under constant review.

मध्य प्रदेश में ऐतिहासिक महत्व के स्थानों का सौंदर्यीकरण

1457. श्री एन. के. शंजवलकर: क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में ऐतिहासिक महत्व के स्थानों को और अधिक सुन्दर और आकर्षक

बनाने के लिए गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) उन स्थानों के नाम क्या हैं जो अभी तक उपेक्षित हैं?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रलाल चन्द्राकर) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान केन्द्रीय सेक्टर के अन्तर्गत मध्य प्रदेश में ऐतिहासिक महत्व के स्थानों को अधिक सुन्दर और आकर्षक बनाने के लिए कोई उपाय नहीं किये गये । तथापि राज्य सरकार ने खजुराहो के सम्बन्ध में, इस पर्यटक केन्द्र पर सुविधाओं के विकास को विनियमित करने की दृष्टि से एक महा योजना (भूमि-प्रयोग योजना) तैयार की है । इस महा योजना (भूमि-प्रयोग योजना) में पर्यावरण संबंधी सुधार हेतु किए जाने वाले उपाय भी शामिल हैं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Price rise in Cotton and Staple Yarn

1458. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of cotton and staple yarn are increasing day by day, resulting in large number of unemployed among the weavers in U.P.;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check the prices and bring them back to the level of 1977; and

(c) what other steps are being proposed by Government for the fair distribution of yarn to the weavers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Prices of cotton and staple yarn have risen to some extent mainly due to fall in production following severe power cuts imposed on the spinning mills.

(b) and (c). Some of the important steps taken to check the prices and to ensure fair distribution of yarn to the weavers are—

(i) Through voluntary arrangements, the private mills affiliated to ICMF have agreed to provide 23,000 bales of yarn every month at ex-mill prices to the public distribution agencies in the States;

(ii) National Textile Corporation and State owned spinning mills have opened depots/sales centres at mill gates and important centres so as to ensure better availability of yarn to the weavers at mill prices;

(iii) the apex handloom cooperative societies and handloom development corporations in the States are being assisted by way of share capital contribution to take up distribution of yarn to weavers by direct procurement from private and public sector mills; and

(iv) permission has been granted to industry for using discarded spindles and relaxation given to waste spinning units for spinning even upto 40 counts.

Breakdown in Steel Production Plants collaborated by USSR

1459. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent discussions held by the Soviet Dy. Prime Minister Mr. I.V. Arkhipov, in March, 1980, the subject of breakdowns production in steel plants in India built with Soviet collaboration was discussed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). There has been no break-down of production as such in any of the steel plants built in India with Soviet collaboration. Production has, no doubt, been affected adversely in all the steel plants due to inadequate availability of certain essential inputs such as coal and power. The question of dis-

cussing the subject of "break-downs" with the Soviet Dy. Prime Minister, Mr. I. V. Arkhipov in March, 1980 does not, therefore, arise.

Banking facilities in Kizhattur in Malappuram District in Kerala

1460. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no banking facilities in Kizhattur and Vettathur panchayats in Malappuram district of Kerala;

(b) whether there is a growing need for banking facilities in these areas to meet the requirements of cultivators, traders and others as also due to increasing foreign remittances to people in these areas; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the banking requirements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT). (a) Information about availability of banking facilities is maintained by the Reserve Bank districtwise. However, it has been reported that a branch of the South Malabar Gramin Bank is functioning at Vettathur since February 22, 1978. This Bank is also expected to open its branch at Kizhattur, shortly.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank has indicated that even though Malappuram is not a deficit district in terms of banking coverage of rural and semi-urban population, it has permitted the banks to open branches at 23 centres recommended by the State Government in this district.

Setting up of Charged Chrome Plant in Orissa

1461. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of firms to whom letter of intent for setting up charged chrome plants in Orissa have been issued; and

(b) have the parties submitted their feasibility report and when the units are likely to go into production?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) two units viz. M/s. Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd., Bhubaneswar (OMC) and M/s. Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd., (FACOR) have been issued Letters of Intent (LOI) for setting up charge chrome plants in Orissa.

(b) The parties have submitted their feasibility reports. Both the parties have indicated that the plants would go into production in three years' time from the date of issue of the LOIs. The two plants of OMC and FACOR are, therefore, expected to go into production by 26th April 1982 and 12th November 1982 respectively.

Import of Cocoa Beans

1462. SHRI A. A. RAHIM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has telegraphically requested the Government of India not to allow further import of cocoa beans to save the large number of cocoa growers in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the immediate steps taken to tackle this serious problem which is affecting the economic conditions of these small and marginal cocoa growers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After collection of data the matter shall be examined.

Farm credit from Canada

1463. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Canada has agreed to provide loan to India for farm credit;

(b) if so, the amount of the loan; and

(c) the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). Under an Agreement signed on 15th March 1980 between the Governments of India and Canada, the latter has given a loan of Canadian dollar 25 million (Rs. 17.45 crores) to finance Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation's refinancing activities under their programmes in agriculture and allied fields; these programmes include minor irrigation, agro-service centres, animal husbandry, forestry, inland fisheries, marine fisheries benefiting small fishermen, gohar gas plant etc.

The loan is free from interest, commitment and service charges. The repayment period is 50 years including a grace period of 10 years.

Loans from Nationalised Banks under Twenty Point Programme

1464. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Twenty Point Programme, the poor people can get loans from banks to start some business; and

(b) whether some nationalised banks are not giving these loans, if so, what action is going to be taken to get loans for the poor people from all nationalised banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). Banks have been financing, on an increasing scale, the borrowers in the weaker sections and in rural areas for self-employment and other productive activities. The Government has decided that the banks should actively participate in the implementation of the 20-Point Programme and increase the share of their Priority Sector Lending from 33.3 per cent to 40 per

cent over the next five years. Modalities for the effective implementation of the 20-Point Programme are being worked out in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, whereafter banking institutions will be suitably advised.

Export of Marine Products

1465. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA DASAN: Will the Minister of COM-

MERCE be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing the total value of exports made from the different States of (i) edible marine products (ii) non-edible marine products such as sea-weeds for the years 1977-78 to 1979-1980?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): The statement is attached.

Statement

Exports of Edible and Non-edible Marine Products effected through different ports in various states are as follows :—

V: Value in Rs. Lakhs		Q: Quantity in tonnes			
PORTS OF	YEAR	EDIBLE	NON-EDI- BLE	ALL PRO- DUCTS	
	2	3	4	5	
KERALA	1977-78	Q:	29509	310	29819
		V:	7733.39	11.25	7744.64
	1978-79	Q:	31591	710	32301
		V:	9365.48	34.73	9399.51
	1979-80	Q:	29932	602	30534
		V:	10350.18	42.88	10393.06
MAHARASHTRA	1977-78	Q:	13367	1474	14841
		V:	3006.26	33.35	3039.61
	1978-79	Q:	14849	1397	16245
		V:	3228.45	51.29	3279.74
	1979-80	Q:	1223	449	1672
		V:	3843.12	10.43	3853.55
TAMILNADU	1977-78	Q:	7930	79	8009
		V:	2394.84	5.26	2400.10
	1978-79	Q:	10869	58	10927
		V:	3183.44	4.87	3138.31
	1979-80	Q:	8517	88	8605
		V:	2956.51	9.54	2966.05

1	2	3	4	5
WEST BENGAL	1977-78 Q:	2842	10	2852
	V:	1474.88	0.69	1475.57
	1978-79 Q:	2857	34	2891
	V:	1716.24	2.77	1719.01
	1979-80 Q:	1250	..	1250
	V:	910.00	..	910.00
KARNATAKA	1977-78 Q:	4160	399	4559
	V:	1176.33	9.36	1185.69
	1978-79 Q:	3720	359	4079
	V:	1218.59	16.85	1235.44
	1979-80 Q:	4650	125	4775
	V:	1647.18	4.57	1651.75
ANDHRA PRADESH	1977-78 Q:	2722	25	2747
	V:	1189.98	0.78	1190.76
	1978-79 Q:	3192	21	3213
	V:	1843.02	1.68	1844.70
	1979-80 Q:	3764	5	3769
	V:	2335.48	0.16	2335.64
GUJARAT	1977-78 Q:	2403	98	2501
	V:	773.06	2.72	775.78
	1978-79 Q:	4064	100	416
	196+ V:	1134.16	2.20	1136.36
	1979-80 Q:	4623	100	4723
	V:	977.85	3.01	980.86
ORISSA	1977-78 Q:	638	..	638
	V:	282.89	..	282.89
	1978-79 Q:	2221	..	2221
	V:	1241.48	..	1241.48
	1979-80 Q:	2346	..	2346
	V:	1238.92	..	1238.92

1	2	3	4	5	
ANDAMANS	1977-78	Q:	..	..
		V:	..	..
	1978-79	Q:	10852	..	10852
		V:	412.72	..	412.72
	1979-80	Q:	17627	..	17627
		V:	552.57	..	552.57
TOTAL	1977-78	Q:	63571	2396	65967
		V:	18031.64	63.41	18095.05
	1978-79	Q:	84215	2679	86894
		V:	23348.58	113.69	23462.27
	1979-80	Q:	85032	1369	86401
		V:	24811.81	70.59	24882.40

Unsatisfactory supply of Coking Coal to Steel Plants

1466. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the availability of coking coal to the public sector steel plants is not satisfactory and has become critical due to which there is a possibility of damage to coke ovens; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pushing of Ovens in the integrated Steel Plants are being regulated to match the receipts of coking coal to avoid any likelihood of damage to coke ovens. In addition, various steps are being taken to increase indigenous supplies of coking coal. A proposal to import coking coal to augment indigenous supply is also under consideration.

Production of Vanaspati in India

1467. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total quantity of vanaspati produced in India during 1974-75;

(b) the estimated quantity of vanaspati produced in India in 1979-80;

(c) what were the shares in producing of vanaspati of M/s Hindustan Lever and Tatas; and

(d) whether Government have details about the profits or losses of vanaspati industry for each of the years 1975-76 to 1979-80 and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) The total quantity of vanaspati produced in India during 1974-75 was 3,52,589 tonnes.

(b) The estimated quantity of vanaspati produced in India in 1979-80 was about 6.18 lakh tonnes.

(c) The share of M/s. Hindustan Lever and Tatas in the total production of vanaspati was as under:

	1974-75	1979-80
Hindustan Lever	5.3%	5.2%
Tatas	0.8%	0.3%

(d) No, Sir.

States Debts to Union Government

1468. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States of the Indian Union, which owe debts to the Union Government alongwith the amount of debt in each case;

(b) the steps taken to recover the debt;

(c) whether there are instances where the payment of debt has not been satisfactory; and

(d) if so, the names of such States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) A Statement giving the information as on 31st March, 1979 is laid on the Table.

(b) to (d). The loans are repaid by State Governments in accordance with the prescribed terms. Central loans outstanding against State Governments as on 31st March, 1979 are being consolidated in accordance with the recommendations of the Seventh Finance Commission. Except in the case of Bihar, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir and Tripura, the scheme of consolidation has since been implemented and repayments are being arranged by the State Governments on the basis of the terms of the consolidated loans. In the case of aforementioned four States, necessary reconciled data for purposes of consolidation of Cen-

tral loans has not so far become available and the matter is under correspondence with them. Meanwhile these State Governments also (except the Government of Jammu and Kashmir) are arranging *ad hoc* repayments.

STATEMENT

Central loans outstanding against state Governments as on 31-3-1979*

STATES

	(Rs. in crores)
1. Andhra Pradesh	1074.75
2. Assam	601.89
3. Bihar	1243.26
4. Gujarat	530.59
5. Haryana	318.19
6. Himachal Pradesh	153.21
7. Jammu & Kashmir	602.98
8. Karnataka	673.18
9. Kerala	547.52
10. Madhya Pradesh	741.46
11. Maharashtra	1007.16
12. Manipur	57.16
13. Meghalaya	25.03
14. Nagaland	46.93
15. Orissa	717.25
16. Punjab	308.81
17. Rajasthan	964.85
18. Sikkim	6.63
19. Tamil Nadu	778.26
20. Tripura	40.84
21. Uttar Pradesh	1951.86
22. West Bengal	1394.54
TOTAL ALL STATES	13876.35

*Figures provisional.

Transfer policy for Section Officers in Defence Accounts Department

1469. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any transfer policy for Section Officers in Defence Accounts Department;

(b) if so, how many Section Officers of other commands have been posted under the Controller of Defence Accounts, Patna;

(c) how many Section Officers of Patna command are serving in other commands out of their home State; and

(d) will Government repatriate them to their respective command and State without credence to their stay to eliminate transfer and T.A. expenses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a transfer policy for Group 'C' officers of the Defence Accounts Department which category includes Section Officers (Accounts). Employees of Defence Accounts Department are subject to All India Transfer Liability including field service liability. Besides the primary importance of filling up all available vacancies in the various sub-offices in different parts of the country (including field areas) to meet the Defence needs, the transfer policy takes into consideration:

(i) the need to replace individuals who complete prescribed tenures at difficult stations classified as tenure stations;

(ii) need to replace persons employed in sensitive areas of work;

(iii) compassionate grounds;

(iv) administrative grounds.

(b) to (d). Section Officers (Accounts) cannot be identified as belong-

ing to a particular command as their Cadre Control is done on an all India basis by the Controller General of Defence Accounts. However, requests for transfer to stations of choice, which are normally in the region to which they belong, are met to the extent administratively feasible.

Directorate of O. & M. Services (Income-tax)

1470. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Officers and Staff has been deployed in the Directorate of O&M Services (Income-tax) without any justification;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no work study has been conducted in the Directorate of O&M Services (Income-tax) by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Department of Expenditure; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Directorate of Organisation and Management Services (Income-tax) is attending to work of a varied nature. Its important functions envisage manpower studies, method studies, administrative planning and organisational development including form control and designing. The work of the Directorate of O&M Services (Income-tax) is not receipt-oriented. The studies and projects initiated by Directorate of O&M Services are very time consuming and require a lot of studies and examination. The Directorate is also attending to other work entrusted by Central Board of Direct Taxes from time to time. Thus, it is not correct to say that a large number of officers and staff has been deployed in the Directorate of O & M Services (Income-tax) without any justification.

(b) and (c). A performance appraisal study of the Directorate of O&M Services (Income-tax) has been undertaken by a Study Group. Therefore, no further action in this regard is considered necessary.

**Advances made to Maltings and
Liquor Manufacturers**

1471. SHRI MOTILAL HASDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state how much advances have been made to maltings and liquor

manufacturers throughout India, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): Data in respect of advances to maltings and liquor manufacturers are not separately available. However, available data relating to State-wise distribution of outstanding credit of all Scheduled Commercial Banks to distilleries, breweries etc., as on the last Friday of December, 1977 are set out in the Annexe.

STATEWISE

Region/State/Union Territory	Amount outstanding (Rs. in thou- sands)
1	2
1. Northern Region	987,19
Harvna	286,06
Himachal Pradesh	16,24
Jammu & Kashmir	15,05
Punjab	308,12
Rajasthan	24,66
Chandigarh	31,10
Delhi	305,96
2. North-Eastern Region	43,87
Assam	43,64
Manipur	..
Meghalaya	..
Nagaland	..
Sikkim	23
Tripura	..
Arunachal Pradesh	..
Mizoram	..
3. Eastern Region	507,54
Bihar	94,96

1	2
Orissa	141,34
West Bengal	271,24
Andaman & Nicobar Islands . . . . .	..
4. Central Region	829,40
Madhya Pradesh	75,38
Uttar Pradesh	754,02
5. Western Region	960,11
Gujarat	73,99
Maharashtra	788,59
Dadra and Nagar Haveli . . . . .	..
Goa, Daman & Diu	97,53
6. Southern Region	2111,89
Andhra Pradesh ^b	261,43
Karnataka	928,36
Kerala	91,08
Tamil Nadu	727,67
Lakshadweep . . . . .	..
Pondicherry	103,35
<hr/>	
ALL INDIA	5440,00

(DATA ARE PROVISIONAL)

Agreement with France for setting up of Alumina and Aluminium Plants at Koraput, Orissa

1472. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that Government have entered into an agreement with France for setting up of 1,000 crore rupees Alumina and Aluminium Plant at Koraput in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether it would be cent-per-cent financed by the French Government or financed partly by the

French Government and partly by India; and

(c) what are the terms of repayment of loan to be taken from the French Government; whether it would be repaid in terms of cash or kind, that is, finished products of alumina and aluminium?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of India and

the Government of France on 28th January, 1980 for setting up of an alumina/aluminium plant in Orissa based on the East Coast bauxite deposits.

(b) The French Government will present a comprehensive financial package for the project in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, covering both off-shore purchases and local costs of the project including related infrastructure facilities.

(c) The terms and conditions will be decided after the details of the financial package have been received from the French Government.

Setting up of on-shore Steel plant at Paradeep, Orissa

1473. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a 3-million tonne on-shore steel plant at Paradeep in Orissa;

(b) is it correct that the proposed steel plant would be financed cent-per-cent by foreign credit; and

(c) if so, what is the name(s) of the country(ies) from whom credit facilities are being sought indicating the terms of repayment of the loan; whether the repayment of the loan will be in kind, that is, finished products or in terms of cash?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) As a part of the overall development programme for the augmentation of steel-making capacity in the country, Government have been considering the possibilities of setting up a new port-based steel plant with capacity of 3.0 million tonnes per annum. Paradeep is being considered as one of the possible sites.

(b) and (c). Offers of technical and financial assistance for this purpose have been received from parties in West Germany, U.K., etc. which are

in different stages of examination. These offers are based on financing packages comprising Export Credits, Euro-loans, Soft loans, Aid, etc. of varying amounts to meet within the plant-perimeter costs. Some of these offers also visualise buy-back arrangements for part of the finished products of the plant to facilitate debt servicing.

Export Promotion Plan

1474. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any export promotion plan has been drawn up;

(b) if so, the export-oriented industries likely to be covered by it;

(c) whether it envisages any role for MRTP companies and if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(d) what incentives are contemplated for the export-oriented industries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). Government are considering certain proposals with a view to encouraging and strengthening industrial units and industries which are export-oriented. These proposals are at present in a preliminary stage and it is not appropriate to give details.

Transfer of staff of Tea-Board and Coffee Board serving in Canteens

1475. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to transfer the staff of the Tea Board and Coffee Board serving in various canteens after every three years; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The staff

of the Tea Board canteens which are very few in number are not transferred normally as a routine matter at certain fixed intervals. Group 'C' & 'D' employees of the Coffee Board in all their Propaganda Units are required to be shifted after a continuous service of 3 years in the same unit and 5 years in the same place where there are more than one unit as per the criteria laid down by the Coffee Board in accordance with the instructions issued by Vigilance.

Lifting of Edible oils by various States

1476. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of edible oils had been lifted by various States during the period from January to May, 1980;

(b) what steps were taken to make the States lift available edible oils stocks from S.T.C.; and

(c) the quantity to be supplied during rest of this year to States?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) About 1.33 lakh tonnes of edible oils have in all been lifted by the States and Union Territories during January to May, 1980.

(b) (i) The distribution of imported edible oils is organised by STC in such a manner as to keep sufficient quantities of stocks at important consuming centres. The STC have opened new depots in some of the States, besides the existing ones to ensure smooth flow of edible oils. STC are also transporting edible oils by road to avoid delays in movement due to inadequate availability of railway wagons for certain States.

(ii) All the State Governments/ Union Territories have been requested to lift in line with the allocations of imported edible oils made from time to time

(iii) The State Governments are being allotted the type of imported edible oils that is generally demanded by them.

(iv) State Governments have also been requested to reactivise and energise the public distribution system within the States to improve the availability of edible oils to consumers.

(v) Periodic consultations are held with the State Governments in the various State capitals, and meetings have also been organised in Delhi, to review the distribution of edible oils through the public distribution system.

(vi) Imported edible oils are released by STC to State Governments at a fixed price. The State Governments in turn are allowed to make marginal adjustments in the end-retail prices of these oils, taking into account the actual distribution charges.

(c) This would depend on the demand and actual lifting of edible oils by the respective States/Union Territories.

Demands of India Meteorological Workshop Union

1477. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 530, on the 14th March, 1980 regarding demands of India Meteorological Workshop Union, Poona and state:

(a) whether Government have taken decisions regarding the points at Sl. No. 1-2-3-4 and 6 mentioned in the statement attached to the reply;

(b) if so, what are the decisions of Government, when they have been taken and when they are likely to be implemented; and

(c) if no decisions have yet been taken, reasons for the delay and when they are expected to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL

CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). A decision has been taken on the point at Sl. No. 3 in the statement attached to the reply given on 14-3-1980 to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 530.

Selection Grades have been created in the posts of Carpenter Grade I and Carpenter Gr. II with effect from 1-4-78

and 21-4-80 respectively and the posts have been filled up with effect from the same dates.

(c) A Statement indicating the position in respect of Sl. No. 1, 2, 4 and 6 mentioned in the Statement attached to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 530 is enclose 1.

Statement

Sl. No.	Point raised by the Union	Reply given <i>vide</i> Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 530 answered on 14-3-80	Present Position
1	2	3	4
1	Government's decision on the recommendations of the Classification Committee should be expedited.	The recommendations of the Classification Committee relating to the Workshop Staff of India Meteorological Department and Civil Aviation Department were processed with the Ministry of Finance and other concerned departments. The matter has since reached final stages and orders are likely to be issued very soon.	The matter is being processed in consultation with the Finance Ministry.
2	The I.M.D. Workshop should be included in the list of Industries and Manufacturing Units so as to make the Workshop Staff eligible for bonus.	The Workshop is essentially intended to manufacture meteorological instruments required for India Meteorological Departments and not for commercial purposes. The question of declaring the Workshop as an industrial and manufacturing unit does not arise. However, the question of granting bonus to the staff could be considered in the context of the broad policy of Government on the subject	The question of granting bonus to the staff would be considered in the context of the broad policy of the Government on the subject which has not yet been declared.
	A separate quota of promotion for Professional Assistants (Foreman) working in the Workshop should be fixed or their pay-scales should be enhanced as they work for 8 hours under the Factory Act.	The question of fixing a quota for promotion of Professional Assistants (Foreman) to the post of Assistant Meteorologist is under consideration.	The matter was referred to the India Meteorological Workshops Union with a request to communicate their views on fixing a quota for promotion of Professional Assistant (Foreman). Their views on the subject have not yet been received.
6	A supervisory post for Carpenter Grade I should be created expeditiously.	The matter is under consideration.	Under the existing orders of the Government of India creation of new posts needs matching saving. The Staff Union are being consulted to identify the post that can be surrendered to provide matching saving to enable creation of new post. The decision will be taken as soon as an agreement is reached with the Staff.

**Departmental Examination in
Overseas Bank**

1478. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAI-LANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Overseas Bank conducted departmental Examination for promotion from clerical cadre to Officer Grade Cadre in December, 1979;

(b) if so, the total number of candidates alongwith SC/ST employees separately appeared at the written test and interview and those promoted to Officer Grade Cadre in each region separately;

(c) whether representation of SC/ST employees in Officer Grade Cadre is complete;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether it is proposed to fill up the backlog from amongst the candidates who have qualified in the written test?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, the

Indian Overseas Bank conducted test and interview for promotion to officer cadre in December, 1979 and January, 1980.

(b) The total number of candidates alongwith Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees who appeared in the test and interview and those promoted to officers' grade in each region is given in the Statement.

(c) and (d). The bank has reported that there is no backlog of the posts reserved for SC/ST to be filled by promotion on the basis of test and interview. However, there is a backlog of reserved posts to be filled by promotion on the basis of seniority and interview due to the non-availability of sufficient number of senior Scheduled Caste/Tribe employees.

(e) The bank has reported that the backlog of reserved posts which are to be filled on the basis of seniority and interview cannot be filled by the candidates who qualify in the written test and interview as the eligibility criteria and the procedure of selection for these two types of promotions are different.

Statement

Statement showing total number of employees alongwith Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who appeared in the test and interview and those promoted to officers grade in the test/interview held during December, 1979/January, 1980 in the Indian Overseas Bank

Region	Appeared			Promoted					
	Total	Gene- ral emplo- yees	Sch. Caste emplo- yees	Sch. Tribe emplo- yees	Total	Gene- ral emplo- yees	Sch. Caste emplo- yees	Sch Tribe emplo- yees	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1. Promotion by seniority and interview	Abmedabad	13	13	..	..	11	11	..	..
	Bangalore	10	10	..	..	9	9	..	..
	Bombay	18	17	1	..	16	15	1	..
	Calcutta	16	16	..	..	13	13	..	..
	Chandigarh	11	11	..	..	10	10	..	..
	Coimbatore	10	10	..	..	8	8	..	..

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Delhi		17	17	..	..	16	16	..	..
Hyderabad		2	2	..	..	1	1	..	..
Madras		35	35	..	..	31	31	..	..
Madurai		8	8	..	..	8	8	..	..
Trichy		18	18	..	..	17	17	..	..
Trivandrum		20	20	..	..	19	19	..	..
Total		178	177	1	..	159	158	1	..
2. Promotion by test and interview	Al.medbad	68	55	10	3	5	2	..	3
	Bangalore	55	51	3	1	15	14	..	1
	Bombay	112	79	31	2	16	13	1	2
	Calcutta	99	77	17	5	17	12	1	4
	Chandigarh	73	32	41	..	19	6	13	..
	Coimbatore	45	41	3	1	11	10	..	..
	Delhi	122	69	52	1	18	9	8	1
	Hyderabad	51	33	15	3	13	8	3	2
	Madras	275	249	26	..	61	55	6	..
	Madurai	103	90	11	2	23	18	3	2
	Trichy	92	81	10	1	23	21	1	1
	Trivandrum	77	71	5	1	18	17	..	1
Total		1172	928	224	20	239	185	36	18

Places of Pilgrimage Selected for Pilgrims

1479. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to promote tourism in the places of tourists interest for pilgrims in India;

(b) if so, the names of the places of pilgrimage which have been selected for this purpose, state-wise;

(c) the names of such among them as have been connected by air; and

(d) the likely date by which the rest of the places would be connected by air?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Considering the importance of pilgrim traffic, a Society named the Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti has been registered which will provide financial assistance to religious/charitable trusts, institutions/individuals

etc. for construction/management/maintenance of dharmshalas/musafir-khanas/sarais at pilgrim centres of national importance. It will also construct such establishments wherever considered feasible/necessary. The Government has given an ad-hoc grant-in-aid of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Samiti. The Samiti will also raise funds through donations from institutions, individuals and grants from the State Governments. Depending upon the availability of funds, the Samiti will look into the question of providing accommodation facilities at pilgrim centres to be selected on the basis of the volume of pilgrim traffic and the need for such facilities at these centres.

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

तीसरी विमान सेवा के अन्तर्गत लिये जाने वाले राजस्थान के नगर

1480. श्री भगवान देव : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) तीसरी विमान सेवा चालू किये जाने की दिशा में आज तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) ये विमान सेवा कब तक आरम्भ की जायेगी ; और

(ग) इस विमान सेवा के चालू होने पर राजस्थान के कौन-कौन से नगर इसके अन्तर्गत आयेंगे ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री चन्दा लाल चन्दाकर) : (क) और (ख). तीसरी वायु सेना के परिचालन का सामान्य प्रश्न सरकार के विचाराधीन है, और इस पर शीघ्र ही कोई निर्णय ले लिये जाने की संभावना है ।

(ग) इस विषय पर अभी तक कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है ।

जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा राजस्थान को दिये गये ऋण

1481. श्री भगवान देव : क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1977-78 से 1979-80 तक मध्य और निम्न आय वर्ग के व्यक्तियों को मकान बनाने के लिए जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा राजस्थान को प्रति वर्ष कितना ऋण दिया गया है ;

(ख) इस दिए गए ऋण में से राजस्थान सरकार द्वारा कितने ऋण का उपयोग किया गया था ;

(ग) उपरोक्त उल्लिखित वर्गों के लिए राजस्थान में कितने मकानों का निर्माण किया गया था ;

(घ) इस वर्ष राजस्थान को कितना ऋण दिया गया है ; और

(ङ) राजस्थान सरकार द्वारा कितने मकान बनाने का प्रस्ताव है ?

वित्त मन्त्रालय में उप मन्त्री (श्री मगन भाई बरोट) : (क) जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा राजस्थान सरकार को मकान बनाने के प्रयोजन से वर्ष 1977-78 से 1979-80 तक दिए गए ऋण का ब्यौरा इस प्रकार है :—

वर्ष	राशि (लाख रुपए)
1977-78	120
1978-79	120
1979-80	132

(ख) और (ग). इस संबंध में सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है कि राज्य सरकार द्वारा जीवन बीमा निगम से प्राप्त कितने ऋणों का उपयोग किया गया और राज्य सरकार द्वारा हर साल कितना निर्माण कार्य पूरा किया गया । लेकिन राजस्थान सरकार से निर्माण और आवास मन्त्रालय की प्राप्त हाल की सूचना के अनुसार राज्य सरकार द्वारा जीवन बीमा निगम से प्राप्त राशि से 31 मार्च, 1980 तक बनाए गए मकानों की संख्या इस प्रकार है :—

योजना	मकानों की संख्या
मध्यम आय वर्ग आवास योजना	2,666
निम्न आय वर्ग आवास योजना	7,052

(घ) जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा राज्य सरकारों को मकान बनाने के लिए वर्ष 1980-81 में उपलब्ध की जाने वाली राशि के बारे में फ़ैसला कर लिया गया है और आशा है कि राशि राज्यवार निर्धारण का काम जुलाई, 1980 के अंत तक पूरा हो जाएगा।

(ङ) वर्ष 1980-81 के दौरान राजस्थान सरकार का माध्यम आय वर्ग के लिए 108 और निम्न आय वर्ग के लिए 481 मकानों के निर्माण का कार्य शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव है।

नगरीय तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बैंकों की शाखाओं का खोला जाना

1482. श्री भगवान देव: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) 1977-78, 1978-79 और 1979-80 के दौरान नगरीय तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में विभिन्न बैंकों की वर्षवार कितनी शाखाएँ खोली गईं;

(ख) चालू वर्ष के दौरान उक्त क्षेत्रों में विभिन्न बैंकों की कितनी शाखाएँ खोली गईं।

(ग) राजस्थान के अजमेर जिले में कितनी शाखाएँ खोली जानी हैं; और

(घ) सरकार द्वारा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कितनी जनसंख्या पर बैंक की शाखा खोली जाती है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मधनभाई बरोटे): (क) वर्ष 1977, 1978 और 1979 में वाणिज्यिक बैंकों द्वारा जनसंख्या समूहवार खोली गई शाखाओं की संख्या के बारे में उपलब्ध आंकड़े विवरण में दिये गये हैं।

(ख) से (घ). भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की वर्तमान लाइसेंस नीति वर्ष 1979-81 तक को तीन वर्षों की अवधि के लिए है जिसके अनुसार यह आवश्यक है कि इस अवधि में वाणिज्यिक बैंक, बैंकिंग सुविधाओं की दृष्टि से कमी वाले जिलों के बैंक रहित ऐसे ग्रामीण और अर्ध नगरीय केन्द्रों में बैंकिंग सुविधाएँ प्रदान करने की दिशा में अपनी शाखाओं का विस्तार करने का प्रयास करें जिससे इन जिलों में व्यक्ति, प्रति 20,000 ग्रामीण/अर्ध नगरीय लोगों के लिए एक बैंक कार्यालय के स्तर तक पहुँच ज्वाय। इस नीति के अनुपालन में 1979-81 में देय के कमी वाले जिलों में 6500 शाखाओं के खोले जाने की आवश्यकता है। यह कार्यक्रम राज्य सरकारों के परामर्श से कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है।

जहाँ तक अजमेर जिले का सम्बन्ध है, उपर्युक्त अवधि में छह अतिरिक्त शाखाएँ खोली जानी थीं। इनमें से तीन शाखाएँ खोली जा चुकी हैं और शेष तीन केन्द्रों के सम्बन्ध में लाइसेंस वाणिज्यिक बैंकों के पास विचाराधीन हैं।

विवरण

	1977	1978	1979
1— ग्रामीण केन्द्र	2265	1721	1653
2— अर्ध-नगरीय केन्द्र	466	288	180
3— नगरीय केन्द्र	309	218	127
4— महानगरीय केन्द्र/पत्तन वाले शहर	308	289	98
जोड़	3348	2516	2058

**राजस्थान में वितरण प्रणाली के बारे में
केन्द्रीय अध्ययन दल की रिपोर्ट**

1483. श्री भगवान बवे : क्या नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) आवश्यक पदार्थों की वितरण प्रणाली की जांच करने के लिये अप्रैल-मई, 1980 में राज्यस्थान की यात्रा पर गये केन्द्रीय अध्ययन दल द्वारा प्रस्तुत की गई रिपोर्ट की मुख्य-मुख्य बातें क्या हैं;

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय अध्ययन दल राजस्थान में वितरण प्रणाली की स्थिति से सन्तुष्ट है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उस दल द्वारा केन्द्रीय सरकार को क्या सुझाव दिये गये हैं; और

(घ) उन पर सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है?

नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल) (क) से (घ). केन्द्रीय अध्ययन दल, जिसने राजस्थान का दौरा किया था, ने राजस्थान की वितरण-प्रणाली के बारे में आम संतोष व्यक्त किया। तथापि, दल ने यह महसूस किया कि इस प्रणाली का इतना विस्तार नहीं है कि इसके अन्तर्गत सम्पूर्ण आबादी आ सके। राजस्थान सरकार को सलाह दी गयी है कि वे सार्वजनिक वितरण के कार्यक्रमों की तत्काल पुनरीक्षा करें और इसे मजबूत बनाने तथा इसके अन्तर्गत अधिक क्षेत्रों को लाने के लिये आवश्यक कदम उठाये।

Master Plan to Protect Tourist Spots

1484. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for preparing a Master Plan to protect tourist spots throughout the country is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, details therefor; and

(c) spots selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDALAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c). The Department of Tourism has already taken up since 1969-70 the preparation of master plans (land-use plans) of selected centres of tourist interest such as historical and archaeological sites and places of natural beauty. The first master plan (land-use plan) was prepared of Gulmarg in 1972. Subsequently, master plans (land-use plans) have been prepared of Manali, Sarnath, Kushinagar, Sarvasti, Konark, Rajgir, Nalanda, Bodhgaya, Badami, Pattadakal, Aihole, Hampi, Martand, Awantipur and Pandrethan. Master Plans (land-use plans) of Fatahpur Sikri and Braj Bhoomi area, Piprahwa and Mewar complex are under preparation.

The purpose of preparing the master plans (land-use plans) is to maintain the ecological balance, as also to ensure the preservation of the environmental characteristics of the centre and regulate the growth of developmental activities in and around the centre. They also indicate broadly the land utilization for various activities, and specifically the area where tourist developmental facilities should be provided.

Based on these master plans, micro-planning would have to be undertaken of areas earmarked for the development of tourist facilities. This is being done in the case of Kushinagar and Sarvasti to begin with. The micro-planning will include physical lay-out of the facilities to be provided, archaeological designs of buildings, graphics and environmental planning.

Consultations with State Governments regarding Abolition of Sales Tax

1485. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to reconsider the proposal for abolition of

Sales Tax throughout the country is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, whether Government have consulted the State Governments in this regard in recent times; and

(c) if so, reaction of the State Governments thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). Levy of tax on sales or purchases of goods taking place within a State is a State subject of taxation under the Constitution. Efforts were made in the past to persuade the State Governments to agree to the abolition of sales tax and its replacement by appropriate excise duties in a suitable manner; but the State Governments showed reluctance towards such a course of action. The question of extending the scheme of replacement of sales tax by additional excise duties on some essential commodities like cement, medicines, vanaspati and petroleum products as recommended by the Indirect Taxation Enquiry Committee was last considered at the meeting of the Chief Ministers of States held on 19th and 20th May, 1979. This proposal was also objected to by a large majority of States. The Government will explore, with the cooperation of the State Governments the possibility of reforming the existing sales tax structure in the interests of consumers and traders.

Import of Inferior Quality of Coking Coal

1486. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1977 a large quantity of coking coal for making steel was imported; and

(b) if so, is it not a fact that the coking coal was of an inferior quality?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI

PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No coking coal was imported in 1977.

(b) Does not arise.

अभूक व्यापार निगम के अधीन पटना, राजस्थान और आंध्र प्रदेश में लाइसेंसधारी अभूक व्यापारी

1487. श्री रीत लाल प्रसाद वर्मा: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) अभूक व्यापार निगम के अधीन पटना (बिहार), राजस्थान और आंध्र प्रदेश में कितने लाइसेंसधारी अभूक व्यापारी हैं, उनके नाम एवं पते क्या हैं;

(ख) अभूक व्यापार निगम द्वारा उनमें से कमजोर वर्ग के प्रत्येक व्यापारी से 1972 से 1980 के दौरान लक्ष्यों की पूर्ति हेतु निर्यात प्रयोजन के लिये कितना तैयार अभूक खरीदा गया;

(ग) अभूक व्यापार निगम द्वारा अभूक निर्यातकर्ताओं से 1972-80 के दौरान निर्यात योग्य कितना अभूक खरीदा; और

(घ) क्या 40 प्रतिशत अभूक का उत्पादन अभूक व्यापार निगम की फ़ैक्टरियों द्वारा किया जाता है जैसा कि इसके नियमों में लिखा है?

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात व खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी): (क) तथा (ख). बिहार, राजस्थान और आंध्र प्रदेश के व्यापार के कमजोर वर्ग के व्यवसाय सहायोगी जो मिटकों में पंजीकृत हैं उनकी फिलहाल संख्या 519 है। व्यापारियों के नामों और पतों तथा उनसे खरीदे गए स्थित अभूक की मात्रा के संबंध में जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ग). वर्ष 1972 से मई, 1974 तक की जानकारी अभी उपलब्ध नहीं है। जून, 1974 से मार्च, 1980 तक अभूक निर्यातकों से खरीदे गए अभूक की कुल मात्रा निम्नोक्त प्रकार है:--

1974-75		1975-76		1976-77		1977-78		1978-79		1979-80	
1 6-74 से 31-3-75		मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य
मात्रा	मूल्य										
368	89	315	82	130	111	660	113	385	130	186	180

(घ) ऐसा कोई नियम नहीं है।

Export of Entertainment Goods

1488. SHRI K. MALLANNA:

SHRI P.M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to review the present trend in exports of entertainment goods such as cinematographic films, cassettes, radio tapes and gramophone records which have high export potential and can earn substantial foreign exchange;

(b) whether a task force for the purpose has also been constituted; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Commerce has set up a Task Force on Exports of Entertainment Goods under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(c) The terms of reference of the Task Force are enclosed.

Terms of Reference of the Task Force on Export of Entertainment Goods.

(i) To review the present trend in world trade and India's exports in entertainment goods.

(ii) To identify major product-wise export potential and recommend export targets and identify market-wise export strategy.

(iii) To identify Priority-wise measures necessary to remove production and capacity constraints.

(iv) To make recommendation on the matters relating to existing procedures, regulations etc., in order to promote these exports.

(v) To make recommendations about institutional arrangements that may be considered necessary for improved marketing of entertainment goods.

The Task Force may consider, if necessary, any other aspect related to the above terms of reference.

Nationalisation of Jute Mills in West Bengal

1489. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the largest jute mills in West Bengal have been nationalised and taken over by Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The National Company Ltd., Calcutta, was nationalised through an Ordinance promulgated on 27th April 1980. The right, title and interest of the company have been vested in a newly formed Corporation, viz., the National Jute Manufacturers Corporation, which will now be responsible for the running of the Company.

Increase in Prices of Yarn by Private Mill Owners

1490. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the absence of Government's control over the price of the yarn, private mill owners are always increasing the prices of yarn on various pleas or without any plea and are decreasing the supply of yarn off and on and such a state of affairs has made handloom weavers' condition deplorable; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to have control over the price of the yarn?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Prices of yarn are determined by market forces of supply and demand which include input costs and effective demand. Some of the important steps taken to influence the prices of yarn and to ensure fair distribution to the weavers are—

(i) Through voluntary arrangements, the private mills affiliated to ICMF have agreed to provide 23,000 bales of yarn every month at ex-mill prices to the public distribution agencies;

(ii) National Textile Corporation and State owned spinning mills have opened depots/sales centres at mill gates and important centres so as to ensure better availability of yarn to the weavers at mill prices;

(iii) the apex handloom cooperative societies and handloom development corporations in the States are being assisted by way of share capital contribution to take up distribution of yarn to weavers by direct procurement from private and public sector mills.

(iv) with a view to augment supply of yarn which otherwise was affected due mainly to power cuts, permission has been granted to industry for using discarded spindles and relaxation given to waste spinning

units for spinning even upto 40 counts.

Failure of Cotton Corporation of India

1491. SHRI AMAR SINH. V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cotton Corporation of India has failed to achieve the procurement target for raw cotton for the Current year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cotton growers in Gujarat have been hard-hit due to lower prices of cotton in the open market; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce monopoly procurement by the Cotton Corporation of India at productive price?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India has so far (till 9th June, 1980) procured 10.55 lakh bales during the current cotton season 1979-80 which is undue to end on 31-8-1980. The target is 15 lakh bales.

(b) No, Sir. The prices are ruling well above the minimum support prices.

(c) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to introduce monopoly procurement of kapa by Cotton Corporation of India.

संकटग्रस्त कपड़ा कारखानों का अधिग्रहण न करने का निर्णय

1492. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने संकटग्रस्त कपड़ा कारखानों का अधिग्रहण न करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) देश की अर्थव्यवस्था पर उसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ने की संभावना है?

वाणिज्य तथा इत्यात व खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी): (क) जी नहीं। प्रत्येक मामला उसके गुणों के आधार पर तय किया जाएगा।

(ख) तथा (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Crash Expansion Plan for Ship Breaking Industry

1493. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a crash expansion plan for the ship breaking industry has failed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No crash expansion programme was undertaken for the expansion of ship-breaking industry and the question of its failure does not arise. Broad policy decisions taken in 1978, regarding expansion of the industry, are being acted upon and as a result, against 31,000 Light Displacement Tonnage (L.D.T.) of ships sold for breaking in 1977-78, 81,000 L.D.T. were sold in 1978-79 and over 90,000 I.D.T. in 1979-80, despite abnormal rise in the price of old foreign flag vessels of the smaller variety which can be broken in India.

(b) Does not arise.

उद्योगपतियों तथा बड़ी कम्पनियों से भू-राजस्व की तरह आयकर की वसूली

1494. श्री मनोहरलाल सैनी: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार उद्योग-पतियों तथा बड़ी कम्पनियों से भू-राजस्व की तरह आयकर की बकाया राशि वसूल करने का है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है और यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मंगनभाई बरोड): (क) तथा (ख). भारतीय आयकर अधिनियम, 1922 की धारा 46 (2) में, करों की बकाया की वसूली कलक्टर द्वारा किये जाने की परिकल्पना इस तरह से की गई थी कि मानों बकाया की वे रकमों भू-राजस्व से संबंधित हों। इस अधिनियम को 1 अप्रैल, 1962 से आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 के अंतर्गत निरस्त कर दिया गया। आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 के अधीन दिये बकाया रकमों की वसूली के मामले में अब आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 के अध्याय XVII घ और उसकी दूसरी अनुसूची में इस बारे में निहित उपबंध लागू होते हैं जिनके अन्तर्गत आयकर अधिकारियों/कर वसूली अधिकारियों को बकाया रकमों की वसूली करने के लिये काफी अधिकारी दिये गये हैं। इसलिये अब आयकर की बकाया रकमों की भू-राजस्व के रूप में वसूली करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Package Triangle Tours for Foreign Tourists

1495. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of package triangle tours to draw impressive number of foreign tourists; and

(b) the details of other schemes for increasing the inland and foreign tourist traffic as reported to have been mentioned by the then Minister of Tourism on February 17 in Bhubaneswar while inaugurating the I.T.D.C. Hotel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). For achieving the target of 3.5 million tourists by 1990, discussions have been held on regional basis with State Governments and Union Territories with a view to providing tourist facilities. The State Governments and Union Territories have been requested to identify primary and secondary travel circuits for the purposes of intensive

development of tourist infrastructural facilities at centres falling along these travel circuits. A final picture will emerge only after proposals have been received from the State Governments and Union Territories.

Imposition of Penalty by Central Excise Authorities on Barmalt (I) Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon

1496. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Excise authorities have imposed a penalty of Rupees twenty thousand on BARMALT (I) Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon;

(b) if so, on what basis and details.

(c) whether the entire machinery and plants have been physically checked;

(d) if so, the details and the value; and

(e) whether State authorities have been asked to look into sales tax records?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). Penalty of Rs. 20,000 has not been imposed by the Central Excise authorities on Barmalt (I) Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon. However, M/s. Barmalt (I) Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon have been found to have manufactured two sets of atmospheric type ammonia condensers without obtaining Central Excise Licence and had not paid Central Excise duty thereon. The Deputy Collector, Central Excise, Faridabad imposed a penalty of Rs. 500 for the same. He has also confiscated the above condensers but given an option to the party to redeem the same on payment of a fine of Rs. 1600 in lieu of confiscation. The Central Excise duty due on these condensers has also been demanded by him.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Plant and machinery valued at Rs. 22,38,543.23 was found to have been installed by M/s. Barmalt (I) Pvt. Ltd., in their factory at Gurgaon since its inception in 1967. The details of such plant and machinery are furnished in the enclosed statement.

(e) No, Sir.

Statement

S. No. Particulars of Machinery/Plants

(1)	(2)
1.	Electric Motors.
2.	Starters & Switches.
3.	Pumps.
4.	Screener.
5.	Lathe Machine.
6.	Phase Grinder.
7.	Hexa Machine.
8.	Drilling Machine.
9.	Condensers.
10.	Compressors.
11.	Chillers.
12.	Cooling Coil.
13.	Suction & discharge service lines etc.
14.	Horizontal Receiver.
15.	Oil Separator.
16.	Air Washers.
17.	Cooling Tower.
18.	Accessories such as safety relief, purge valve and rain cock etc.
19.	Weighing bridge and Scales.
20.	Electric Fan.
21.	Generating set.
22.	Blowers.
23.	Evaporator.
24.	Pans & Impellers.
25.	Tanks.

S. No. Particulars of Machinery/Plants

(1)	(2)
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- | | |
|--|--|
| 26. Boilers. | |
| 27. Mash Tun. | |
| 28. Oil Circuit breaker. | |
| 29. Malt Crushing Machine. | |
| 30. Preventer & Kit Kat. | |
| 31. Cylinder Grader. | |
| 32. Malt Bins. | |
| 33. Barely Washing Machine. | |
| 34. Cocal Cylinder. | |
| 35. Germination Boxes. | |
| 36. Other Machinery including elevators. | |
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Remittance facilities by Bank of Baroda to Barmalt (I) Private Limited, Gurgaon

1497. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Head Office of Bank of Baroda has directed its Parliament Street Branch to allow free remittance facilities to BARMALT (I) PRIVATE LIMITED, Gurgaon, by Mail Transfer;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mail Transfer documents are being handed over to the Party in contravention to Bank Rules and practices; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Mail Transfer documents intended for the drawee bank are not being handed over to the party. However, the copy of the Mail Transfer advice meant for the party is handed over to it. This or the facility of free Mail

Transfer to a client does not involve any contravention of the banks rules or practices.

(c) Does not arise.

Soft-Loan Scheme

1498. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is a soft loan scheme and what are the criteria of deciding the industries entitled for that;

(b) whether Government have a proposal for opening a soft loan window for the paper industry; and

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) At the instance of the Government of India a Scheme, known as Soft Loan Scheme, was introduced by the all-India term lending financial institutions in November 1976 for financing the modernisation programme in five selected industries viz., cotton textiles, jute, cement, sugar and certain specified engineering industries. These five industries were brought under the purview of the Scheme on the ground that they were in the key sector and there was considerable backlog of modernisation. Under the Soft Loan Scheme financial assistance on concessional terms is provided to industrial units in the selected industries mentioned above to enable them to overcome the backlog in modernisation replacement and renovation of their plant and machinery, so as to achieve higher and more economic levels of production and thereby improve their competitiveness in domestic as well as in the international markets. The basic criteria for assistance under the Scheme are weakness of industrial units arising out of the mechanical obsolescence and prospects

of viability after implementation of the modernisation scheme within a short period. Priority is given in sanctioning assistance to sick units namely those whose paid-up capital and reserves have been eroded to the extent of 50 per cent or more. The proportion of assistance given on soft terms depends on the extent of the weakness of the concerned unit. At present, IDBI, IFCI and ICICI grant advances under the scheme.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal to strengthen consumer Cooperative Movement

1499. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to strengthen the consumer cooperative movement in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has been operating centrally sponsored schemes for development and strengthening of consumers cooperative movement from 1971-72 under which financial assistance is made available to State Governments for:—

(i) setting up stores of various types;

(ii) setting up of consumer industries,

(iii) establishment of common kitchen centres for students,

(iv) rehabilitation of weak wholesale/central consumers cooperative stores, and

(v) strengthening of State Level Consumers and Marketing cum-

Consumer Cooperative Federations.

2. The Central Government is also operating central sector schemes for assisting the National Cooperative Consumer Federation and the Super Bazar, New Delhi, as well as for distribution of consumer articles in rural areas.

Permission to State Governments to operate scheduled Air Services not covered by I.A.

1500. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several State Governments have sought permission to operate scheduled air-services on routes not covered by Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon; and

(c) what are the names of the States which have sought the permission to operate the air services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c). Some State Governments, such as Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have applied for operating scheduled services to link cities within their States, presently not covered by the network of Indian Airlines. Operation of such services require a smaller type of aircraft with 16 to 20 seats. The general question of operation of feeder services, the type of aircraft to be used, the agency that should be entrusted with operation of such services, etc., are under consideration of Government. The requests received from the State Governments will be dealt with after a policy decision is taken by Government.

Persons arrested for Black Marketing and Hoarding

1501. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested during the last six months for black-marketing and hoarding in the country State-wise;

(b) what action had been taken against each of them; and

(c) the value of the essential commodities recovered from those arrested persons?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New Air Routes during Current Year

1502. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new air routes have been introduced in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to start new air routes during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines has introduced 4 new routes during the last three years commencing from April, 1977:—

(i) Bhopal/Jabalpur/Raipur with HS-748 aircraft from May 1977.

(ii) Allahabad has been added on the Delhi/Kanpur/Varanasi/Calcutta F-27 service from May 1978.

(iii) Srinagar/Leh Boeing-737 service from January, 1979.

(iv) Delhi/Varanasi/Bhubaneswar/Calcutta F-27 service from February 1980. The flight operates Delhi/Lucknow/Varanasi/Bhubaneswar / Calcutta from May, 1980.

(c) Indian Airlines has plans to operate a Boeing-737 service on the sector Madras/Port Blair/Madras in its Winter Schedule effective November, 1980.

Inclusion of Kudremukh Iron Ore concentrates in the Canalised List

1503. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kudremukh iron ore concentrates have been included in the canalised list;

(b) whether the export control order has also been amended; and

(c) if so, to which countries the export of iron ore will be made?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The export of iron ore is now canalised through the Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. The Export Control Order has been amended accordingly.

(c) The countries to which iron ore will be exported would depend on demand and other commercial factors.

Import of Edible Oils, Cement and Newsprint through S.T.C.

1504. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of import of edible oils, cement and newsprint through the S.T.C. during the year 1978-79 and 1979-80;

(b) the criteria adopted for their distribution amongst States;

(c) whether Government are considering to change their policy in regard to import of these commodities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Details of import of edible oils, cement and newsprint through the STC during the years 1978-79 and 1979-80 are as under:

Commodity	(Qty. Lakh MT)	
	1978-79	1979-80
Edible oils	5.71	10.85
Cement	16.55	15.47
Newsprint	2.33	3.13

(b) The criteria adopted for the distribution of edible oils amongst various States are the need/consumption pattern duly assessed and recommended by the concerned State Civil Supplies Department to the Ministry of Civil Supplies. On the basis of such recommendations and within the import plan for edible oils, the Ministry of Civil Supplies allocates edible oils to various States on monthly basis. Imported cement is allocated along with indigenous cement on quarterly basis to States by the Cement Controller on the basis of demands received from the States. There is no State-wise distribution criterion for Newsprint. Registrar of Newspapers makes allotments Newspaper-wise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Foreign visits by Ministers and Officers

1505. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the names of the Ministers and officers who visited foreign countries along with their purposes during the last four months; and

(b) the details regarding the foreign exchange needed for every Minister and official?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

T.A. and D.A. Rules Applicable to Central Government Employees

1506. SHRI N. E. HORO:
SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKER:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the T. A. and D. A. rules, applicable to the Central Government Employees are too old;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the D. A. granted to a Central Government employee is so low that one can hardly get accommodation in a third class hotel;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railway employees have got facilities such as free travel, accommodation etc. and now the bonus; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to consider giving bonus to other Central Government Employees as the work is same in all the Government offices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The T.A. and D.A. Rules applicable to Central Government employees are contained in Supplementary Rules. Although the Supplementary Rules, as such, are old, the rates of TA and DA have been revised from time to time. The existing rates of daily allowance are based on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. A further improvement in these rates was effected from 1-2-1978 on the recommendations of a Task Force set up for simplification/rationalisation of rules, by which the higher rates of daily allowance applicable at Bombay/Calcutta were made admissible at all 'A' class cities and Delhi/Simla rates at all 'B 1' class cities. The rates of road mileage were last revised with effect from 29-6-79.

In cases when the Government servant stays in a hotel or other establishment providing board and/or lodging at scheduled tariffs, the rates range from Rs. 6 to Rs. 35 per day for ordinary localities, from Rs. 8 to Rs. 40 in 'B1' class cities and from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50 in 'A' class cities according to the grade of the employee.

(c) Railway employees on tour on official duty are given free passes. No accommodation as such is available to Railway employees while on tour except running staff for whom running room facilities are available. At a few places rest houses for officers and subordinate staff are available, but accommodation is not guaranteed. Productivity linked bonus to Railway employees is not connected with TA/DA rules, but linked with the productivity of the Railways.

(d) Productivity linked bonus scheme has been conceded only in organisations and departmental enterprises engaged in production-related activities.

Drive against Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supply of Essential Commodities

1507. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State-wide drive to prevent blackmarketing and maintain the supply of essential commodities was launched by Government during President's rule in the States; and

(b) if so, the details regarding its performance in each of the said States?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

Cheap Accommodation to Tourists at State Capitals

1508. SHRI BHEEKABHAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Tourism Department contemplate to encourage tourism in the country;

(b) is there any proposal to provide cheap accommodation to tourists in State capitals of India; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c). In addition to the on-going programme of promotion of tourism and development of the infrastructure, Government has under active consideration several measures to expand tourist facilities for domestic as well as international tourists and simultaneously optimise marketing of tourism abroad. These facilities will *inter-alia* include development of new travel circuits, air-linking of small and medium tourist centres, provision of clean and comfortable accommodation as well as meals at moderate prices for domestic and budget minded foreign tourists etc. Inexpensive boarding and lodging facilities will be part of the programme of providing a mix of hotel accommodation over the next 10 years at centres of tourist, cultural, historical, religious and other interests.

In order to provide cheap and inexpensive accommodation to domestic tourists as well as budget-minded foreign tourists, a 1250-bed Yatri Niwas is already under construction at Delhi. On completion by January 1981, the Yatri Niwas will provide furnished accommodation in the form of twin-bedded and four bedded rooms with attached bath rooms at moderate rates.

Similar projects will be considered at other places only after the Government is satisfied with the results of operation of the Delhi project over the first 2-3 years.

Cases pending against Income-Tax Defaulters

1509. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending against Income tax defaulters all over the country at the end of December, 1978;

(b) the number of cases in which the amount involved is Rs. 25,000 and below, Rs. 25,000 to one lakh, Rs. one lakh to five lakh and above Rs. five lakh; and

(c) a brief outline of the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of these cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The information about the number of cases of outstanding demands is collected annually. In respect of demands upto Rs. 1 lakh the available information is only about the number of outstanding entries in the Demand and Collection Registers and not about the number of taxpayers. The classification of such entries into amounts of upto Rs. 25,000 and above that figure is also not maintained.

As on 31st March, 1980* there were 27,60,459 entries in the registers relating to cases of outstanding demands of upto Rs. 1 lakh. There were 8291 cases of outstanding demands of Rs. 1 lakh and above. Of these cases, 5250 pertained to the outstanding demand between Rs. 1 lakh and upto Rs. 5 lakhs in each case.

(c) The Income-tax Act, 1961 provides for several step for enforcing collection and recovery of tax arrears such as levy of penalty, attachment of monies due to the defaulters, distraint and sale of movable property, attachment and sale of immovable property, etc. Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, suitable steps are taken by the Income-tax Authorities concerned for recovery of tax arrears. Some of the administrative steps taken recently for the recovery of tax arrears are given in the Statement.

Statement

Some of the important steps taken recently to reduce the tax arrears and to recover these long over due are given below:—

(i) Highest priority, like last year, has been given to the recovery of

tax arrears in the "Action Plan" of the Income-tax Department for the current financial year.

(ii) The problem of tax arrears was examined in detail at the Commissioners' Conference held in May, 1980. The important decisions in pursuance of the Conference taken are:—

(a) Reduction of 55 per cent arrear demand and 85 per cent of the current demand;

(b) Reduction of the 85 per cent of the outstanding entries of the demand raised in 1979-80;

(c) Posting of separate ITOs, wherever required to deal exclusively with recovery of tax arrears exceeding Rs. 25,000 in each case.

(iii) Monthly monitoring of the progress of recovery of tax arrears has been in force. The figures are obtained telegraphically from the Commissioners and appropriate remedial action is taken by the Board.

(iv) Board exercises close supervision on the progress of the disposal of high demand appeals i.e. an appeal involving tax arrears of Rs. 1 lakh and above. For this purpose Commissioners of Income tax (Appeals) are addressed by the Member (Revenue & Audit) individually and the progress of disposal appraised periodically.

(v) A list of appeals pending with the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal involving large arrears was sent in 1979-80 to the President of the Tribunal through the Ministry of Law for disposal on priority basis. Commissioners of Income-tax were requested to keep in touch with Vice Presidents/Members of the local benches. They were also requested to meet the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Courts of their respective are as requesting them for early fixation of pending high demand references. A similar action has been decided for the current financial year.

(vi) A Director of Recovery of the rank of Commissioner of Income-tax is closely watching the progress of recovery of tax arrears particularly, in cases of Rs. 10 lakhs and above. His progress is supervised by the Board.

(vii) In order to speed up recovery of tax arrears from companies in liquidation, the Department of Company Affairs has, at the request of the Board, issued instruction in 1979 to all official liquidators to establish close liaison with the Income-tax authorities and furnish the required information to the ITOs. Suitable instructions have also been issued in this regard to the ITOs.

(viii) A "Tax Arrears and Refund Clearance Fortnight" will be observed in the second fortnight of January 1981 when special emphasis will be given for reducing the tax arrears.

Recruitment of Technical Cadre of Officers in Nationalised Banks

1510. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the names of the nationalised banks which have recruited technical cadre officers for processing loan cases from priority sectors of agriculture, small scale industries and other self-employed persons and the pay scales prescribed for them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): Since all the nationalised banks are now increasingly giving loans for agriculture, small scale industries, and to the self-employed entrepreneurs in the priority sectors, they recruit technical officers such as Agriculture Graduates and Engineering Graduates for processing such loan cases. There are two main categories of these officers namely (i) Agricultural Field Officers or Rural Development Officers; and (ii) Technical Officers for small scale industries. These officers are generally placed/being placed in the Junior Management Scale I namely Rs. 700—40—900—50—1100—EB—

1200—60—1800 plus D.A. and other allowances as are admissible.

Overdrafts of the State Governments

1511. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States have cleared their overdrafts as on the 31st December, 1979; and

(b) if not, the names of the States which did not clear the overdrafts and the extent to which they have overdrawn on that date?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No. State Government except the Government of West Bengal was in overdraft on the Reserve Bank of India on 29th December, 1979. Information is being furnished as on 29th December, 1979 since 31st December, 1979 was a Bank Holiday in view of the half-yearly closing of accounts and 30th December, 1979 was a Sunday.

(b) The overdraft of Government of West Bengal as on 29th December, 1979 was Rs. 1438 crores.

Expansion of Alloy Steel Plant

1513. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the additional capacity for in-built expansion of Alloy Steel Plant has not been carried out;

(b) whether thin sheet is being imported instead of adding facilities for rolling the thick sheet into thin ones; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A scheme for expansion (Stage-I of Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur for augmenting its capacity from 100,000 tonnes to 160,000 tonnes

of ingot steel a year is already under implementation.

(b) and (c). Thinner that is, cold rolled stainless steel sheets are being imported to fill the gap between domestic demand and availability, Facilities are being created for the production of cold rolled stainless steel sheets of different thicknesses at the Salem Steel Project. This will reduce the need for import of cold rolled stainless steel sheets.

Fair Price Shops in Hill State/Regions

1514. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fair price shops in each one of the States/Union territories of the Union as on 31st March, 1980;

(b) whether the number would be increased in the case of hill states/regions, in view of the different geographical terrain;

(c) if so, the number by which the fair price shops are proposed to be increased during the current financial year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) Based on information received from State Governments the number of fair price shops statewide as in the beginning of April, 1980 is given in statement attached.

(b) to (d): The Union Government had advised the State Governments to enlarge the Public Distribution System. The objective is to ensure that every village or a group of villages having a population of 2,000 has a fair price shop. The headquarters of a village Panchayat, irrespective of its population may have a fair price shop. In remote and inaccessible areas, particularly in tribal belts, the population coverage of a village or a cluster of villages, could be even one thousand. The State Governments are required to expand the retail outlets of the Public Distribution System accordingly.

Statement

Statement showing the number of Fair Price Ration Shops prepared on 15-4-1980

Sl. No.	State	Number of fair price shops
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22183
2.	Assam	14290
3.	Bihar	27109
4.	Gujarat	8658
5.	Haryana	4469
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2603
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1500
8.	Karnataka	14000
9.	Kerala	11648

1	2	3
10. Madhya Pradesh		18362
11. Maharashtra		26799
12. Manipur		525
13. Meghalaya		1476
14. Nagaland		111
15. Orissa		10345
16. Punjab		7443
17. Rajasthan		7973
18. Sikkim		13
19. Tamil Nadu		17002
20. Tripura		705
21. Uttar Pradesh		26419
22. West Bengal		17862
Total (State)		2,41,495

Loan from I.M.F. to meet Mounting Bill for Imported Crude

1515. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have decided to borrow some money from the International Monetary Fund's Trust to meet the mounting bill for imported crude?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): Discussions are in progress with the International Monetary Fund for obtaining a loan from the Trust Fund towards balance of payments assistance.

Visit of Finance Minister Abroad

1516. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details regarding the visit of the Finance Minister recently after attending the meeting of the interim development committees of the World

Bank at Hamburg and Asian Development Bank's annual meeting at Manila?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): The Finance Minister as the Governor for India on the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) attended the meetings of the Interim Committee and Development Committee at Hamburg. He attended the meeting of the Interim Committee of the Board of Governors of the IMF on the International Monetary System at Hamburg on April 25, 1980. The Finance Minister also attended the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the Bank and the Fund on the transfer of real resources to developing countries (Development Committee) on April 24 at Hamburg. He also attended the meeting of Ministers of the Group of

24 on 23rd April, 1980 at Hamburg. The discussions in the Interim Committee related mainly to the World Economic Outlook, the Substitution Account, the future of the Trust Fund, Fund policies regarding financing of payments imbalances, cost of using the Supplementary Financing Facility, Fund charges and Fund income position etc. The discussions in the Development Committee primarily concerned the programme lending for Structural Adjustment, Co-financing, Non-concessional flows, Private Foreign Investment, the Brandt Commission Report, the G-24, Programme of Immediate Action on International Monetary Reform, reduction of cost of using the Supplementary Financing Facility and increasing the repurchase period of the Extended Fund Facility.

2. After attending the above meetings, the Finance Minister in his capacity as Governor for India attended the 13th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank at Manila from April 30 to May 2, 1980. The 13th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank primarily focussed its attention on the following substantive issues:—

(i) the desirability of a substantial increase in the transfer of resources to developing countries, particularly in the light of rising inflation, substantially enhanced costs of oil imports, declining levels of output and investment, contraction in the growth rate of world trade, protectionist tendencies and large imbalances in the external payments position of member developing countries, (ii) the need to find larger resources for the Bank so that it may be able to raise the level of its lending operations rapidly and (iii) the necessity of ensuring a substantial increase in the Bank's concessional lending programme by augmenting the resources of the Asian Development Fund, and the adoption of a more flexible approach by the Bank with regard to programme and sector lending and financing of local costs.

I.A.A.I. Drive to obtain Airport Consultancy and Construction Projects

1517. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Airports Authority of India has launched any drive abroad to obtain airport consultancy and construction projects;

(b) if so, the names of such countries to whom the offers have been made to assist civil aviation authorities; and

(c) the details regarding the projects being financed by Indian Authorities as well as their progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b) International Airports Authority of India is exploring possibilities to obtain airport consultancy and construction projects abroad. At present, International Airports Authority of India is working in Libya, South Yeman, Maldives and Tanzania. International Airports Authority of India has also submitted a consultancy offer to the Government of Malayasia, which is under their consideration.

(c): At present, no project is being financed by the Indian authorities.

Gold Smuggling

1518. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any spurt in smuggling activity in gold;

(b) the details of the smuggled gold caught during January, February, March and April 1980; and

(c) the details of the smuggled gold in the possession of Government as on 30th April, 1980?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The quantity of gold seized by the Customs authorities during the months of January, February, March and April, 1980 was about 2.5 Kgs., 15.4 Kgs, 1.1 Kgs. and 2.2 Kgs. respectively.

(c) The quantity of confiscated gold in the possession of the India Government Mint, Bombay, was 26,104 Kgs. approximately, as on 30th April, 1980.

STC Decision to Increase Target for Export

1519. **SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Trading Corporation has decided to increase the target for export;

(b) if so, what are the items that have better market;

(c) whether it is a fact that in certain items which are handled by the STC, it has failed to achieve any success;

(d) if so, what are these items; and

(e) the reasons for STC's failure?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. STC has fixed a target of Rs. 672 crores for exports during 1980-81 as compared to estimated exports of Rs. 628 crores during 1979-80.

(b) Higher exports are envisaged in respect of rice, finished leather, engineering products, coffee, footwear, footwear components, and readymade garments.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Indiscriminate Distribution of Steel during 1980

1520. **SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to indiscriminate distribution of Steel during the first quarter of 1980 a number of consumers have abandoned the housing activity;

(b) whether it is a fact that steel quota for the States having Elections were supplied with double/additional quota; and

(c) if so, the quantity of steel supplied to different zonal net work of distribution during January-February, March-April, 1980?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

भरतपुर (राजस्थान) में नावदह के निकट हुई विमान दुर्घटना की जांच

1521. **श्री निहाल सिंह:** क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने राजस्थान में भरतपुर में नावदह के निकट 31 मार्च, 1980 को विमान दुर्घटना के कारणों की कोई जांच की है और यदि हां, तो उसके निष्कर्ष क्या हैं और उसके परिणामस्वरूप जान और माल की कितनी हानि हुई; और

(ख) इससे प्रभावित प्रत्येक व्यक्ति और उनके परिवारों को कितनी सहायता दी गई?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री चन्बूलाल चन्दाकर) (क) फाल्कन एयर का टिवन् बीच विमान बी टी-सी जैड एक्स उदयपुर से जयपुर के लिये एक निजी (गैर अनुसूचित) उड़ान के दौरान 31

मार्च, 1980 को जिला भरतपुर में नाव-दाई के निकट दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप इसमें सवार सभी व्यक्ति (विमानचालक सहित पांच व्यक्ति) मारे गए। आघात तथा उसके परिणामस्वरूप लगी आग के कारण विमान पूर्णतः ध्वस्त हो गया। दुर्घटना की जांच विमान नियम, 1937 के नियम 74 के अधीन नियुक्त जांच-समिति द्वारा की जा रही है।

(ख) विमान का यात्री-सीटों सहित, बीमा हुआ था। बीमा कम्पनी द्वारा औपचारिक-ताएँ पूरी कर लेने के पश्चात्, दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हर व्यक्ति बीमा की शर्तों के अनुसार क्षति-पूर्ति का हकदार होगा। क्षति पूर्ति की राशि प्रति-व्यक्ति लगभग 1 लाख रुपये होने की संभावना है।

हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड खेतड़ी में लेखे जोखे का रखरखाव

1522. श्री निहाल सिंह: क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड, खेतड़ी (राजस्थान) में रद्द की गई वस्तुओं के लेखे जोखे का तथा स्टॉक रजिस्ट्रों का भली भांति रख-रखाव किया जा रहा है और बकाया ऋण अग्रे मार्ग माल तथा बसूली योग्य दावों के बारे में समायोजन नहीं किया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इन मामलों में प्रत्येक में असावधानी से परिणामस्वरूप कितनी हानि होने की संभावना है और इसके लिए जिम्मेदार व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है?

याण्ड्य तथा इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता।

Take over of Mohini Mills by Union Government

1523. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal State Government has desired the take over

of the Mohini Mills by the Union Government and be run by the National Textile Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Air India Advertisements in Chelmsford Club, New Delhi

1524. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has entered into a deal with the management of Chelmsford Club, New Delhi regarding display of the Airlines advertisements on the club's premises;

(b) if so, the full details;

(c) whether one of the conditions is that Air India will supply one return ticket to London annually; and

(d) whether any ticket was issued so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Air India had entered into a transportation/service contract with the Chelmsford Club, Delhi in 1973 for display of Air India's mural on club premises against transportation to be provided on Air-India's services.

(b) The details of the contract are as follows:—

Period	TSC code	Amount
		Rs.
1973-74	52291	7036
1974-75	53296	7036
1975-76	54291	7036
1976-77	58197	5000
1977-78	55280	5000
1978-79	56321	5000

(c) No, Sir. The Transportation/ service contract did not specify that the ticket would be issued annually for Delhi/London/Delhi. Transportation for the value of the contract was available to the party on all international routes operated by Air India excluding certain sectors where Transportation service contract arrangements were not applicable.

(d) Yes, Sir. Four tickets were issued to the concerned party on the following sectors:—

- | | |
|---|------------|
| (i) Delhi/London/Delhi | Two ticket |
| (ii) Delhi/Bombay/Sydney/
Bombay/Delhi | One ticket |
| (iii) Delhi/Frankfurt/London/
Delhi | One ticket |

Change in Import Licence Policy of Wattle Extracts used in Leather Industry

1525. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have changed the import of wattle extracts used in Leather Industry from open general licence to restricted list;

(b) what are the reasons for this change;

(c) is it true that this change has crippled the Leather Industry and the small tanners in the country;

(d) whether Government have received representations from leather associations all over the country for restoration of the old policy; and

(e) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import has been restricted having regarding to indigenous production.

(c) Government have no such information.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Government have not considered it necessary to restore the earlier Open General Licence facility of import at this stage.

Representation made by all India Defence Accounts Employees Association

1526. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the All India Defence Accounts Employees Association;

(b) what are their demands; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government on it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) A number of representations are received in the normal course from the All India Defence Accounts Employees Association, both from the Headquarters Organisation and its branches spread all over the country. These relate to various general issues or individual specific cases and are dealt with by the Department in the normal manner.

Presumably the reference is to a representation dated 8th March, 1980 from Joint Action Council South Zone, Trivandrum, forwarded by the Hon'ble Member on the 24th March, 1980.

(b) The demand made therein is for opening new offices/upgrading some of the existing offices of the Defence Accounts Department in the South to enable more employees from the South to be posted to their home States.

(c) The matter is under examination.

Opening of Branch of Controller of Defence Accounts in Kerala

1527. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have received any representation to open a branch of the Controller of Defence Account (Pension) Office in Kerala; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government of India in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Demands made by Senior Auditors Association

1528. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Senior Auditors Association;

(b) what are their demands; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands of the Association, which is an unrecognised one, are as follows:—

(i) The S.A.S. Examination may be scrapped.

(ii) The system of grant of advance increment to all Section Officers and Auditors on passing the Receipt Audit Examination may be

replaced by a system of grant of special allowance to the personnel actually engaged in local audit.

(iii) The benefit of fixation of pay under F.R. 22-C on promotion of Auditors to Selection Grade which has been taken away by the recent orders converting the Selection Grade into non-functional one may be restored.

(c) (i) In the Indian Audit and Accounts Department, promotion of Auditors and Selection Grade Auditors to the rank of Section Officer, who is to supervise the work of an entire section, is on the basis of passing the Subordinate Accounts Service Examination. This system has been in force for a very long time and in view of the technical nature of the work of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department, the examination scheme cannot be scrapped.

(ii) Advance increments are granted to all Section Officers and Auditors on their passing the Receipt Audit Examination. This benefit cannot be extended to unqualified persons when engaged on local audit in the absence of qualified persons since qualified persons are in receipt of advance increments as per the authorised scheme.

(iii) On demand from the staff side of the Departmental Council (JCM) of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department, the scale of pay of Selection Grade Auditors was improved upon by Government from Rs. 425—640 to Rs. 425—700. Whereas the former was a functional grade, the latter was sanctioned as a non-functional grade on the basis of general criteria prescribed for sanctioning selection grade posts, which are based on the recommendations made by the Third Pay Commission. The method of pay fixation has also to conform to these general criteria. However, protection has been afforded to those who are affected by the retrospective application of the revised orders.

Malpractices indulged in respect of deposits by non-banking companies

1529. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NAVIN RAYANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to order an enquiry into the malpractices indulged in by non-banking companies in respect of the deposits they invite from the public;

(b) if so, whether the inquiry has been ordered and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in negative, the reason for delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No, Sir.

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

Higher export target for current financial year

1530. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has fixed a higher export target for the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details and in what way the proposed target is to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. STC has fixed a target of Rs. 672 crores for exports during 1980-81 as compared to estimated exports worth Rs. 628 crores during 1979-80.

(b) Higher exports are envisaged in respect of rice, finished leather, engineering products, coffee, footwear, footwear components and readymade garments. It is proposed to lay greater emphasis on exports

of non-canalised items, target for which has been fixed at Rs. 280 crores as compared to actual exports worth Rs. 208 crore, last year. STC has been promoting exports of non-canalised items by providing assistance to industries, developing infrastructure, undertaking other developmental products, introducing new items and tapping new markets for existing items.

Agreement with Iran to buy Ore from Kudremukh Project

1531. SHRIMATI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iran was committed to buy 7.5 million tonnes of ore from Kudremukh every year for 20 years under the 1974 Agreement and Iran has only provided 225 million dollars for the project against 650 million dollars and the project has come up on Indian funds in the last two years;

(b) whether there exists any penal clauses against renewing the contract; if so, what;

(c) the manner in which Government propose to utilise the Kudremukh ore;

(d) the stage at which the setting up of the pelletisation plant at Mangalore stands; and

(e) what action is being taken to speed up this project so that the surplus Kudremukh ore is fully utilised?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In accordance with the agreements made in November, 1975, Iran is expected to take 150 million tonnes of Kudremukh concentrate over a 21 year period starting from September, 1980 and to give a credit not exceeding \$630 million for the construction of Kudremukh project. Only \$255.175 million have been paid by Iran so far from the credit

and the Government of India have been fully financing the project for about 1½ years.

(b) There is no question of renewing the contract before its term has expired.

(c) & (d). Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Limited are making efforts to find alternative markets for the surplus concentrate. The possibility of pelletising the material in India is also under consideration.

(e) The Kudremukh Iron Ore project is on schedule.

Revalidation of Edible Oil Import Licences

1532. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revalidate all edible oil import licences held in abeyance since December, 1978, when the edible oil imports were canalised through the State Trading Corporation;

(b) the names of the private licences the quantum of oil to be imported and the countries of import;

(c) the considerations which have weighed with Government in importing oil on private account;

(d) the manner in which this oil will be sold/distributed and whether any margin of profit by the trade has been pre-determined; and

(e) if so, what machinery has been set up to check any malpractices or over-profiteering by the private licences in this import?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Government have decided to consider revalidating the import licences for edible oils issued in pursuance of firm contracts entered into before 2 December, 1978, when the import of these oils was canalised through the State Trading Corporation. Under this decision licences are being revalidated.

(b) Details of the licences thus revalidated are given in the statement attached.

(c) These licences were issued to honour firm commitments entered into under Open General Licences before 2nd December, 1978, when import of these edible oils was canalised through State Trading Corporation.

(d) No conditions pertaining to sale, distribution and pricing of the oils imported against these licences were stipulated at the relevant time when contracts were entered into for their import under the Open General Licence in force.

(e) Administrative arrangements already exist for taking suitable action under Import Control Regulations in the event of any violations of import licence conditions.

Statement

Names of the Parties whose licences have been revalidated as on 17-6-1980 and quantum of oils to be imported and countries of imports

S No.	Name of the parties	Quantum of edible oils for which revalidation granted	Countries of Imports	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. V. Suresh & Co., Bombay	125 MTs.	Singapore.	
2.	M/s. Do.	125 MTs.	Malaysia.	

1	2	3	4	5
3.	M/s. The Vegetables Vitamin Foods Co. (P) Ltd., Bombay.	300 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
4.	M/s. Swaika Oil Mills, Calcutta.	1000 MTs.	Malaysia/UK/Switzerland.	
5.	M/s. Swaika Vanspati Products Ltd., Cal.	500 MTs.	Malaysia.	
6.	M/s. Ramdeo Manadeo Prasad, Calcutta.	1000 MTs.	Do.	
7.	M/s. Swaika Stand Oil & Varnish Co. Ltd., Calcutta.	500 MTs.	Do.	
8.	M/s. Prakash Trading Co., Bombay.	250 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
9.	M/s. Ramanlal & Co., Madras.	450 MTs.	Do.	
10.	M/s. Amin Manilal & Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.	500 MTs.	Do.	
11.	M/s. Kanani Oil Mills, Bombay.	250 MTs.	Netherland/Fenang/Malaysia.	
12.	M/s. Bafna Brothers, Vizianagram.	750 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
13.	M/s. Krishna Oil Cake, Upleta.	238 MTs.	Do.	
14.	M/s. Hyder Enterprises, Madras.	100 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
15.	M/s. Do.	250 MTs.	Do.	
16.	M/s. Ashok Oil Mills, Bombay.	129 MTs.	Malaysia.	
17.	M/s. Dipak Solvent Extraction Industries, Manavadar.	1850 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
18.	M/s. Jai Bharat Oil Mills, Bombay.	1000 MTs.	Malaysia.	
19.	M/s. Jain Sudh Vanaspati Ltd., New Delhi.	13000 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
20.	M/s. Hanuman Cottonseeds, Bombay.	200 MTs.	Do.	
21.	M/s. M/s. Jamal & Co., Vizianagram.	850 MTs.	Do.	
22.	M/s. Alimchand Topandas, Bombay.	125 MTs.	Do.	
23.	M/s. Do.	125 MTs.	Do.	
24.	M/s. Allana Sons Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.	1550 MTs.	Do.	
25.	M/s. Bombay Extractions, Bombay.	160 MTs.	Do.	
26.	M/s. Jai Hind Oil Mills, Bombay.	1150 MTs.	Zanzibar/Tanzania.	
27.	M/s. Hanif Shabbir Brothers, Visakhapatnam.	250 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore/Mozambique/Zanzibar.	
28.	M/s. Haji Jakaria Haji Ebrahim, Kakinada.	50 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
29.	M/s. Do.	50 MTs.	Do.	
30.	M/s. M. Jamal Co., Vizianagram.	750 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
31.	M/s. Kothari Oil Products Co., Rajkot.	250 MTs.	Do.	
32.	M/s. Sanjiv Kumar Dhanji, Bombay.	250 MTs.	Canada/Singapore/Malaysia.	

1	2	3	4	5
33.	M/s. Madras Commercial Co., Madras.	75 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
34.	M/s. Piyus Trading Co., Bombay	500 MTS.	Malaysia/Singapore. U.S.A.	
35.	M/s. Narayan & Co., Madras.	520 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
36.	M/s. Lucky Industries, Ahmedabad.	125 MTs.	do.	
37.	M/s. Jayant Oil Mills, Jamnagar.	100 MTs.	do.	
38.	M/s. Naryan & Co., Madras.	200 MTs.	do.	
39.	M/s. do.	500 MTs.	do.	
40.	M/s. do.	200 MTs.	do.	
41.	M/s. do.	1000 MTs.	do.	
42.	M/s. do.	200 MTs.	do.	
43.	M/s. Kedia Oil Processing Industries) Hyderabad.	100 MTs.	Malaysia.	
44.	M/s. Madura Traders, Madras.	75 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
45.	M/s. S.S. Duraiswamy Nadar, Madras.	100 MTs.	do	
46.	M/ . Hanif Shabbir Brothers, Visakhapatnam.	100 MTs.	do.	
47.	M/s. Hindustan Breweries & Bottling Ltd., New Delhi.	950 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
48.	M/s. Orissa Oil Industries Ltd., Orissa.	250 MTs.	Belgium.	
49.	M/s. Vinod Solvextracts Ltd., Madras.	900 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
50.	M/s. Vinod Trading Co., Madras.	1000 MTs.	do.	
51.	M/s. Prabhat Solvent Extractions Ind., Pvt. Ltd., Rajkot.	2000 MTs.	Canada/Singapore/ Malaysia.	
52.	M/s. Navarashtra Oil Mills (P) Ltd, Calcutta.	150 MTs.	Malaysia.	
53.	M/s. Reliable Extraction Ind. Pvt., Ltd., Bombay.	1500 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore/ Switzerland/U.S.A.	
54.	M/s. Yadalam & Co., Madras.	3500 MTs.	Singapore/Malaysia.	
55.	M/s. Ramesh Kumar & Co. (P) Ltd., Calcutta.	300 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
56.	M/s. Naraindas Brothers, Bombay.	56 MTs.	do.	
57.	M/s. Satish & Co., Hyderabad.	2500 MTs.	Any European Port/ U.S.A./Malaysia.	
58.	M/s. Uttar Bharat Vanaspati Pvt., Ltd., Jaipur.	2000 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
59.	M/s. Premier Vegetable Products Ltd., Jaipur.	1500 MTs.	do.	
60.	M/s. Jaju Exports Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur.	2500 MTs.	do.	
61.	M/s. Lalchand Sohanlal, Calcutta.	150 MTs.	Malaysia.	
62.	M/s. Liberty Oil Mills, Bombay.	231 MTs.	Singapore/Malaysia/ France/Zanzibar.	

1	2	3	4	5
63.	M/s. Kbalig Brothers, Madras.	500 MTs.	Malaysia/Singapore.	
64.	M/s. Jaipur Oil Products Pvt. Ltd., Jaipur.	1000 MTs.	do.	
65.	M/s. Sabura Traders, Madras.	153 MTs.	do.	

Total Quantity involved : 53,012 MTs of edible oils.

Decanalisation of Rubber Imports

1534. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Rubber Industries Association has demanded for decanalisation of rubber imports; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) After due consideration of all aspects, it has been decided to maintain *status quo*, regarding canalisation of rubber imports through State Trading Corporation of India.

Norms of retirement age in Nationalised Banks

1535. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different norms of retirement age are followed in nationalised banks for those who joined service before and after 1969;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are being taken to solve the anomalous situation created thereby?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAJ BAROT): (a)

and (b). The retirement age of clerical and subordinate staff of banking industry is uniformly 60 years. The retirement age of officers in the nationalised banks recruited before and after nationalisation is given in the following table:

(i) Retirement age of Officers in banks nationalised in 1969.

S.No.	Name of the Bank	Age of retirement for pre-1969 recruits	Age of retirement for post 1969 recruits
		Years	Years
1.	Central Bank of India	60	58
2.	Bank of India	60	58
3.	Punjab National Bank	60	58
4.	Bank of Baroda	60	58
5.	United Commercial Bank	60	58
6.	Canara Bank	60	58
7.	United Bank of India	60	58
8.	Dena Bank	60	58
9.	Union Bank of India	60	58
10.	Indian Bank	60	58
11.	Bank of Maharashtra	60	58
12.	Indian Overseas Bank	60	58

(1)	(2)	(3)
	Years	Years
13. Allahabad Bank .	58	58
14. Syndicate Bank .	58	58

(ii) *Age of retirement of officers in newly nationalised six banks.*

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Retirement Age
1.	Punjab & Sind Bank .	55 Years
2.	Andhra Bank	58 Years (60 years for officers recruited before 1-1-73)
3.	Corporation Bank	58 Years
4.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	60 Years
5.	Vijaya Bank	60 years
6.	New Bank of India	60 Years

(c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Shortcomings of Public Sector Canalising Agencies

1536. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortcomings of the public sector canalising agencies and have made efforts to ensure better working thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the new Planning Commission has been asked to look into the problems; and

(c) if so, the details of the problems and the findings of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Reviews periodically undertaken by Government, in terms of provisions of the constitution and/or Articles of

Association of Public Sector Canalising Agencies, do at times reveal shortcomings, which are set right through appropriate measures. The operations of the canalising agencies are also reviewed by various committees of Parliament viz. the Estimates Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, the Committee on Public Undertakings and the Consultative Committee of Parliament. The canalising agencies also submit Annual Report to the Parliament which form the subject of debate. There are, thus, built-in control and supervision mechanisms. Moreover, Government sometimes appoint special study groups and Committees to go into the detailed working of the Public Sector Canalising Agencies and based on their recommendations, structural adjustments in Public Sector trading corporations are made, designed to improve the services to their clientele.

(b) and (c). No specific request has been made by Government to the Planning Commission for looking into the problems of the Public Sector canalising agencies.

Investment in Indian Companies by American Investors

1537. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether American investors have shown willingness to invest in Indian Companies if permitted to have management control for at least 10 years; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). No suggestion of this nature has been received. However, in terms of investment and FERA policies of the Government where permission for a subsidiary is granted, based on sophisticated technology or export-orientation, it will be possible for the

foreign investor to have majority control over the operations of the Indian company. In all other cases, foreign investors are allowed only upto 40 per cent of shares in an Indian company provided the proposed investment is in an area where foreign investment is permissible.

Disposal of surplus iron ore from the Kudremukh project

1538. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts to locate alternative markets abroad for the surplus iron ore concentrates from the Kudremukh Project in Karnataka have proved futile; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps proposed to be taken for the disposal of surplus ore?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Vigorous efforts are being made by Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. to find alternative markets for the concentrate.

Guidelines for Appointments to Posts carrying special pay in Central Excise and Customs Department

1539. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down any guidelines for regulating appointments to posts carrying special pay in the Central Excise and Customs Department and if so, whether a copy of the orders will be laid on the table of the House;

(b) whether special pay posts are treated as selection posts or non-selection posts;

(c) whether any minimum qualifications in the particular grade has been prescribed for regulating appointments to Special Pay Posts;

(d) whether there are several cases where officers are appointed to Special Pay Posts immediately on promotion to higher posts e.g. from Assistant Collector to Dy. Collector, from Superintendent Group 'B' to Assistant Collector etc.; and

(e) whether the Special Pay Posts are utilised to accommodate certain officers on verge of superannuation to enable them to get extra pension and gratuity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Special pay is attached to a post in terms of the relevant Fundamental Rules having regard to the nature of the duties appertaining to such post. Posting of officers to the posts carrying special pay are made in the same manner and on the same considerations as to other posts. There are no formal orders/guidelines regulating appointment to posts carrying special pay.

(b) These are not selection posts.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is no bar to a person being appointed to a special pay post immediately on his promotion.

(e) postings are not made on this kind of consideration.

Recruitment of Officers of other Departments after Superannuation

1540. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Tourism has been recruiting officers belonging to other Departments after their superannuation and if so, how many such retired officers have been taken in the I.T.D.C. during the last two years;

(b) what are the special grounds for recruiting such retired officers in the I.T.D.C. from other Departments and whether qualified persons are not

available for promotion from lower posts; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the feasibility of replacing immediately such retired officers and release such posts from being filled up by eligible officers from within the I.T.D.C.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c). During the last two years, the Department of Tourism recruited only one superannuated officer who was appointed in an honorary capacity on a token salary of Re. 1.00 per month for a period of two years. The term of this officer will be over on 15th August, 1980. This officer was appointed on account of her specialised experience.

The India Tourism Development Corporation have themselves re-employed, during the last two years, three retired officers who belonged to other Departments of the Government. This was due to the non-availability of suitable officers within the Corporation itself to perform certain special assignments entrusted to them.

Government are always aware of the need to replace the retired officers by suitable personnel and action is always taken accordingly.

Excise Duty on Lower Priced Cigarettes

1541. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Financial Express' dated 16th May, 1980 under the caption "Cigarette units seek tax relief";

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the implications of the above representation which if accepted by

Government will cut at the roots of the smaller units in the Cigarette industry;

(c) what steps Government propose to take for protecting the interests of the smaller units in the industry;

(d) whether Government appreciate that any further burden by way of Excise Duty on lower priced Cigarettes would result in price hike of cigarettes consumed by the lower strata of society; and

(e) whether Government do agree that any price hike of cheaper variety of cigarettes would add to the general price spiral particularly of a commodity which has a broad based consumption?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). Government have not accepted the proposals contained in the representation referred to in the news item.

(c) to (e). The structure of excise duty on cigarettes has been designed in such a way that cheaper cigarettes bear a lower rate of duty and costlier cigarettes bear a substantially higher rate of duty. There is no proposal at present to give any relief in the existing rate of duty applicable to cheaper priced cigarettes manufactured by smaller units.

आयकर विभाग के कर्मचारियों द्वारा बोनस की मांग

1542. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारत सरकार के आय कर विभाग में कितने कर्मचारी काम करते हैं;

(ख) क्या इस विभाग के कर्मचारियों ने बोनस संबंधी अपनी मांग को लेकर आन्दोलन शुरू किया है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि बंगाल आय कर चतुर्थ श्रेणी कर्मचारी एसोसिएशन ने दिनांक 14 मार्च को अपनाए गए संकल्प में बोनस की अदायगी की मांग की है; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री जगन भाई बरोडे): (क) आयकर विभाग में 1 जनवरी, 1980 की स्थिति के अनुसार, विभिन्न श्रेणियों में (राजपत्रित तथा अराजपत्रित) कर्मचारियों के स्वीकृत पदों की संख्या 48,257 थी। इसमें विभागीय लेखा संगठन के कर्मचारी और स्क्षम प्राधिकारी भी शामिल हैं।

(ख) आयकर कर्मचारियों के कुछ स्थानीय संघों और उनमें सम्मिलित कुछ यूनिटों ने आयकर विभाग के कर्मचारियों को बोनस देने का निवेदन किया है। पटियाला, आगरा आदि जैसे कुछ स्थानों पर बोनस की मंजूरी के लिए आयकर कर्मचारियों द्वारा प्रदर्शन किये जाने की भी रिपोर्टें मिली हैं।

(ग) जी, हाँ।

(घ) आयकर विभाग के कर्मचारियों को बोनस मंजूर करने का कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

Aluminium Plants and their installed capacity

1543. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) number of Aluminium Plants in the country and their total installed capacity;

(b) number of public sector and private sector plants and total installed capacity of each sector;

(c) value and quantity of import of aluminium year-wise, from 1970-71 to 1979-80;

(d) what is the quantity planned to be imported during 1980-81; and

(e) whether upto 1979-80 India was not only self-sufficient in Aluminium production, she was also exporting certain quantity?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHARJEE): (a) & (b). The details of the number of aluminium plants in

public and private sectors in the country together with their total installed capacity, are given below:

Name of the Company	Installed capacity (TPA)
<i>Public Sector</i>	
M/s. Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (Smelter at Korba in M.P.)	100,000
<i>Private Sector</i>	
1. M/s. Indian Aluminium Company Limited (Smelters at Belgaum—Karnataka, Alwaye—Kerala and Hitakud—Orissa)	96,170
2. M/s. Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Limited (Smelter at Renukoot, U.P.)	100,000
3. M/s. Madras Aluminium Company Limited (Smelter at Mettur Dam, T.N.)	25,000
Total	321,170

(c) The quantity of aluminium imported and the value thereof, from 1970-71 to 1979-80 year-wise, is indicated below:

Year	Quantity imported (tonnes)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1970-71	5660	265.71
1971-72	19117	744.25
1972-73	462	22.19
1973-74	136	4.69
1974-75	209	20.29
1975-76	5063	384.18
1976-77	336	27.93
1977-78	5536	539.61
1978-79	32974	4215.00
1979-80	76028	10956.00

Source: 1. Data for the years from 1970-71 to 1977-78 relate to aluminium and aluminium alloys unwrought and are available in the 'Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India' published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta.

2. Data for the years 1978-79 and 1979-80 have been collected from the importing agents namely MMTC & BALCO and relate to import of aluminium ingots as well as EC grade wire rods.

(d) The quantum of import is determined from time to time keeping in view the demand for the metal and the estimate of indigenous production. The Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation has so far placed orders for import of about 60,000 tonnes during the current financial year.

(e) Owing to slackness in demand and an increase in production in the country during the year 1975-76 the primary producers were allowed to export about 34,000 tonnes of the metal during 1976-77. India has been importing large quantities of aluminium since September, 1977.

Nationalisation of 'Hindalco' and 'Indal' Aluminium Plants

1544. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to nationalise the aluminium plants in the country, namely 'Hindalco' owned by the Birla, and 'Indal' controlled by Mahindra and Mahindra;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB

MOUKHERJEE): (a) At present, no proposal is under consideration for nationalisation of the aluminium plants of Hindalco and Indal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Nationalisation will be considered when circumstances demand such a course.

Bank Advances to Industrial Sector

1545. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total bank advances to the industrial sector as at the end of 1979;

(b) total bank advances to the (1) Small Scale Industries; (2) large-scale and medium scale industries; (3) companies under the control of 75 large industrial houses; and (4) companies under the control of 20 largest houses;

(c) how far the pattern of bank advances has helped reduction of imbalance in industrial development?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The total outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks to the industrial sector as at the end of December, 1979 amounted to Rs. 10,264 crores.

(b) The break-up of banks' advances to large and medium scale industries and small scale industries as at the end of December, 1979 was as follows:—

	(Rs. in crores)
1. Small Scale Industries	— 2556
2. Large & Medium Scale Industries	— 7708
	—————
	10264
	—————

As at the end of December, 1978 (the latest information available), the total bank advances outstanding to the

companies belonging to the 80 large industrial groups registered under section 26 of the MRTP Act, 1969 amounted to Rs. 1713.56 crores. Of this, advances outstanding against the 20 largest industrial houses (ranked by the size of their assets in 1978) amounted to Rs. 915.10 crores.

(c) Since the nationalisation of 14 banks in July, 1969, the pattern of bank advances has shown a definite shift in favour of small scale industries raising its share in the advances to the industrial sector from about 10 per cent in March, 1968 to nearly 25 per cent in December, 1979.

Retail prices of goods of daily consumption

1546. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the retail prices of the following goods of daily consumption in

December, 1979 and 20th May, 1980;—each edible oil, meat, fish, sugar, detergents, eggs, washing soap, bathing soap, Match boxes cigarettes and pulses; and

(b) factors responsible for rise in fall in prices in each case?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) Information is given in the statement for the terminal week of December, 1979 and the week ending 23-5-1980.

(b) The retail prices of matches during the past five months have remained steady, while the trend in retail prices of pulses has been a mixed one. The increase, in general, in retail prices of other commodities specified in part (a) of the question during the past five months may be attributed to inflationary situation, fall in production, rise in input costs and the seasonality factor.

STATEMENT

RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED GOODS OF DAILY CONSUMPTION

Commodity/Centre	Variety	Unit	Retail prices as on	
			28-12-79	23-5-80
1	2	3	4	5
1. Masoor Dal		Rs./Kg		
Gr. Bombay		"	5.00	4.40
Coimbatore		"	5.25	3.70
Jalpaiguri		"	5.00	3.60
Delhi		"	4.80	4.20
2. Arhar Dal		Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay		"	5.00	4.50
Coimbatore		"	5.00	4.80
Jalpaiguri		"	5.00	5.00
Delhi		"	4.60	4.20

	1	2	3	4	5
3. Moong Dal			Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay			"	5.00	5.80
Coimbatore			"	5.25	5.25
Jalpaiguri			"	5.00	5.80
Delhi			"	4.80	5.80
4. Urad Dal			Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay			"	5.00	4.80
Coimbatore			"	4.00	3.80
Jalpaiguri			"	4.50	4.50
Delhi			"	4.80	4.60
5. Gram			Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay			"	2.80	3.00
Coimbatore			"	3.00	3.30
Jalpaiguri			"	उपलब्ध नहीं	3.40
Delhi			"	2.50	3.00
6. Sugar			Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay			"	4.00	5.20
Salem			"	4.55	5.70
Jalpaiguri			"	5.00	6.00
Delhi			"	5.00	5.80
7. Groundnut Oil			Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay			"	10.20	10.60
Salem			"	9.20	9.90
Gr. Calcutta			"	17.00	16.00
Delhi			"	11.50	12.00
8. Gingelly Oil			Rs./Kg.		
Gr. Bombay			"	12.00	13.50
Salem			"	12.25	15.25
Gr. Calcutta			"	17.00	22.00
Delhi			"	12.00	18.00

	1	2	3	4	5	
9. Mustard Oil			Rs./Kg.			
Gr. Bombay			"	12.50	13.50	
Amritsar			"	10.95	11.50	
Gr. Calcutta			"	13.00	13.50	
Delhi			"	11.40	12.00	
10. Coconut Oil			Rs./Kg.			
Gr. Bombay			"	16.00	17.00	
Coimbatore			"	14.47	15.34	
Gr. Calcutta			"	20.00	21.00	
Delhi			"	16.50	18.00	
11. Fish			Rs./Kg.			
Pune Pomphret			"	15.00	15.00	
Ootcamund —			"	5.00	4.25	
Jalpaiguri Rohu			"	18.00	20.00	
Amritsar Rohu			"	7.00	8.00	
12. Goat & Sheep Meat			Rs./Kg.			
Gr. Bombay			"	15.00	16.00	
Salem			"	17.00	19.00	
Amritsar			"	14.00	16.00	
Delhi			"	15.00	15.00	
13. Washing Soap		501 Tata	1/2 Bar			
Srinagar		"	"	1.60	1.65	
Amritsar		"	"	1.45	1.50	
Jaipur		"	"	1.55	1.65	
Lucknow		"	"	1.65	1.80	
14. Toilet Soap			Life Bouy	Rs./Cake		
Gr. Bombay			"	"	1.55	1.80
Jaipur			"	"	1.60	1.84
Jalpaiguri			"	"	1.65	1.65
Delhi			"	"	1.60	1.75

1	2	3	4	5
15. <i>Match Box</i>		Rs./Box		
Srinagar		"	0.15	0.15
Gr. Bombay		"	0.20	0.20
Coimbatore		"	0.12	0.12
Delhi		"	0.20	0.20

Note : Such information in respect of detergents, eggs and Cigarettes is not available.
 Source : weekly Bulletin of Retail Prices of essential Commodities.

Tandon Committee Report

1547. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tandon Committee Report has been examined by Government;

(b) if so, the details regarding the export policy recommendations and suggestions;

(c) whether for creation of new capacity for export-oriented industrial projects, the Committee has recommended the revival of the scheme that was in operation prior to March 31, 1970 under which tax credit was allowed to the extent of increase in export earnings in the corporate sector; and

(d) if so, the suggestions which have been accepted by Government on export policy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) It is an Interim Report and the recommendations are being examined.

(b) and (c). According to the Report of the Tandon Committee submitted to the Government, a real rate of growth of total Exports at 10 per cent is considered necessary to attain a target of export amounting to Rs. 17,968 crores by 1990-91. The Committee's

interim recommendations inter alia include special facilities for export-oriented industries, such as, facilities for inputs, finance, creation of new capacity including the revival of the scheme that was in operation prior to March 31, 1970 under which tax credit was allowed to the extent of increase in export earnings in the corporate sector, continuance of the system of cash compensatory support on a stable basis and rationalisation of the system of duty draw back and procedures relating to that, duty-free import of capital goods and other inputs for 100 per cent exporting units, streamlining of all licensing formalities in the case of exporting units etc.

(d) The recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Boarding and lodging facilities for domestic tourists

1548. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that domestic tourists are experiencing great difficulties particularly in Delhi and in other cities regarding their boarding and lodging facilities; and

(b) if so, whether the Department of Tourism has taken some steps in this regard to provide facilities to the domestic tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). In order to provide boarding and lodging facilities at inexpensive rates to domestic tourists as well as budget minded foreign tourists in Delhi, a 1250-bed Yatri Niwas is presently under construction at a central location in the Capital. On completion by January 1981 the Yatri Niwas will provide furnished accommodation in the form of twin bedded and four bedded rooms with attached bath rooms. The rates for boarding and lodging proposed at present will be as follows:—

Boarding:

Rs. 15/- per bed per day in a 2 bedded room;

Rs. 30/- per day for a 2 bedded room;

Rs. 10/- per bed per day in a 4-bedded room.

Boarding:

Lunch/dinner	vegetarian	Thali	—
			Rs. 4.50
	non-vegetarian		Rs. 6.00
Breakfast			Rs. 2.00
Tea			Rs. 0.50

Similar projects will be considered at other places only after the Government is satisfied with the results of operation of the Delhi project over the first 2-3 years.

The Department of Tourism has also constructed youth hostels and tourist bungalows at selected tourist centres with the object of providing inexpensive accommodation, particularly for the youth and domestic tourists.

A Society named Bharatiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti has also been set up under the Societies Registration

Act of 1860 to provide accommodation facilities at selected pilgrim centres of national importance and to serve the needs of the large number of low income group tourists travelling on pilgrimage to these centres.

Raise in lending of banks for priority Sector

1549. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:** Will the **MINISTER OF FINANCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to direct the Reserve Bank of India to issue instructions to the scheduled commercial banks to ensure the Scheduled Castes small and marginal farmers are able to avail themselves of credit from out of the increased percentage set aside for the priority sector; and

(b) whether the percentage of total lending of the banks for the priority sector has also been raised and if so, to what extent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). The Government has decided that the banks should endeavour to raise the share of priority sector advances in their aggregate credit from 33.3 per cent to 40 per cent.

The Banks have been separately advised that 50 per cent of their total agricultural advances go to small and marginal farmers and that credit planning should be weighted in favour of Scheduled Castes and Tribes for whom special bankable schemes are to be drawn up to ensure a larger flow of credit to them. Under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme, the public sector banks advance loans to eligible borrower at 4 per cent rate of interest. It has been stipulated that atleast 40 per cent of the advances under the DRI Scheme go to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Alleged import of Sub-standard Raw Rubber

1550. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASH-EKHAR MURTHY:

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Trading Corporation has threatened the small scale rubber manufacturers to forfeit their earnest money for not lifting imported raw rubber;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the rubber manufacturers have alleged that sub-standard quality of raw rubber had been imported by STC and hence they could not be forced to lift such sub-standard raw rubber; and

(c) if so, whether any settlement was reached and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The STC imported natural rubber on the basis of the requirements registered with them by the actual users. The earnest money of those who have not lifted the imported rubber has been forfeited irrespective of the size of manufactures, as per contract.

(b) and (c). Complaints have been received but these are without basis. Natural rubber purchased by STC had been surveyed by the surveyors of General Superintendents Group (India limited), and it has been certified by them that the goods conform to international Standards. Allottees are also free to inspect the rubber before taking delivery. However, in order to allay any lingering doubts in the minds of the buyers, STC is getting the goods surveyed once again.

649 LS—7.

Report of Economic and Scientific Research Foundation

1551. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economic and Scientific Research Foundation in its report has stated that import impulse has lost its original thrust in the private corporate sector;

(b) if so, whether any reason has been attributed for this kind of statement; and

(c) whether Government have made a study of the suggestions made by the Foundation and to what extent they have been accepted?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No, Sir,

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

Indian Airlines to Replace HS-748 AVRO Aircraft

1552. SHRI CHADNRAJIT YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Aeronautics Limited proposes to stop production of HS-748 Avro-aircraft; and

(b) if so, whether Indian Airlines propose to replace these by any other aircraft, their details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) The current demand for HS-748 Aircraft is likely to be completed by the end of 1982-83. There-after Hindustan Aeronautics Limited will stop production of the HS-748 aircraft as there is no further demand.

(b) Indian Airlines is considering the phasing out of HS-748 aircraft in its fleet. Studies in this regard will be taken up by Indian Airlines shortly.

Breach of Guidelines Regarding Control of Credit outgo

1553. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of banks that have been pulled up in 1979-80 by the Reserve Bank of India for again breaching the guidelines for strictly controlling the credit outgo;

(b) whether inordinate delay in getting the sanctions from the credit and authorisation cell of RBI has ended in such delays; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) There has been no occasion for the Reserve Bank to pull up any bank for willful and/or persistent breach of its credit guidelines in 1979-80. However, in the process of monitoring the performance of the banks in the observance of their guidelines as also during periodical reviews and discussions, attention of the individual banks is drawn to any deviations noticed from the guidelines and they are directed to take corrective steps. General circulars are also issued, as required, for guidance of banks in respect of matters requiring general clarifications and guidance.

(b) and (c). References received from the banks for approval under the Credit Authorisation Scheme are cleared by the Reserve Bank of India without any avoidable delay. However, to further curtail the time involved in the process of clearing the Credit Authorisation Scheme applications which is sometimes prolonged for want of full information from the banks, the Reserve Bank has circulated amongst banks, lists of common deficiencies noticed in such proposals.

Prospects of Export of Matches to Gulf Region

1554. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has studied the prospects of export of matches to the Gulf region; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to implement the suggestions of the Institute for exporting matches to the Gulf region?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has made a study of the Safety match Industry in India and the export prospects and problems to the Gulf region. The study was based on collection of information from relevant sources and desk research.

(b) The suggestions of the Institute for export development of safety matches are being examined in consultation with the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta who look after the export development of Safety matches.

Indian Delegations visited Abroad

1555. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange spent by 741 Indian delegations that went abroad from April to December, 1977;

(b) the number of Indian delegations that went abroad in 1978 and in 1979;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange spent by them; and

(d) the results that have been achieved by the visit of these delegations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT) (a) Rs. 60,83,173.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

MMTC holding Stocks of Imported Sulphur

1556. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation is holding huge stocks of imported sulphur;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to dispose of sulphur?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. The stocks are barely adequate to meet the indigenous requirements.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Danger to Equipment in Steel Plants

1557. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the critical position of inputs like coking coal and power has not only paralysed the output but also posed the danger of damage to the equipments in the public Sector Steel Plants;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this crisis might continue in 1980-81; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The critical shortage of coking coal and power has not only affected the production of steel, but has also placed vital equipments in steel plants in a position susceptible to damage.

(b) and (c). There is no improvement in the situation at present. However, with the onset of monsoon and the consequent possible improvement in the hydel generation, the power position is expected to improve in the second half of 1980-81. Various steps are being taken to see that indigenous coking coal supply to the Steel Plants is stepped up. In addition, a proposal to augment indigenous supply by import of high grade low ash Coking Coal from abroad is also under consideration.

Imposition of Higher Duties by U.S. on Imports from India

1558. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. Government has introduced new trade measures to impose higher duties on imports from India;

(b) whether this is likely to affect seriously Indian exports of textiles, iron castings and industrial fasteners like nuts, bolts and screws; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with U.S. Department of Commerce and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The U.S. Government has, after investigations under the Trade Agreements Act 1979, imposed countervailing duties on certain categories of iron

castings and on industrial fasteners imported from India. Similar investigations with respect to textiles have also been initiated.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the U.S. Government and the outcome is awaited.

Scheme for Duty-Free Import of Polyester Fibre against Exports of Synthetic Fabrics

1559. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for duty free imports of polyester fibre against exports of synthetic fabrics has been okayed by Government;

(b) if so, the details and to what extent the exports of blended fabrics is supposed to be unproved;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is every chance of misusing this scheme by the exporters to make quick profits; and

(d) if so, what measures are taken to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). The new scheme permitting duty-free imports against Import Replenishment licences announced on 15th April, 1980, does not include polyester fibre. However, exporters requiring to import this item for export production without payment of customs duty can apply for advance import licences under the Duty Exemption Scheme. Imports against advance licences are permitted upto the quantities of raw materials actually required for manufacture of goods to be exported and are subject to an appropriate export obligation. The detailed

policy in this regard is contained in Appendix 19 of Import Policy 1980-81.

Revised Project Report for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant by Soviet Union

1560. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union has submitted the revised detailed project report for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details and Government's decision thereon; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken on the appointment of the prime consultants for the plant?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir, A revised DPR in respect of the units assigned to the Soviet side has been received by SAIL from them recently.

(b) & (c). The Detailed Project Report for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant was prepared initially by M/s Dastur & Co. and submitted in October, 1977. In terms of the protocol signed with the Soviets, it was agreed that the Soviet side would revise the DPR in respect of the main production units, viz., Coke-oven and by Product Plant, Sinter Plant, Blast Furnace Plant, Steel Melt Shop and Rolling Mills. The revision of DPR in respect of the portions remaining outside the scope of work by the Soviets is being done by M/s. Dastur & Co. It is expected that a revised DPR for the entire plant will be ready in about 2 months. After consideration by SAIL, this along with the appointment of prime consultant will be put up to Government for decision.

Bank Credit to SC Farmers and Marginal Farmers

1561. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHACK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Banking has issued instructions to the Banks to give credit to Scheduled Caste farmers as well as marginal farmers;

(b) if so, whether the banks have formulated any scheme by which more credit could be given to Scheduled Caste farmers;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme and the number of beneficiaries under this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). The Government reviewed the position of advances to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes borrowers as share of priority sector lending of the Public Sector Banks. The banks were requested on 2nd April, 1980 to take measures to ensure that the credit needs of SC/ST borrowers were met in an increasing measure. The Reserve Bank of India had earlier advised all the commercial banks in January, 1979 that atleast 50 per cent of the agricultural advances of banks should go to small and marginal farmers. In pursuance of these objectives, banks take appropriate measures to increase the flow of credit to scheduled Caste and marginal farmers.

Separate data for Scheduled Caste farmers are not available but as on June, 1979, the position of advances to the member of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was as follows:—

Total of Priority Sector Advancee	Share of SC|ST		Percentage
	SC|ST	SC|ST	
No. of Accounts (in thousands)	9785	1178	12.0
Amount of Credit in Rs. Lakhs	524158	17053	3.3

Survey made regarding Short Terms and Medium Term Credit needs for Agricultural Production

1562. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey about the credit needs, both short term and medium term for the agricultural production during the period 1980-81 to 1984-85;

(b) if so, the specific results of the survey; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to cater to the needs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). No survey has been conducted for the period 1980-81 to 1984-85 regarding the need for agricultural credit. However, Government of India had made an assessment of the requirements of agricultural credit, the resource availability with the Banks and their likely share in advancing credit to agriculture during the period 1978—83. The estimates made indicated that the level of Banks advances for agriculture credit would reach Rs. 6000 crores by the end of March 1983 comprising Rs. 1500 crores of short term credit and Rs. 2900 crores of medium and long term loans. The rest, namely Rs. 1600 crores would be indirect loans by banks for agricultural purposes.

The National Commission on Agriculture had also made an assessment of total insitutional credit for agriculture and allied activities at Rs. 9,400 crores by 1985. Of this Rs. 4,000 crores was assessed to be short term loan requirement and Re. 5,400 as medium and long term loans requirement.

Opening of Branches of Foreign Banks

1563. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have liberalised their policy in regard to allowing the foreign banks to open new branches and representative offices in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how many foreign banks have been allowed to open their branches

and representative offices in India during the last five years and the full facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The following foreign banks were allowed to open branches and representative offices (which do not transact any banking business) in India during the last five years:

A. BRANCHES

(i) Bank of America

The bank was initially permitted in June, 1969 to open a branch in New Delhi. However, following the nationalisation of major Indian scheduled commercial banks in July, 1969 the bank opened a representative office in new Delhi in lieu of a branch in February 1970. In June, 1977 the bank was permitted to convert its representative office into a branch which was done by the bank in September, 1977.

(ii) Emirates Commercial bank Ltd. Abu Dhabi

Licence to open a branch in Bombay was issued to the bank by the Reserve Bank on 10th August, 1979. But the branch is yet to be opened.

(iii) European Asian Bank, Hamburg

Licence to open a branch in Bombay was issued to the bank by the Reserve Bank on 10th August, 1979. But the branch is yet to be opened.

B. REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES

Name of bank	Name of Centre	Date on which allowed by RBI	Remarks
1	2	3	4
(i) Bank of Credit & Commerce International Ltd.	Bombay	20-7-77	Office opened on 7-12-77.
(ii) Bank of Foreign Trade of the USSR.	Bombay	18-1-77	The bank was permitted in principal on the 18th January 1977 to open a Representative office at Bombay on the Condition that the Repre-

1	2	3	4	
			representative office should be opened on the same date on which the representative office of SBI is opened in Moscow. The office is yet to be officially opened.	
(iii)	Societe Generale, Paris	New Delhi	20-6-77	Started functioning in July, 1978
(iv)	Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co., New York	Bombay	25-7-78	Opened on 10-11-1978
(v)	Barclays Bank International Ltd., London (UK)	Bombay	28-4-79	The office has not so far been opened.
(vi)	Chemical Bank, New York (USA)	Bombay	28-4-79	Opened on 25-7-79
(vii)	Bankers Trust Co., New York	Bombay	28-4-79	Opened on 12-7-79

Construction of India Wonderland in Calcutta

1564. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to undertake a project for construction of India Wonderland in Calcutta to make Calcutta an attractive spot for tourism; and

(b) if so, steps already taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Government help for the Development of Structure of Tourism and Civil Aviation in Maldives

1565. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have offered, to develop the structure of

Tourism and Civil Aviation in Maldives; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details have yet to be worked out.

Proposal to resume the Export of Silver

1566. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to resume the export of silver has been shelved; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There was no proposal under the consideration of the Government to resume the export of silver.

(b) Does not arise.

Delay in Expansion Scheme of Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur

1567. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that the Alloy Steel Plant at Durgapur can come out of the red only if the Centre clears soon its long-delayed expansion scheme to make the plant viable; both technically and financially;

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to make the plant viable; and

(c) reasons for the delay of the expansion scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Alloy Steels Plant made profits in 1977-78 and 1978-79. Nevertheless a scheme for increasing capacity from 100,000 tonnes to 160,000 tonnes of ingots per year is already under implementation and is expected to be completed by January 1981. To improve availability of power to the plant a captive power plant to serve both Durgapur Steel Plant and the Alloy Steel Plant is also being set up.

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

Trade Delegations

1568. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trade delegations from foreign countries visited India during the current year;

(b) the salient features of the agreements signed with each of them; and

(c) whether Indian trade delegations have also visited abroad during

the said period, what are the names of the countries visited and the result of their visit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Trade delegations as stated below visited India during the current year:—

(i) *Import Survey Mission from Japan.*

A seven member import Promotion Mission from Japan visited India from March 13th to 25th, 1980. The purpose of this mission was to identify items that can be exported to Japan from India. No Trade Agreement was signed between the two countries during the visit of this mission.

(ii) *Visit of Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Trade Industry.*

The Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Trade and Industry visited India in January, 1980 on the invitation of the Commerce Minister. Discussions of a general nature were held by the Commerce Minister with the visiting Deputy Prime Minister.

(iii) *Tunisian Delegation*

A four member Tunisian delegation led by Shri Bouzid Hessein Chef'de Cabinet to the Minister of Commerce, Government of Tunisia visited India from 10—17 February, 1980. Detailed discussion took place with a view to evolving suitable measures for increasing trade between India and Tunisia and to explore areas of industrial sectors in which India and Tunisia would collaborate for mutual benefit. The Tunisian side expressed specific interest in purchasing rice, tea, coffee etc. from India. The Indian side expressed their continued interest in purchasing phosphoric acid from Tunisia in increasing quantities. At the end of the Joint Commission meeting both sides

signed agreed minutes incorporating the broad conclusions arrived at.

(iv) *Delegation from Iraq*

A ministerial level delegation from Iraq visited India from 16—21 April, 1980 for the 6th Meeting of the Indo-Iraq Joint Commission at New Delhi. It discussed matters relating to trade between the two countries and an indicative Indo-Iraq trade plan for the year 1980 was finalised. The trade plan envisages the export of Indian goods to Iraq of the order of US \$ 160 million during 1980. The trade plan also provides for supply of sulphur, urea, dates and other items (other than crude) from Iraq to India.

(v) *Trade Delegation from U.S.S.R. and Bulgaria.*

A trade delegation each from U.S.S.R. and Bulgaria visited India and discussed trade matters of mutual interest with India.

(vi) *Delegation from G.D.R.*

The Director General of Foreign Trade of G.D.R. visited India and discussed inter alia matters relating to trade and payment agreement to be concluded for the period 1981—85.

(vii) *Delegation from Mauritius*

A four member Mauritius delegation headed by Mr. Basant Rai, Commerce and Industry Minister visited India from 9—13 March, 1980 for negotiations and purchase of rice from India and investment promotional activities. As a result of the discussions held during the visit an agreement was signed on 16-4-1980 between the Food Corporation of India and Mauritius Government under which India would supply 12000 tonnes of raw rice IR—8 (long bold reasonably well milled with broken upto 35 per cent).

(viii) *Delegation from Mozambique*

A 6 member delegation from Mozambique led by Mr. Salomao Mungambe, Minister of External Affairs of Mozambique visited India from 3—10 April, 1980. The delegation held discussions on proposed trade agreement, commercial credit from India and negotiation with various organisations for export from India. No agreement was signed during the visit.

(ix) *Delegation from Uganda*

An 11 member purchase delegation headed by Mr. B. R. Kamuntu, Ugandan Commerce Minister visited India for about 2 weeks commencing from 21st April, 1980 and held discussions with S.T.C., Export Promotion Councils and also private exporters. No agreement was signed.

(x) *French Delegation*

A French Delegation led by French Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Jean Francis Deniau visited India in January 1980 and had discussions on bilateral Trade relations. A protocol under Indo-French Industrial and Commercial Cooperation was signed on 28th January, 1980.

(xi) *Finnish Delegation*

Finnish delgation led by the Finnish Minister for Foreign Trade, H.E. Mr. Esko Rakala visited India in connection with the 3rd Session of the Indo-Finnish Joint Commission held from 12—15 February, 1980. During the discussions, trade between the two countries was reviewed and measures suggested to increase it. Discussions were also held on furthering economic industrial and technical cooperation.

(xii) *E.E.C. Leather Delegation*

A 9 member E.E.C. Leather Delegation visited India from 10—17 April, 1980 to explore the possibilities of collaboration with manufacturers in the E.E.C. countries engaged in the

manufacture and marketing of quality leather products and to give technical advise in the field of marketing, design, product management, financial tie-ups etc. in respect of leather garments, travel and other light goods etc.

(xiii) *Delegation from Pakistan*

A delegation visited India from Pakistan in March, 1980. No agreement was signed.

(xiv) *Delegation from Iran*

A delegation from Iran visited India in June 1980. In the minutes signed with Iran, the two sides agreed that cooperation should be extended between the two countries in the sectors of food, agriculture, Drugs and pharmaceuticals, supply of engineering goods and provision of consultancy services.

(c) Official Trade Delegations from India visited U.S.S.R. France, Sri Lanka and Bhutan during the current year. The results of their visit are:—

U.S.S.R.

Discussed matters relating to supply of crude oil and H.S.D. as also to renewal of Trade and Payments Agreement and Trade Plan for 1981—85.

FRANCE

Discussed Indo-French Trade and Economic matters. A cooperation agreement in oil and gas sector between the two Governments was signed. The progress in various fields of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries was reviewed.

SRI LANKA AND BHUTAN

Discussed bilateral issues.

Changes for Development of Tourism Industry

1569. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring some changes to develop tourism industry in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). The Tourism Plan is being reviewed for gearing up facilities to meet the requirements of 3.5 million tourists by 1990. One of the measures suggested to achieve this objective is to intensively develop and promote centres falling on selected travel circuits. Discussions are being held with the State Tourist officials or identifying the travel circuits and determining the tourist infrastructural requirements at centres falling on these travel circuits. The details will thus emerge only after this exercise has been completed.

Sanction of Loans to Persons belonging to Minorities by Nationalised Banks

1570. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any priority is given to the persons belonging to the Minorities, S.T./S.C. and other weaker sections of society for the sanction of loans by the Nationalised banks for self-employment purposes or for setting up small scale industries;

(b) if so, the nature of the priority given alongwith the date when the priority was first given in practice by each one of the Nationalised banks;

(c) the percentage of the loans extended to these categories to the total loans sanctioned; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (d). At the time of nationalisation of 14 commercial banks in July 1969, the Prime Minister had indicated that the public sector banks would be giving priority to the credit needs of farmers, artisans and craftsmen and other small entrepreneurs for self-employment ventures. Accordingly the public sector banks have been treating sectors such as agriculture, road and water transport, small scale industries, retail trade, small business, education & professional & self-employment ventures in which most of the people belonging to the weaker sections of the society, irrespective of whether they belong to majority or minority communities, are engaged, as priority sectors.

In accordance with the priority accorded to the lendings to these sectors, all the public sector banks have ensured larger flow of credit to the priority sectors with their outstanding advances increasing from Rs. 446 crores accounting for 14.6 per cent of their credit in July 1969 to about Rs. 6007 crores accounting for 34.1 per cent in December 1979 (provisional estimates). The public sector banks have now been advised to raise the level of credit to these sectors to 40 per cent of their aggregate credit by 1985.

Within the overall priority sectors, banks have been asked to pay special attention to the needs of the smaller borrowers. In the Agricultural sector the banks have been advised to ensure that atleast 50 per cent of their direct advances go to the small and marginal farmers by 1983.

The banks have also been advised that the district/block credit plans should be weighted in favour of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and special bankable schemes suited to members of these communities should be drawn up to ensure their partici-

pation in such schemes and larger flow of credit to them for self-employment.

Differential Rate of Interest Scheme which is in operation since 1972 is also devised wholly for the benefit of the weakest amongst the weaker sections of the society. Under the Scheme, the banks have to ensure that at least 40 per cent of the credit goes to the members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. As at the end of September 1979, a sum of Rs. 124.43 crores covering more than 19 lakhs borrowal accounts was outstanding under the Scheme. Of this a sum of Rs. 52.54 crores covering nearly 8 lakh borrowed accounts was outstanding amongst the members of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. This works out to 42.2 per cent of the aggregate advances under the Scheme as against the stipulated target of 40 per cent.

Prosecutions for Economic Offences

1571. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons or institutions have been prosecuted for 'economic' offences, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names thereof along with the precise offence in each case, State-wise;

(c) the present position of the cases filed against them;

(d) whether Government propose to ensure that the persons/institutions responsible for economic offences are properly punished; and

(e) if so, the nature of the machinery set up for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT) (a): Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). The number of prosecution cases pending at various stages in respect of offences under the Customs Act as on 30-4-80 is 2104.

The number of prosecution cases pending at various stages in respect of offences under the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 as on 1-4-80, is 521.

During 1977-78, 1978-79, and 1979-80, prosecutions were launched in respect of 228 persons/institutions under the direct tax laws read with the Indian Penal Code for concealment of income through various devices, attempt thereto and abetment thereof.

Under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, during the years 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80, 242 prosecutions were launched in courts.

In view of the large number of cases involved, particulars (State-wise) regarding names of persons/institutions involved and the precise nature of the offences in each case, have not been furnished. However, if the Hon'ble Member specifies any particular case(s), the details of such case(s) will be collected and furnished.

(b) and (e). The Government is committed to curb economic offences and stringent penal provisions have been incorporated in all fiscal statutes to enable the Government to deal sternly with economic offenders. The statutes concerning the Department of Revenue are implemented by the Enforcement Directorate and the field formations of the Central Board of Excise and Customs and the Central Board of Direct Taxes.

Export of Silver

1572. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much reserve of silver is lying with Indian people according to Reserve Bank's estimates;

(b) how much silver is smuggled out every year because of vast price difference particularly from November, 1979 to present time; and

(c) whether Government are considering lifting of export ban and channelising silver export to create huge resources for development purposes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). There is no authoritative estimate of the stock of silver held privately in India, and of the quantity of silver smuggled out of the country. However, the total quantity and value of silver seized by the Customs authorities during the period November, 1979 and May, 1980, while being attempted to be smuggled out of India was about 25.642 tonnes valued at Rs. 797.71 lakhs (approximately).

(c) There is no proposal under the consideration of Government at present to lift the existing ban on the export of silver from India

Decision of R.B.I. on Modi-Firestone deal

1573. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked for any clarification on the Modi Firestone deal;

(b) if so, the details of such query and reply from Modi-Firestone;

(c) whether R.B.I. has taken any decision in this regard; and

(d) whether Government are considering to send the reference to CTP commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (d). The R.B.I. has received an application under section 19(5) of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act from Modi Rubber Ltd., Modinagar for permission to purchase at par, the entire holding of 33,30,000 shares of Rs. 10/- each of Firestone Tyre & Rubber Co. USA in Bombay Tyres International Ltd., Bombay. This is under con-

sideration of the Reserve Bank in consultation with the Government of India. The question of making a reference to the MRTTP Commission under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act does not arise.

Dilution of FERA regulations for companies engaged in export business

1574. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government want dilution of FERA Regulations for companies engaged in export business;

(b) if so, what are details of such new proposals; and

(c) which companies are likely to get benefit out of such dilution?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) No Sir.

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

Penalty imposed on M/s Mohan Meakin Breweries for violation of Central Excise Law

1575. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Board of Excise and Customs have decided an appeal against Collector's order imposing penalty and demanding duty on M/s Mohan Meakin Breweries for violation of Central Excise Law; and

(b) if so, what is the decision and what steps are being taken to recover the dues of huge amounts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Release of cotton export quota

1576. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the cotton export quota actually released this year;

(b) is it true that the release was delayed;

(c) if so, what were the reasons and dates of normal time and this year;

(d) are Government aware that farmers in Gujarat, Andhra, Punjab, Haryana, Karnataka were forced to make distress sales of cotton because of delay;

(e) is it true that he announced two lakh bales of cotton export quota at Madras on 23rd March and Governor's adviser announcement same day about one lakh bales quota allotted to Gujarat but no quota released even after one month; and

(f) who were responsible for this delay and what steps were taken to punish them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Quotas for export of Staple cotton during the cotton year 1979-80 were released as under:

Date of release	Quantity in bales
20-3-1979	50,000
22-4-1980	50,000
20-3-1979	50,000
6-6-1980	3,50,000
Total	5,00,000

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Do not arise.

(d) This Ministry has no information.

(e) Yes, Sir. Commerce Minister had announced release of 2 lakh

bales of cotton for exports on 23rd March, 1980. This decision was subsequently reviewed and export quota increased to 5 lakh bales. Releases have been made as indicated in answer to (a) above.

The Ministry is not aware of any announcement having been made the same day by Governor's Adviser that one lakh bales had been allotted to Gujarat for exports. Gujarat State Coop. Marketing Federation, however, has been allotted 63,000 bales for exports in two instalments.

(f) Does not arise.

Withdrawal of Excise Duty and Licence Fee on one band Radios

1577. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Information and Broadcasting Ministry have recommended to withdraw the Excise duty and licence fee on the one band Radios;

(b) what decision has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, when the same is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have recommended to the Finance Ministry to withdraw licence fee on one and two band radios. No recommendation has been made by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for withdrawal of excise duty on one band radios.

(b) and (c). The Government have decided to exempt one and two band radios from broadcast receiver licence fee. As far as excise duty on one band radios is concerned, there is complete exemption on radio sets (including one band sets) whose value does not exceed Rs. 165 per set and which are manufactured by small scale units. One band radio sets will

continue to remain exempted from excise duty even if their value exceeds Rs. 165 per set subject to the condition that they are manufactured by small scale units and the total clearances of radio sets from such small scale units did not exceed Rs. 1 crore (during the preceding financial year, the concession being applicable to clearances of radio sets upto the value of Rs. 50 lakhs in a financial year. One band radio sets which are manufactured by units in the organised sector attract excise duty at the rate of 15.75 per cent *ad valorem*.

Role of S.T.C. in socio-economic change

1578. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are satisfied that the S.T.C. has been adequately fulfilling its role of bringing in socio-economic change;

(b) as a trading organisation entrusted with bulk purchases, has it any market-research organisation;

(c) has the S.T.C. over the years developed any competent system of monitoring world commodity market; and

(d) what share of the STC's profit is due to imports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) By the fair and equitable distribution of imported raw materials STC has helped in the growth of the small scale sector which otherwise would have had to pay higher prices to private importers. STC has also been organising the export markets for products originating from the small scale sector. This has contributed to the growth of the small sector units particularly in the field of leather, leather products and other manufactured items.

(b) Yes, Sir, There is a Market Research and Services Division in the State Trading Corporation.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Corporation has installed a "Commodity Wire Service" which provides market information on various commodities in major world markets on a minute-to-minute basis round the clock. The Corporation also gets information through its foreign offices, leading commodity brokers, and specialised marketing information agencies in the form of published material.

(d) Share of imports in STC's profits varies according to the policy of the Government on canalisation.

Landed cost of imported Streptomycin and its sale by S.T.C.

1579. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state is it a fact that landed cost of imported Streptomycin is Rs. 197- per kg. and STC sells it at Rs. 297|- per kg?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): No, Sir.

Decrease in production of Ferro-alloys

1580. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of ferro-alloys in the country has decreased in the year 1979-80 than the previous years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the positive steps proposed to be taken by Government in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decrease in production of ferro alloys is mainly due to inadequacy of power supply. However, in order to meet the domestic demand, the Government has banned export of ferro alloys. It has also been made known that applications for import of

the ferro-alloys by actual users would be favourably considered.

Resignation of top functionaries of I.A.

1581. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two top functionaries of Indian Airlines have resigned from the airlines;

(b) if so, what are the grounds of their resignations; and

(c) whether those have been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

Five Star Hotel in New York by Indian Hotelier with Saudi Arabia Collaboration

1582. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have permitted an Indian Hotelier to set up a five-star hotel in New York in collaboration with Saudi-Arabia; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India, in the Ministry of Commerce have approved under Section 27 of FERA, 1973 the proposal of M/s. Oberoi Hotels (I) Pvt. Ltd. for establishing a wholly owned subsidiary, in Netherlands Antilles which in turn shall invest in a Joint Venture Hotel Project in USA, as a partnership in collaboration with M/s. Tamimi and Fouad and Associates, Saudia Arabia.

(b) The proposed hotel will be established in New York through a partnership company in which M/s. Oberoi Hotels will have 25 per cent share while the balance 75 per cent will be held by M/s. Tamimi Fouad and Associates, Saudi Arabia.

The Hotel will be located in New York on the site of the present Hotel Baribizon. The new hotel will be a deluxe hotel having 253 rooms and 30 suites. The total cost is estimated at US dollars 35 million.

Integrated Steel Plant at Visakhapatnam

1583. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India had sanctioned integrated steel plant at Visakhapatnam in June, 1979; and

(b) if so, the details of the project and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government sanction is for an integrated steel plant with a capacity to produce about 3.4 million tonnes of liquid steel per annum, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,256 crores. The plant is to produce light and medium merchant products, wire rods and universal beams. The first stage of the plant is to be commissioned in 4 years from the start of construction and the 3.4 MT stage within 2 years thereafter.

The Details Project Report (DPR) for the plant prepared earlier is being revised. The Soviet portion of the revised DPR has been received and is under examination. The comprehensive revised DPR is expected to be ready in about 2 months. Meanwhile, various preliminary infrastructural and pre-construction activities are in progress at site. Most of

the land needed for the plant has been acquired. Site-levelling works are in progress and over 3 million cubic metres of earth work have been completed. The State Government is taking action for rehabilitation of displaced families. Construction water and power have been arranged at site. Work is in progress in respect of approach roads, construction water and power distribution system, site offices, storages sheds, etc. The Railways have also taken up work on a siding to the Steel Plant site.

Glut in Cotton Production

1584. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are indications of a glut in cotton production in the country this year;

(b) what is the total production of cotton and last year's carry forward stock of cotton in the country this season;

(c) the expected requirement of cotton for textile mills and non-textile units;

(d) what is the procurement policy adopted by the Cotton Corporation of India; its sale and distribution;

(e) whether the Cotton Corporation of India suffered a big loss in the sale of cotton uptill now; and

(f) how much cotton is proposed to be exported out of the country this year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Indications are that cotton production in the country this year is satisfactory.

(b) and (c). As per the estimates made by the Cotton Advisory Board at its meeting held on 14-5-1980, the carry forward stocks, production and requirement of cotton during the current cotton season 1979-80 are as under:

(In lakh bales of 170 Kgs. each)

Carry forward stocks	27.27
Production	78.50
Requirement for Textile Mills.	73.00
Requirement for others i.e. non-textile mills	2.50

(d) A Statement is attached.

(e) No, Sir. The purchases and sales of cotton are continuing and the Corporation's accounting year will end on 31st August, 1980. Therefore, till the accounts for the current cotton season are finalised, it may not be possible to indicate whether the Corporation has suffered loss or earned profits during the current cotton season.

(f) Government have so far announced export of a total quantity of 5.10 lakh bales of staple cotton of the current cotton crop of 1979-80 including 50,000 bales of Bengal Deshi cotton and 10,000 bales of Yellow Pickings.

Statement

With a view to ensure that remunerative prices are obtained by cotton growers, the Cotton Corporation of India follows the following purchase policy:

(i) purchases kapas at Regulated Markets in open auction/secret tender under the auspices of Regulated Market Committees;

(ii) Purchase lint in open auction/secret tender in Regulated Markets;

(iii) Purchases kapas pooled by Co-operative Societies and their Federations;

(iv) Purchases Full Pressed bales from Co-operative Societies of cotton growers;

(v) Effects all these purchases at ruling market rates;

(vi) in States where Regulated Markets do not exist in all parts the Corporation has evolved a policy of purchasing kapas directly from cotton growers in villages by sending its team of selectors for spot selection and weighment.

(vii) The Corporation has also opened its own Depots where the growers can bring their kapas for sale to the Corporation.

The sales policy followed by the Cotton Corporation of India is as under:—

(i) The Corporation sells cotton to NTC Mills by holding fortnightly meetings with representatives of NTC when quantities and prices for various varieties are finalised;

(ii) The Corporation also sells cotton to State Textile Corporations, Cooperative Spinning Mills and Private Mills every day at ruling market prices till stocks are available.

(iii) Sale of imported cotton: Cotton whenever imported is sold to Mills on the basis of quotas issued by the Textile Commissioner.

Plans for operating more Flights on Pressure Routes

1585. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to augment substantially the Indian Airlines and Air India fleets;

(b) if so, what is the current strength of aircraft fleet of (i) I.A.C. and (ii) A.I.;

(c) how many of the above are (i) out of date, (ii) uneconomical in operation, and (iii) not airworthy; and

(d) what are the plans for operating more flights on pressure routes and opening new routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a): With Government approval, Indian Airlines will be acquiring two Air-bus and four Boeing 737 aircraft in the current year. 4 more Boeing 737 will be added to Indian Airlines fleet in 1981. A letter of Intent has been issued by Air India with the approval of the Government for 3 Boeing 747 aircraft.

(b) Current strength of the operating fleet of Indian Airlines and Air India is given below:—

INDIAN AIRLINES

Air-bus	6
Boeing 737	13
HS-748	15
	(Including one aircraft leased from DGCA)
F-27	8
Total	42

AIR INDIA

Boeing 747	10
Boeing 707-437	3
Boeing 707-337	5
Total	18

(c) (i) None.

(ii) HS-748 and F-27 aircraft of Indian Airlines and Boeing 707-437 aircraft Air India are uneconomical.

(iii) None.

(d): After induction of additional Air Bus and Boeing 737 aircraft in its fleet in the coming few months, Indian Airlines is considering increasing the capacity on the following pressure routes effective from November, 1980:—

Delhi/Bombay/Delhi

Delhi/Khajuraho/Varanasi

Bombay/Bangalore/Bombay

Madras/Bangalore/Madras

Delhi/Lucknow/Delhi

Bombay/Madras/Bombay

Indian Airlines has plans to operate Jets on some regional routes like Bombay/Rajkot, Calcutta/Bhubaneswar, presently served by Turbo-prop aircraft.

Air India has increased capacity/frequencies on the following routes:—

India/Continent

India/Japan

India/Gulf

Air India has introduced the following new routes effective June, 1980:—

India/Zambia/Tanzania

India/Bangladesh

Melbourne has been added on India/Australia route.

Overtime to Employees in Indian Airlines and Air India

1586. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the figures of overtime payments to employees in Indian Airlines and Air India for the last three years; and

(b) what are the reasons for this increase and the steps taken to reduce the same?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL**

**AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL
CHANDRAKAR): (a):**

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80
Air India	117.23	131.85	150.21
Indian Airlines	22.30	50.17	70.13

(b) Increase in overtime bill of Air India and Indian Airlines can be attributed to the following reasons:—

- (1) Revision of wages which resulted in increased rates of overtime allowance;
- (2) increase in flight operations;
- (3) shortage of experienced maintenance engineers;
- (4) unforeseen and unavoidable exigencies such as delays to flights, engine failures, technical snags and handling of unscheduled aircraft etc.

Following steps have been taken to reduce the overtime bill:—

- (1) Adequate staff strength is being provided;
- (2) Utmost care is being taken by the Officers/Supervisory staff to ensure that the working hours are put to full and effective use by the staff;
- (3) A close check is being maintained at the Regional and Headquarters level to ensure that overtime work is authorised in emergent situations or to meet the operational requirements wherever inescapable.

**Problems relating to non-Gazetted
Officers and Agriculturists in
Tamil Nadu**

1587. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Uustarred Question No. 518 on 14th March, 1980 regarding financial aid

sought by Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the problems relating to non-Gazetted officers and agriculturists in Tamil Nadu contained in the memorandum of the Chief Minister;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the main points and the extent of financial aid sought; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to expedite the matter and when are Government likely to take their decisions?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes,
Sir.**

(b) The State Government had sought financial assistance of Rs. 40 crores to write off the interest on and reschedule the principal amount of the outstanding cooperative dues from farmers affected by natural calamities. The quantum of assistance for concessions to State Government employees had not been specified by the State Government.

The Central Government is alive to the problems of agriculturists affected by natural calamities. For financing relief expenditure, Central Government is giving assistance to all States in accordance with the arrangements and policies recommended by the Seventh Finance Commission. This assistance specifically is intended to help the farmers affected by natural calamities but it has to be within the

framework of existing schemes and the institutional arrangements laid down for the purpose. Writing off cooperative dues, either in part or in full, is no solution, for it may have long-term repercussions which would seriously impair the viability of the cooperative credit system and undermine its very structure. Should, State Government however, desire to go ahead with schemes for remitting cooperative dues either fully or partly, they should do so out of their own resources; no Central assistance can be given for this purpose.

As regards concessions to State Government employees, the policy of the Central Government is that it is for the State Government to determine the pay and allowances of its employees having regard to its own resources, the developmental needs and other relevant factors. No Central assistance is given to meet expenditure for provision of pay and allowances to State Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Loss due to stock of Edible Oils lying with STC

1588. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much stock of edible oils (imported) has been lying with STC, since how long and what amount is invested in importing it and storing it at various ports;

(b) what is the amount of loss in terms of interest on stored oils;

(c) what is the plan of STC to sell and distribute this oil and at what price; and

(d) is it true that some States have not lifted stock despite being offered for sale through fair price shops; if so, which are these States and what steps taken to make them sell?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The stock of imported edible oils with STC as on 7-6-1980 was around 2.92 lakh MT, which is within the stipulated demand for the average stocking period of 2 1/2 to 8 months. The landed cost for the aforesaid quantum of oil works out to about Rs. 169 crores. The total storage cost of oil is in the region of Rs. 33 lakhs P.M.

(b) There is no loss as such in maintaining this level of stock as there is a conscious decision to keep an inventory for a minimum to keep 2½ to 3 months, keeping in mind the total lead time for procuring and distribution to the industry and the need to avoid speculation and various constraints in the movement/deliveries of oil.

(c) The oils imported by STC are supplied to Vanaspati Industry and to State Government for allotment under Public distribution system. The present oil issue prices valid till end June, 1980 as fixed by the Government are as follows:—

Oil	Vanaspati (DMT EX-STC Tank)	P.D.S. (F.O.R. Destination/pmt.)
SBO Crude	Rs. 7210	..
Palm oil	Rs. 7060	..
RSO (C)	Rs. 7210	Rs. 6300
RSO (R)	..	Rs. 8000
RBD PO	..	Rs. 6400 (bulk)-
RBD PO	..	Rs. 7750 (Tinned)
Palmolein	..	Rs. 6400 (bulk)
Palmolein	..	Rs. 7750 (Tinned)

(d) Allocations of oils are made to various States for sale through Public Distribution System only. While in the initial stages lifting under PDS was slow, the lifting from May, 1980 has picked up and this momentum is expected to continue.

National Flying Academy

1589. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have dropped their plan to set up a National Flying Academy, suggested by the Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA);

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) what is total requirement of Commercial Pilots by Air-India and Indian Airlines;

(d) whether Government have decided to give employment in Air India and Indian Airlines to unemployed Commercial Pilots; and

(e) what were the recommendation of JRD Tata Committee Report (1975) on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The approximate requirement of Commercial Pilots by Air India and Indian Airlines is to the extent of 36 and 25 respectively, for the next year.

(d) Air India are not in a position to recruit unemployed Commercial Pilots since they recruit only Pilots with higher Licensing Qualifications and flying experience.

Indian Airlines however considers employment of unemployed Commer-

cial Pilots who fulfil the requisite qualifications etc.

(e) The recommendations of the Tata Committee on this issue were:—

(i) that a central Flying School be set up and operated by the Civil Aviation Department for the initial training of Commercial Pilots. While this school is progressively built up more immediate measures are required to improve the standard of Flying Clubs, which should continue to train Pilots upto the level of Private Pilot's Licence (PPL).

(ii) That the intake for Commercial Pilots Licence (CPL) training be limited to the needs of the potential users who should have a say, both in the selection of candidates and in their training syllabi. The further training of Commercial Pilots Licence holders on different types of commercial aircraft should be the responsibility of their employers, under the general supervision of the Director General of Civil Aviation.

Proposal for setting up of a mini Aluminium Plant in Bolangir (Orissa)

1590. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal by the Government of India to set up a mini Aluminium Plant in Bolangir District for utilisation of huge bauxite deposits in Gandhimadan hill range areas; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to start the preliminary work in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Cotton from Soviet Union

1591. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to import cotton from the Soviet Union for conversion into yarn, using India's surplus spinning capacity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1592. SHRI P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work of the Visakhapatnam steel plant has slowed down;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government are considering any steps to increase the pace of construction work, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) So far, only pre-construction activities such as site levelling, soil investigation, provision of approach roads, construction water and power, railway siding, etc., have been taken up at site. These are proceeding generally according to the time schedule.

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

Export of Citrus Fruits

1593. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA DASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total value of export of citrus fruits like Citrus Acidia, Citrus aurantium and Citrus decumana for the years 1975-76 to 1979-80?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): The total value of exports of Citrus fruits like Oranges, Mandarines, Lemon and Limes, Grapefruit and other Citrus fruits during the years 1975-76 to 1979-80 was as under:

	Value : Rs. lakhs
1975-76	50.24
1976-77	80.00
1977-78	115.79
1978-79	157.35
1979-80	7.14

The figures for the year 1979-80 are provisional and are based on Daily Lists of Exports of Customs Houses, excluding exports to Bangladesh.

Export of Bananas and Mangoes

1594. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports of unprocessed plantain fruits and Mango fruits are increasing or decreasing;

(b) what were the total values of exports of (i) plantain (Banana) fruits (ii) Mango fruits in 1979-80; and

(c) whether Government have investigated the possibilities of exporting the real bananas of (NENTHIRAN) Kerala and if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). The total value of exports of bananas

and mangoes from 1976-77 to 1979-80 were as follows:

Year	Value in Rs. lakhs	
	BANANAS	MANGOES
1976-77	12.88	197.58
1977-78	0.17	309.62
1978-79	5.30	371.93
1979-80 (Provisional)	2.71	341.13

(c) No specific study has been undertaken by the Government for promoting exports of (NENTHIRAN) Bananas of Kerala.

(b) if so, who are the members of the said high level group and has it submitted its report; if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) if not, when it is expected?

Development of Traffic through Minor Ports of Tamil Nadu

1595. SHRI CHANDRABHAN ATHARE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) whether Government have set up a high level working group to examine and suggest promotional measures for the development of export and import traffic through the minor ports of Cuddalore and Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu;

(b) and (c). A note giving the details of the composition of the working group is enclosed. The Working Group has not yet submitted its report, and it is expected to finalise its report within a few months.

Statement

Details of the composition of Working Group set up to examine and suggest promotional measures to develop traffic through minor ports of Cuddalore and Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Commissioner and Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Transport Department, Madras | Chairman |
| 2. Commissioner and Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Industries Deptt., Madras. | Member. |
| 3. Collector of South Arcot or his nominee | Member. |
| 4. Collector of Thanjavur or his nominee | Member. |
| 5. Representative from the Collectorate of Central Excise and Customs, Madras. | Member. |
| 6. Representative from the Ministry of Shipping and Transport | Member. |
| 7. Representative from the Ministry of Railways | Member. |
| 8. Representative of Director General of Shipping | Member. |
| 9. Representative from Madras Port Trust | Member. |

10. Representative of Indian National Shipowners Association . . . Member.
11. Representative of State Trading Corp. . . . Member.
12. Representative of Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation . . . Member.
13. Representative of Food Corporation of India . . . Member.
14. Representative of Marine Products Export Development Authority . . . Member.
15. Representative from Shipping Corporation of India . . . Member.
16. Representative of Handloom Export Promotion Council . . . Member.
17. Representative of Leather Export Promotion Council . . . Member.
18. Representative of Engineering Export Promotion Council . . . Member.
19. Representative of National Agriculture Federation . . . Member.
20. Representative of Southern India Shippers Association . . . Member.
21. Representative of Southern India Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Madras . . . Member.
22. Representative of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Nagapattinam . . . Member.
23. Deputy Director (Export Promotion) Ministry of Commerce and Civil Supplies, Madras . . . Member.
24. Representative of the Export Promotion Cell in the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tamil Nadu . . . Member.
25. State Port officer, Madras . . . Member.
Secretary.

Steel Produced by Public Sector Steel Factories

1596. SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) what is the quantity and value of steel produced by public sector steel factories of (1) Durgapur (2) Rourkela (3) Bhilai etc. during the past three years 1977—1979; and

(b) what is the profit or loss made by these concerns during the above three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The quantity and value of saleable steel produced by the public sector steel plants during the years 1977-78 (13 months), 1978-79 (11 months) and 1979-80 are given below:

Plant	1977-78		1978-79		1979-80*	
	Qty	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Durgapur	936.491	150.36	704.184	160.40	604	124.42
Rourkela	1256.365	367.47	963.358	335.84	1045	302.77
Bhilai	2037.866	367.91	1737.976	365.50	1706	272.71
Bokaro	874.198	193.86	871.919	251.62	849	207.81
IISCO	492.906	94.82	481.00	NA	430	NA
12 Mo. ths)						

*The figures of production as well as value given for 1979-80 are provisional, because the accounts have not been finalised and audited.

(b) The profits/losses made by the above Steel Plants during the years 1977-78 and 1978-79 are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Plant Unit	1977-78 (13 months)**	1978-79 (11 months)
Rourkela Steel Plant	(+) 20.97	(+) 47.24
Durgapur Steel Plant	(-) 15.84	(+) 4.37
Bhilai Steel Plant	(+) 40.35	(+) 49.96
Bokaro Steel Plant	(-) 10.10	(-) 31.42
IISCO (12 months)	(-) 39.12	*

*The profits/loss accounts of steel been finalised and audited yet. IISCO not yet finalised.

**The profit figures are before pro-reserve.

plants for the year 1979-80 have not accounts for 1978-79 and 1979-80 are

vision for investment allowance

Construction of More Ports in Kerala

1597. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have paid a lot of demurrage to shipping firms due to lack of berths to unload foreign cement; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct more ports of medium size in Kerala to avoid these

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Rs. 4.28 crores were paid towards demurrage pertaining to the year 1978-79.

(b) The Central Government is responsible for major ports and one such port already exists at Cochin. The construction of minor and intermediate size ports is a matter to be considered and decided upon by the State Governments.

STC Purchased Sugar without Inviting Global Tender

1598. SHRIMATI GELTA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether the State Trading Corporation made the purchase of 2 lakh tonnes of sugar in London without inviting global tender?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Yes, Sir. Due to the world wide imbalance in supply/demand position of sugar, it was decided that the STC which would canalise the import/export of sugar should not invite tenders in the normal course but complete the purchase and sale through negotiations with one or two reputable international trading houses. This modality was adopted with a view to ensuring that India's intention to purchase and sell large quantity of sugar does not get known in the world markets prematurely as this would result in significant price increase which would not be in India's economic interests.

Import of Sugar through London Broker

1599. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the 'Hindustan Times' dated 22nd May, 1980 that the Government of India has 'secretly' placed an order for two lakh tonnes of sugar through a London broker in which the country will suffer a loss of about Rs. 64 crores;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the sugar has been purchased through a London broker at an exorbitant price of \$ 915 per tonne or Rs. 732 per quintal and the country will have to further pay ocean freight \$ 45 per tonne, thus pushing up the landing cost of sugar to \$ 960 per tonne or Rs. 768 per quintal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to this news report. Secrecy had to be maintained in the purchase of sugar by STC in order to ensure that India's presence in the market did not lead to any sharp escalation in prices. The sugar has been purchased by the STC from internationally reputed dealer at the best available international price prevailing at the time of signing the con-

tract. The question of incurring any loss in this purchase does not arise.

(b) No, Sir. The landed cost of the imported sugar recently purchased by the STC will be about Rs. 560 per quintal.

(c) Does not arise.

Representation regarding misappropriation of Funds by Official of Hindustan Zinc Limited

1600. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation regarding the misuse of power and misappropriation of funds by certain officials of Hindustan Zinc Limited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No specific representation regarding misuse of power and misappropriation of funds by certain officials of Hindustan Zinc Ltd. has been received. However, reports regarding 16 complaints having vigilance angle pertaining to the officers of Hindustan Zinc Ltd. were received in the Ministry of Steel and Mines (Department of Mines) from January, 1979 to May, 1980.

2. The details of these complaints/cases are given below:—

Nature of the cases	No. of cases		Total	Cases finalised after investigation	Cases under investigation
	Anonymo s Pseudonymo is complaints	Signed complaints			
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Misuse of power	1	..	1	1	..
2. Corruption charges	4	1	5	2	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Breach of conduct rules	..	1	1	..	1
4. Irregularities in award of contracts/ tenders	1	3	4	4	..
5. Favour to the office bearers of the recog- nised unions	..	2	2	1	1
6. Miscellaneous	1	2	3	3	..
Total	7	9	16	11	5

3. The allegations have not been substantiated in all eleven cases finalised so far.

Import of Obsolescent and Second Grade Technology of Bloom Casters for Vizag Steel Plant

1601. SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India are importing obsolescent and second grade technology of bloom casters in steel making instead of advanced and more economical billet casters for Vizag Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India in this regard together with the details of the extent of loss and adverse effect on production of steel at Vizag Steel Plant and other steel plants where such obsolescent technology is being employed; and

(c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken to procure advanced and more economical billet casters?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) It would not be correct to say that bloom casting is obsolescent or second grade technology. Taking into account the large size of L.D. Converters to be installed in Visakhapatnam Steel plant, the product-mix of the plant and various other tech-

nical and operational considerations, it has been considered that continuous casting of blooms will be a more dependable and advisable route for steel production than the alternative of direct casting of billets.

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

12 hrs.

RE: QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I had already given notice on 18-6-80 regarding the question of gold auction against the— Finance Minister. You already said that he did not reject the matter outright.

MR. SPEAKER: I have again written to the Finance Minister for full facts; I will again remind him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have here the records of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

The Finance Minister explained in writing in Rajya Sabha that only confiscated gold was....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; I am not allowing it now; It is still under consideration.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I am raising a point of order under rule 369(1) and direc-

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

tion 117 and 118 to be read with the motion given under rule 222 (3). In that connection I quoted from the proceedings that the hon. Minister Mr. Shankaranand misled the House that doctors did not give a memorandum, I have here, in my hand, the original receipt given which shows that the junior doctors had given a memorandum.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come under 118. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

श्री राम विलास पासवान (हाजीपुर): अध्यक्ष जी, कल मैंने नियम 223 के अन्तर्गत शिक्षा मंत्री, श्री शंकरानन्द, के खिलाफ प्रिविलेज मोशन दिया है। आपको याद होगा कि डाक्टर्स के संबंध में 18 तारीख को इसी सदन में ध्यानकर्षण प्रस्ताव आया था और मंत्री महादय ने कहा था...

MR. SPEAKER: I had received notice of a question of privilege by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Vajpayee and Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu against Shri Shankaranand, Minister of Education and Health and Social Welfare for alleged misleading of the House regarding junior doctors' strike. I have called for factual information on receipt of which I will give my decision.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I seek your permission. I have got the original receipt; what more information do you want?

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; please resume your seat, Mr. Pandit.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): About the call attention notice on Lok-Par Lok which has caused a lot of commotion in the city. The situation is likely to be grave.... my short notice question....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; it is not allowed. Please come to my Chamber. Papers laid.

12.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AUDIT REPORT ON ACCOUNTS OF COFFEE BOARD FOR (POOL FUND), 1977-78 AND (GENERAL FUND), 1976-77, ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW OF CARDAMOM BOARD FOR 1978-79, NOTIFICATION re. EXCISE DUTY ON JUTE MANUFACTURES, REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF HINDUSTAN STEELWORK'S CONSTRUCTION LTD., CALCUTTA FOR 1978-79 WITH STATEMENT FOR DELAY

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Accounts of the Coffee Board for the year 1977-78 (General Fund) and 1976-77 (Pool Fund). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-928/80].

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cardamom Board, Cochin, for the year 1978-79.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Cardamom Board, Cochin, for the year 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-929/80].

(3) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 102(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1980 regarding imposition of excise duty on Jute Manufactures, issued under section 9 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-930/80].

(4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English version, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1978-79.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1978-79 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-931/80].

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONSUMERS' FEDERATION LTD. NEW DELHI FOR 1978-79.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1978-79 along with Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-932/80.]

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF CENTRAL SILK BOARD, BOMBAY FOR 1978-79 WITH AUDIT REPORT AND REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF CASHEW CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD., NEW DELHI FOR 1978-79.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bombay, for the year 1978-79 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 12 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-933/80.]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Cashew Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi for the year 1978-79.

(ii) Annual Report of the Cashew Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1978-79, along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-934/80.]

REPORTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-12-78 OF THE VARIOUS NATIONALISED BANKS, INCOME-TAX (THIRD AMDT.) RULES, 1980 AND NOTIFICATIONS re. CONTINUANCE OF EXCISE DUTY ON CERTAIN EXCISABLE GOODS AND AUXILIARY DUTIES OF CUSTOMS ON IMPORTED GOODS AT THE EXISTING RATES.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (1) I beg to re-lay* on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:—

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

(v) Report on the working and activities of the United Commercial

Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.

(vii) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(viii) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ix) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(x) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xi) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xiii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year ended the 31st December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xiv) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year ended the 31st

December, 1978 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-34/80.]

(2) I beg to lay on the Table:—

(a) A copy of the Income-Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 1980 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 396(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1980, under section 296 of the Income Tax Act 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-935/80.]

(b) A copy each of the Notification Nos. GSR 114(E) to 119(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1980 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding continuation of scheme of special excise duty on excisable goods at the hitherto existing rates under the provisions of the Finance Act, 1980, issued under the Central Excise Rules 1944.

(c) A copy each of the Notification Nos. GSR 120(E) to 130(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March 1980 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding continuation of scheme of levy of auxiliary duties of customs on imported goods at the hitherto existing rates under the provisions of the Finance Act 1980, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-936/80.]

12.05 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED STRIKE BY THE STUDENTS OF AYURVEDIC COLLEGES IN DELHI.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal); I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Health to the follow-

*The Reports were earlier laid on the Table on the 11th March, 1980.

ing matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon;

"Reported strike by the students of Ayurvedic Colleges in Delhi".

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
 Sir, There are four Ayurvedic Colleges in the Union Territory of Delhi. The Ayurvedic and Unani Tibbia College, Karol Bagh, is affiliated to the Delhi University. The following 3 private Ayurvedic Colleges are affiliated to the Examining Body formed under the provisions of the East Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act, 1949, for the Union Territory of Delhi for holding examinations and prescribing courses of study:

- (1) Sanatan Dharma Ayurvedic College, Kishan Nagar,
- (2) Ahimsa Ayurvedic College, Shankar Road, and
- (3) Dhanwantari Ayurvedic College, Mundka.

The students of these 3 private colleges went on strike in September, 1979 complaining of inadequacy of various facilities in their respective Colleges. Secretary (Medical), Delhi Administration and the Chairman of the Examining Body, held several meetings with the representatives of the students and management of the three colleges. They tried to persuade the management of the Colleges to provide the required facilities in these institutions. The management of all the 3 Colleges promised to provide the required facilities within a reasonable time. In November 1979, the students modified their demands as follows:—

- (1) closure of the three colleges by the Administration; and
- (2) opening of a new College by the Administration for the benefit of the striking students.

The striking students created disturbances in the 3 institutions and did not allow the willing students to attend the classes. The management of the Sanatan Dharma College and Ahimsa College, Shankar Road informed the Administration that they had been compelled to close their institutions. The management of Dhanwantri Ayurvedic College, Mundka, had, however, informed in September, 1979; that they were continuing to run the institution.

At present, of the 3 Colleges, the Management of the Sanatan Dharma Ayurvedic College, in their letter dated 4th June, 1980, addressed to the Examining Body, has intimated that at the request of the students and their parents, it has decided to re-open the College. The management has sent letters under postal certificate to individual students and has also issued a notice in two local newspapers on 8th June, 1980 to this effect. It is understood that the management of the Ahimsa Ayurvedic College, Shankar Road, is likely to follow suit, shortly.

SHRI CHIRANJJI LAL SHARMA:
 As per statement of the hon. Minister the students of these three colleges numbering about 600 and odd are on strike for over a period of 9½ months and are wandering from pillar to post for fulfilment of their demands. Actually, practically a period of one year has been criminally wasted. About 250 students came to express their resentment as per paper reports. 53 were arrested and were let off under the orders of the magistrate. The hon. Minister has stated that the management of all the three colleges promised to provide the required facilities with a reasonable period. May I know from the hon. Minister what the reasonable period was. Secondly, what were the demands of the students? Thirdly, were any concrete steps taken by the management to fulfil the demands of the students? May I know from the hon. Minister would Delhi Administration consider the desirability of affiliat-

[Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma]

ing these colleges to their University! The hon. Minister has stated that the management of Sanatan Dharma Ayurvedic College and Ahimsa Ayurvedic College, Shankar Road, informed the Administration that they had been compelled to close these institutions. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action was taken by the Delhi Administration against such closures of the institutions who had tried to play with the lives of 600 students. If not, why not, particularly when the career of 600 students is involved? May I know if the hon. Health Minister knows that the management of these three institutions extorted huge amounts from the students at the time they sought admission to these institutions. If so, will the Government kindly let the House know whether the Government would institute an inquiry into the conduct of the management?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Out of the three colleges—all of them are private colleges—one is a new one. No doubt there is large scope for improvement in providing physical facilities to the students in the three colleges and the management of all the three colleges had agreed to provide all the facilities as required by the students in a phased manner. There were meetings held by the Delhi Administration attended by the students and the management and the management agreed to provide the facilities. Hon. members must know that the original demands of the students were to get proper facilities regarding providing a proper building, equipment, laboratory, etc. But thereafter they changed their demands and said that the three colleges must be closed and the Government should open a new college. If this is the demand, you can imagine how we can react to it. So far as facilities are concerned, I am interested in providing the physical facilities to the students and we are persuading the managements and the managements have agreed.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): I scrupulously followed the statement made by the Minister. Unfortunately, there was a slight distortion of facts. These 650 students coming from far away places had been going about in the streets of Delhi for the last nine months. What is their grievance? In the matter of ayurvedic study, if you want to impart education in a scientific way, there should be all the scientific equipment, laboratories, etc.

These colleges must naturally be equipped with all modern facilities, laboratories, and other things. The crux of the students' grievances is that while the colleges have been given affiliation by the University they did not care to look into the facilities that are there. These ayurvedic students could not conduct any study not only because there were no facilities like laboratories, but because there were not even qualified teachers to teach them. Then, what is the use of these 650 students, coming from far away places, attending these colleges? The issue has been pending for the last nine months. These students had been agitating all the time. They held a demonstration before Parliament. There is some insinuation in the statement that the students were behaving irresponsibly and all that. This insinuation should not have been made. We should look into their real grievance. I would like to draw the attention of the minister to the meeting held on 8-2-80 between the students and the then State Minister for Health, Shri Laskar. He assured the students that within one month, a new college will be opened for them. Irrespective of the fact whether he belonged to this party or that party, the Government is committed to the assurance given to the students. Now the students are only demanding that the Minister and the Government should honour that commitment. You cannot deviate from that, whether the private colleges are able to provide amenities or not. They said that one academic year has gone waste. I am

**257 Strike by Students JYAISTHA 30, 1902 (SAKA) New Members of 258
of Ayurvedic College Press Commission (St.)
in Delhi (CA)**

very much afraid that the students may lose this year also. According to the present facts, the private institutions cannot provide the necessary scientific equipment, laboratories, qualified teachers and other facilities. I want to know whether the hon. Minister would stick to the assurance given to the students by the then Government on this particular question and open a new college under the Government?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I agree with the hon. Member that the students are to be provided with full physical facilities. There is no doubt about it. But I have told this House that there had been meetings with the management, students and the Delhi Administration and the management had agreed to provide facilities whether it be teachers or equipment or building or library.

As I said in my statement, at the request of the students and their parents, the management of one college has decided to re-open the college. It is understood that the second college is likely to follow suit shortly. The students can continue their studies in these colleges and they can wait for some time to have full facilities in the colleges.

Regarding qualified teachers, I should say that out of the three colleges, two colleges are old ones. The students have been appearing from these colleges every year and have been getting their degrees or diplomas, as the case may be. They are not new colleges. Suddenly, the students want that the private colleges should be closed and the Government should open a new college. I do not know why this demand has come.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Government made a commitment to them.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I can definitely say that the Minister of

State for Health has not made any definite commitment. I can only say that the Government will take interest and try to help these students sympathetically.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Vasant Sathe to make a statement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Before he makes the statement, there is a procedural point which I want to raise.

MR. SPEAKER: On 19-6-80, after the lunch recess, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy raised a point of order and said that the constitution of the Press Commission had been announced by Government outside the House while the House was in session. He contended that this announcement should have been made in this House first. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs observed that he had noted the point and would communicate to the Minister concerned. The hon. Deputy-Speaker then remarked: "You have made a proper protest and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already replied. You must expect a reply from the Minister concerned." Now he is making a statement. After his statement, I will allow you to raise the point.

12.19 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE. NEW MEMBERS
OF THE PRESS COMMISSION**

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Yesterday, some Hon. Members had mentioned in the House that the names of the new Members of the Press Commission should have been conveyed to the Sabha first.

As the Hon. Members are aware, Government had accepted the resignations submitted in January, 1980, by the former Chairman and the Members of the Press Commission and had also announced that the Commission

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

would be re-constituted with revised and more comprehensive terms of reference. Subsequently, Government extended the tenure of the Press Commission till the 31st December, 1980 and had also appointed Shri Justice K. K. Mathew as the Chairman on April 21, 1980.

For some time, some names have been appearing in the press. Under the rules, as far as the names of the Members of the Press Commission are concerned, they have to be duly notified so that they could be validly published and even announced in the House. However, as to the revised terms of reference, they have to be approved by the Cabinet. Hence, the Notification of the names of the New Members was made on the 18th June, 1980. As to the terms of reference, I wanted to place it before the House after they had been approved by the Cabinet.

There was absolutely no desire on my part to by-pass this Hon'ble House and the Parliament as I value both the conventions as well as the dignity of this House.

The names of the Chairman and Members of the Commission are as follows:—

1. Shri Justice K. K. Mathew—
Chairman.

Members

2. Shri Justice Sisir Kumar Mukerjee
3. Shrimati Amrita Pritam
4. Shri P. V. Gadgil
5. Shri Ishrat Ali Siddiqui
6. Shri Rajendra Mathur
7. Shri Girilal Jain
8. Shri K. R. Ganesh
9. Shri Madan Bhatia
10. Prof. H. K. Paranjape.
11. Shri Ranbir Singh

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already given you a prior notice and before I make any submission, I would like you to ponder over the future procedure that whenever any statement is made by any hon. Minister, and when we raise a procedural point before the statement is made, we should be permitted to make our submission. This will always be followed.

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This is just a submission to you.

There have been certain precedents in the House. I will quote one precedent in the Fifth Lok Sabha.

The Labour Minister made certain announcements outside the House when the House was already in Session and on that occasion the Speaker said that propriety demands that when the House is in Session such important announcements must come before the House and not outside the House. Therefore, with all the technicalities to which my hon. friend, Shri Vasant Sathe referred to, I would like to point out to you that such an important announcement regarding new names to be added over to the Press Commission ought to have come before the House.

MR. SPEAKER: You should be satisfied now with the statement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I want to remain on record so that they should be avoided in future.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I do not agree with the protest. I have not committed any illegality....

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, I do not care whether the Minister agrees or not. The question is the propriety involved in it and therefore, my appeal to you is there.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is improper.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (Dum Dum): I have carefully heard what the hon. Minister has read out in his statement and I regret to say that he said that he has no intention to bypass this hon. House. (*Interruptions*) He has tendered apology to the House by doing so.

MR. SPEAKER: No.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I cannot apologise.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you say (*Interruptions*). Mr. Sathe, why should you....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Why are you allowing the debate on this?

(*Interruptions*)

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North-East): Sir, I have one submission.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed you. I had asked Mr. Niren Ghosh.

Mr. Ghosh, after the statement, you want to say anything?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIREN GHOSH The second point is, when the Minister comes with the statement, he should explain why the previous Commission resigned. Did the Commission run counter to the Government?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No. no. Mr. Bhisma Narain Singh.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, he has raised to legal question. He says that it has to be published in the Gazette without which it is not an effective appointment and that is why he did not

come to the House. The other day you were good enough to observe that the announcement regarding the increase in excise duties, which could not become effective without a notification, should have been made earlier in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: They are two separate questions.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The question is regarding releasing it for publication in the newspapers. He should have first come to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: He has amply cleared the matter.

12.25 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 23rd June, 1980, will consist of:—

(1) General discussion on General Budget for 1980-81.

(2) Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1980-81.

(3) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Ordinance, 1980 and consideration and passing of the Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Bill, 1980.

(4) Consideration and passing of the National Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill 1980.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE (Rajapur): With your permission, I am suggesting two issues to be included in the next week's agenda, either for discussion or for statement by the Minister concerned.

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

On 28th April, 1978, at the suggestion of the Railway Ministry, the Planning Commission had appointed the Pande Committee on National Transport Policy, and that Committee has already submitted its report to the Government on 8th May, 1980. In answer to one of my questions it has been admitted by the Government that the Committee has made a recommendation that the broad gauge railway line, the West Coast railway line, right from Apta to Mangalore should be accepted. That is the unanimous recommendation of the Committee. I would very much like that the Railway Minister should come forward with a statement, pointing out to the House in what phased manner they are going to implement it. Since this report has been given by a committee appointed by the Planning Commission, I suggest that the construction work should start from both the ends, so that there will be greater possibility of completing it earlier.

Secondly, unfortunately a lot of controversy took place in this House on the question of Moshe Dayan's secret visit to India. I want to draw the attention of the Minister to the information that has been given in an article in *Hindustan Times* of today by Sundararajan. The article is entitled "The Israeli Connection", and in it, it has been pointed out that a number of top-ranking Israeli officials, including military intelligence men, met prominent members of the Government, almost all Government leaders, between 1965 and 1971. I do not want to cast any aspersion on the Government of that time, because if, for the defence and security of the country, certain steps have to be taken, even if I disagree with them, I concede to the Government and the Minister, the Defence Minister, the Prime Minister, the right to have such informal discussion. Therefore, in the background of this article which has appeared in the *Hindustan*

Times today by Sundararajan, I would like that the Minister should make a categorical statement, because on the basis of some news item that appeared in some foreign journal, the Prime Minister went on making statements, and the issue also figured in this House. Therefore, if a foreign journal was taken note of, I think Sundararajan's article that has appeared in an Indian journal, *Hindustan Times*, should also be taken note of, and a statement should be made on the same in the House.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): An early statement from Government is necessary in order to reassure the people of Kerala. We have some serious and urgent problems affecting the economy of the State. An all-party delegation from Kerala, headed by the Chief Minister, met the Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum. The memorandum has pointed out that in view of the fact that even the quantity of natural rubber imported by the STC during last year has remained unsold, no import of natural rubber be allowed, to reassure the rubber growers in Kerala and other States. A statement by the Government will reassure the rubber growers in Kerala and other States. A statement by the Government will memorandum submitted that in order to avoid a crash in the internal price of cocoa beans and prevent widespread distress among cocoa cultivators, the import of cocoa beans should be stopped and with an exportable surplus of cocoa emerging, an active programme be undertaken for promotion of export of cocoa beans.

Further, it has been pointed that there is an urgent need to arrange import of maximum quantity of raw cashewnuts through the Cashew Corporation of India and allot them to Kerala.

There are some other points also in the memorandum regarding the establishment of Aromatic project

at Cochin and locating a permanent naval Academy at the proposed site in Cannanore district.

An important all-party delegation comes from Kerala. It is headed by the Chief Minister and important problems that affect the economy of Kerala are placed before the Prime Minister. It is, therefore, necessary that the Government should come to this House at an early date with a statement regarding these matters.

My second point is that during the last Lok Sabha, that is, the Fifth Lok Sabha, the then Janata Government brought forward a Bill in order to grant or in order to bestow constitutional and statutory status upon the Minorities Commission and the Commission for Backward Classes. But, unfortunately, the Bill fell through because there was no requisite majority, that being a Bill to amend the Constitution of India. I urge upon the Government to come forward at an early date with a Constitution Amendment Bill in order to give the Minorities Commission and the Commission for Backward Classes the necessary constitutional and statutory status.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice saying that the next week's business should include a thorough discussion of the situation in the north-eastern region of our country. There has been resumption of violence in Assam even yesterday. There has been a spurt of violence in Tripura also yesterday and day before yesterday. Then, a secessionist movement has also been intensified. A Seven Sisters Liberation Army has been set up with a command at Shillong. They are also creating trouble and encouraging the secessionist movement. There are troubles in Manipur and other adjoining areas. Therefore, I think, it would be in the fitness of things that the House discusses the situation on the developments in the north-eastern region as

a whole and really give the opinion of the House so that the problem can be straightened. I want that this particular discussion be included in the next week's business.

Another important point that I want to raise is the state of affairs of Dandakaranya project. There has been a public announcement from the Government that the Government proposes to close down Dandakaranya project by the end of 1981. But reports are forthcoming and suggesting that rehabilitation problem has not been completed in Dandakaranya project. There has been the dichotomy of administration. There is a contradiction between the D.D.A. and the Rehabilitation Department of the Government of India. As a result of that, the Master Plan which was earlier made to have an integrated development of the area has been stopped and there has been no action taken on that plan. Therefore, the statement on behalf of the Government of India that the JDA or the Dandakaranya Project will be closed by the end of 1981 has caused serious apprehension and misunderstanding among the people, particularly the refugees who have been re-settled or rehabilitated in the Dandakaranya area.

Of late, the Chairman of the Dandakaranya Project has also been....

MR. SPEAKER: Make it short.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: He has been appointed.

There is a lot of dissatisfaction in the area. So that subject should also find a place in the list of business for next week.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): Sir, Mr. Samar Mukherjee and myself have given a Calling Attention Motion....

MR. SPEAKER: Calling Attention motions can be discussed in my chamber.

[Mr. Speaker]

Mr. Ghose, you have given your name, but you have not given me your points. You should have done so.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (Dum Dum): I am sorry, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you only one minute.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I would like next week's business to include the firing at Bijai because, it has been repeatedly said, the Minorities' delegation met the Prime Minister today. It appeared in the papers today or, perhaps, yesterday, that the Army Police is partisan and are sympathising with the movement and though it was a peaceful demonstration, they turned upon them and fired, resulting in several deaths. If this is the situation, no security can be guaranteed for the minorities in Assam and it becomes a precedent. Therefore, I would like this subject to be taken up.

Secondly, as regards the Taj Mahal, recently the news appeared that the safeguards undertaken by the Mathura Oil Refinery are not adequate and the Taj Mahal may be destroyed.

MR. SPEAKER: You may give notice under Rule 377.

Yes, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, I very strongly support Mr. Chitta Basu about a discussion on the situation in the north-eastern region. It is almost an explosive situation. The whole of that part of the country...

MR. SPEAKER: Why repeat the same....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: So, I will not go into the details.

Secondly, about the effect of the rise in petrol and diesel prices throughout the country....

MR. SPEAKER: Under Rule 184 we have already admitted it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have admitted it?

Then, thirdly, even today the Hon. Commerce Minister has said that a particular target has been fixed for engineering exports and other exports of manufactured goods where the small scale industries are going to play a very vital role. But they are greatly suffering because of want of raw materials, and this is a matter which is controlled entirely by the Centre. Therefore, I request that this very important aspect, which is going to create an impact on the economy as a whole, should be taken up for discussion here.

Fourthly, about the situation in the Calcutta Port, it is becoming more and more....

MR. SPEAKER: That has already been discussed.

Yes, Mr. Bosu.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, there is a Motion about the Press Commission's reconstitution. I would like the Hon. Minister to tell us through a debate—when we raise the debate—why the institutional and sectoral representations are not there in the Press Commission. We find that the Journalists' organisational representations are also not there. Otherwise, I do not have anything against the individuals: they are all eminent Journalists. But the Press Commission is conspicuous by the absence of sectoral and institutional representations.

Again, why have the terms of reference been delayed to that extent? If they did not approve, for political reasons, the terms of reference of the previous Government, that were given to the Press Commission, why did they not formulate their terms of reference earlier and well in time? This needs to be discussed because

the Press Commission is a very important institution and, for preserving Parliamentary democracy, it is necessary.

MR. SPEAKER: Your next item?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: As for my next item, my Hon. comrade Shri A. K. Roy has raised the Sindri issue. The Sindri Fertilizer plant is going in for a suicidal project. He will give the details; I will not encroach upon his area. I would like that the Motion which has been given under Rule 193 be debated as soon as possible before the House.

Thirdly,—and I will sit down after saying this—the Indian Council of Agricultural Research consumes Rs. 83 crores and odd a year. It is nothing but a dancing show-room of the so-called agro-scientists; there is no relation with the farming classes as a whole. I would like this very important thing to be discussed on the Floor of the House.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North-East): Sir, when we make suggestions, the Minister should at least write to us whether they accept or do not accept. This small courtesy will go a long way.

The House has debated many times in the past the Jaguar deal. Now it has come to my knowledge that the Government has practically decided to scrap the Jaguar deal. Some journalists have been provided with what is called 'masala' to show how bad the deal was and how many people made what kind of money. Therefore, it would be much better if, on both the Jaguar deal and the Harrier deal, this House has a full-fledged discussion. Let them come out openly and say what is wrong with the Jaguar deal, whatever is the decision that is being taken. I have no objection because they have earned the right to rule the country for five years; I hope they rule the country for five years; but they may not rule

for five years. So, Sir, they must at least inform the House why they are changing the decision.

In Bombay, people belonging to the lower middle class live in the housing colonies of the Maharashtra Housing Board. You might think that this has nothing to do with the Central Government. But it has. The terms and conditions and the manner in which they live, the repairs, etc.; have to be regulated by the Central Government. For long years, they have been neglected. If Mr. Vasantdada Patil were here, he would immediately say that the neglect was there during his period also. And this is continuing. Therefore, this House has to discuss the fate of the 50,000 tenements of the Maharashtra Housing Board. Some relief has to be provided immediately; otherwise, in this monsoon, many houses will collapse and many people will die.

Finally, I have been demanding a discussion on the Vaidyalingam Commission's report....

MR. SPEAKER: That is not in the points.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: With your indulgence, I would say this, Sir. Why is the Vaidyalingam Commission's report not being discussed? Are they afraid that nothing is there and a clean chit will be given to Shri Morarji Desai and Shri Kanti Desai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): It is for the BAC to decide as to what are the subjects to be brought before the House.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): I divide the points raised by the hon. Members into two parts. The first part concerns statements which some of the hon. Mem-

[Shri Bhisma Narain Singh]

bers have demanded from Ministers concerning the points raised by them; I will communicate them to the Ministers concerned. The second part concerns the Business Advisory Committee; I will bring those points to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.42 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. PROVISION OF RELIEF TO THE RELIEF CAMPS IN TRIPURA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to a telegraphic request from the Government of Tripura, the Indian Red Cross Society rushed to Agartala by air and road transport, four metric tonnes blankets, clothings, powdered milk and medicament in aid of the homeless in the various camps in Tripura.

At the request of the State Government, the Ministry of Health is airlifting additional medical supplies comprising fourteen items of medicines including anti-diarrhoeal, anthe-metics (medicine for worms) anti-biotics etc.

A further supply consisting of 1 lac doses of cholera vaccine is also being airlifted to Tripura. In addition, 2 medical teams consisting of two Doctors and one Pharmacist each with two self-contained medical units have been airlifted by the Indian Red Cross Society on 16th June, 1980. Besides, a team consisting of one Surgeon, Physician, Paediatrician; Orthopaedic Surgeon, Anaesthetist, each and three Junior Doctors—all from Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi,—have been kept in readiness for airlift to Agartala on receipt of communication, if any, from the State Government.

The needs for additional reinforcements are being reviewed at co-ordination meeting of the Directorate Ge-

neral of Health Services and the Red Cross which I have initiated already.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

CENTRAL SILK BOARD

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): I beg to move:

“That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

The motion was adopted.

12.46 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) REPORTED LAY-OFF OF WORKERS BY M/s. UNION NORTH JUTE MILL., WEST BENGAL

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bosu.

AN HON MEMBER: Sir, he is not in his seat.

MR. SPEAKER: You are caught on the wrong foot.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Not on the wrong foot, I am on barefoot, Sir. Item 10....

MR. SPEAKER: We have taken up matters under rule 377.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, this relates to the affairs of M/s. Union North Jute Mill, West Bengal, an undertaking under the management of the Central Government.

The management has resorted to prolonged lay-off of workers without any reason whatsoever, causing production loss to the tune of Rs. 90 lakhs so far. The management has arbitrarily laid off all the workers and employees numbering about 2500, with effect from 13th May, 1980 without compensation.

On 12th May 1980 the factory management, all of a sudden put up a notice imposing unbearable workload upon the Bobbin Mazdoors of the spinning department without any prior information and discussions with the representatives of the trade Unions functioning in the mill.

In this connection, it is necessary to mention here that the Union North Jute Mill is the only single jute mill which is running viably and profitably thanks to the efforts of the workman.

The workmen demand immediate withdrawal of lay-off, order and restoration of production. They also demand immediate nationalisation of the mill in the public interest.

The Minister should issue a statement clarifying the whole position.

(ii) NEED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR EARLY COMPLETION OF THE WESTERN KOSI CANAL IN BIHAR

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I am raising a question

with regard to Western Kosi Canal. Sir, this project was inaugurated so many times—almost during every election it was inaugurated....

MR. SPEAKER: That is a malaise. I think.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: But, Sir, even now it has not yet been completed. So, Sir, I wish to bring to your notice and the notice of this House that the completion of the Western Kosi Canal in Madhubani district of Bihar has already been unduly delayed. This canal, after completion, is to irrigate more than 8 lakhs of acres of land. Approximately half of it falling to the east of river Kamala can be commissioned to begin irrigation within a year after completing the remaining work. The other half to the west of river Kamala, including the crossing of Kamala, can be completed in about three years. I do urge upon the Government to ensure adequate funds and direct the State Government to complete the project according to time-schedule.

I request that the Minister may be directed to submit a written reply, if not to-day, at least later as to what is being done. Otherwise, Sir, there is no point in wasting the time of the House by raising these matters.

(iii) NEED TO RENOVATE THE FERTILIZER UNIT AT SINDRI AND TO STOP AUCTION THEREOF

SHRI A. K. ROY (Dhanbad): The Sindri Unit of F.C.I. Ltd., vide its N.I.T. No. AMM/Disposal/Tender/14/80 advertised in the leading dailies of the country for the disposal of Chemical Plants on "as is where is basis"; the due date for the opening of the tender was 20.3.80. The above advertisement appeared in the *Statesman* on 25-2-80, *Hindustan Times* on 24-2-80 and *Indian Nations* on 21-2-80

[Shri A. K. Roy]

and some other papers on the items as follows:—

- (1) Semi Water and Producer Gas Plant.
- (2) Gas Reforming Plant.
- (3) Air Separation Unit 1 (Lynde Frankle)
- (4) Air Separation Unit.
- (5) Naphtha Reforming Plant.
- (6) Ammonia Plant CCC Unit.
- (7) Ammonia Plant Montecatini Unit.
- (8) Urea plant.
- (9) Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate Plant (Double Salt).

The details of the equipments to be auctioned give the following picture:—

(1) Ammonia Plant:

(a) Compressor No. 5 was required by Namrup through P&D in the year 1976 within the F.C.I. but not given.

(b) Two Mixture Gas Compressors are without any defect.

(c) Out of Six Water Scrubbers, 4 are alright.

(2) Gas Reforming Plant:

(a) Ammonia Compressor is in good working condition.

(3) The total number of Boilers are 17, which are in satisfactory condition as certified by the Boilers Inspectors, Government of Bihar, last year.

(4) Double Salt Plant: All the equipments are in good condition. What is more in this wholesale disposal of a Fertilizer Plant, the first prestigious plant in the country under Public Sector, the quotations

accepted were all below the market rate and it is also reported that the materials shown are much less than they were.

It is distressing that when the country is starving of fertiliser, whose production is always falling short of demand, the FCI, a Public Sector Undertaking, is going to auction the entire unit of coalbased single fertiliser plant to the private companies involving crores of rupees, without exploring the possibility of renovating and utilising its potentiality to produce fertiliser, though most of its parts are in good condition and could be used viably for the same. The steps were taken without any proper scrutiny when the diesel based Sindri Modernisation Plant is lying idle due to the lack of diesel and there is an All India demand under consideration to switch over to the coal-based fertiliser plant. Government must intervene, renovate the coal based plant and stop this auction.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under Rule 199, with your permission...

MR. SPEAKER: I shall consider it when it comes.

Mr. Vijaya Raghavan.

(iv) MEASURES TO CHECK THE ALLEGED CORRUPT PRACTICES PREVAILING AT SANTA-CRUZ AIRPORT

**SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Newspapers have come out with complaints about the shameful goings on in the Santa Cruz Airport, Bombay. Hundreds of our people working in foreign countries come to Bombay every day. Often times people who come to visit their family relations and those who make a short hop to their native place fall a prey to the corrupt officials in this Airport.

While the deserving passengers after having got the tickets okayed run

**The original statement was made in Malayalam.

from pillar to post and yet do not get a seat, those who get into the chance list bribe the officials and manage to travel by the same plane. This has become an everyday affair. Apart from that, it has also become an everyday practice on the part of the officials to take bribe by threatening the passengers who have duly paid customs duty. An instance in point is of Shri Selvaraj who was coming from Dubai to see his mother who was critically ill. In spite of the fact that he had got his ticket okayed, he could not get a seat in the plane. Another case is of a lady who was coming from Muscat for her own marriage. She could not reach her native place in time even after greasing the palm of the officials. Yet another case is of one Mr. Shamsudin who was deprived of Rs. 240/- by a customs official in spite of the fact that he had paid all dues by way of customs duty. These cases have been reported in the Malayala Manorama daily of 5th June, 1980. About 50 such people who were subjected to such fraud, reached Kerala by a special bus and reported the matter to the above-mentioned daily. Even after complaints were raised in the past about such fraudulent practices, the people involved in the fraud are freely operating without any fear. This causes apprehension and dismay to the people. The Central Government and the Civil Aviation authorities should pay immediate attention to this problem. The corruption and the fraud that is being practised there will besmirch the fair name of our country. Therefore quick and stern action should be taken against such corrupt officials.

(v) MEASURES TO STOP EXPLOITATION OF JUTE GROWERS

श्री इमर लाल बंठा (अररिया): अध्यक्ष महोदय, बिहार में जूट उत्पादकों की स्थिति अत्यन्त शोचनीय हो गई है। जूट, जिस से देश की जूट मिलें ही नहीं चलतीं, देश को बाहर भी यह निर्यात किया जाता है, जिससे देश को दुर्लभ विदेशी मुद्रा की प्राप्ति होती

है, किन्तु इस की कीमत और खरीददारी में घोर अनियमितता बरती जाती है। खरीद की जो कीमत तय की जाती है, वह जूट के उत्पादन खर्च से भी कम है। भारतीय जूट निगम ने जूट की अनेक श्रेणियां निर्धारित की हैं और उस आधार पर खरीद के लिए जो कीमतें निर्धारित की जाती हैं, वे अत्यन्त भ्रामक हैं और भ्रष्टाचार के स्रोत हैं, जिस से जूट निगम द्वारा किसानों से जूट खरीदते समय उस का भयंकर शोषण होता है। इधर हाल में जूट निगम ने अपने क्रय केन्द्रों को भी बन्द कर दिया है जहां चाहिए यह था कि इन केन्द्रों को ग्राम स्तर तक पहुंचाया जाये और ग्रामीण जूट उत्पादकों से गांव में ही जूट खरीद कर उन्हें शोषण से बचाया जाये। इस के बदले खरीद केन्द्रों को भी बन्द कर किसानों को भयंकर कठिनाई में डाल दिया गया है।

जूट उत्पादक निजी खरीददारों द्वारा मन-मानी कीमत में जूट खरीद का शिकार हो रहे हैं। उन्हें उत्पादन से कम खर्च पर जूट बचना पड़ रहा है, जिस से धीरे-धीरे वे जूट का उत्पादन छोड़ते भी जा रहे हैं। यह एक बहुत बड़ी राष्ट्रीय क्षति होगी।

अतः सरकार से आग्रह है कि बोआई के ठीक पूर्व कृषि मंत्रालय जूट की खरीद का उचित न्यूनतम मूल्य निर्धारित करे और न्यूनतम मूल्य से नीची बाजार दूर होने पर जूट निगम को बाजार से सीधी खरीद का आदेश दे।

जूट निगम की क्रय शाखा को ग्राम स्तर तक पहुंचाया जाये।

जूट की श्रेणियों को कम किया जाये, जिस से जूट उत्पादक ठगी एवं शोषण के शिकार न हों।

अभी तक बिहार क्षेत्र का जॉन्ल कार्यालय बिहार से बाहर है और उस के पदाधिकारी भी गैर-हिन्दी क्षेत्र के हैं, जिस से किसानों को अपनी शिकायतों और कठिनाइयों को इन अधिकारियों तक पहुंचाने में भी कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है। अतः इस कार्यालय को बिहार में ही स्थापित किया जाये और हिन्दी जानकार पदाधिकारियों की वहां पर पदस्थापना की जाये।

[श्री डूमर लाल बैठा]

इस क्षेत्र के प्रमुख व्यापारिक स्थानों फारबिसगंज, किसनगंज, मुरलीगंज में प्रस्तावित जूट मिलों का शीघ्र निर्माण कर प्रान्त भर की जूट खपत की व्यवस्था का स्थायी हल निकाले।

प्रश्न अत्यन्त लोक महत्व का है।

(vi) NEED TO PROVIDE DIESEL TO FARMERS OF THE DROUGHT AFFECTED AREAS OF MADHYA PRADESH FOR SOWING KHARIF CROP

श्री प्रताप भानु शर्मा (विदिशा): मैं केन्द्रीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री एवं नागरिक आपूर्ति मंत्री जी का ध्यान प्रदेश में व्याप्त डीजल की भारी कमी की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

इस समय मध्य प्रदेश में किसानों को खरीफ फसल हेतु पर्याप्त मात्रा में डीजल नहीं मिल पा रहा है, जिस के कारण कृषक वर्ग परेशान है एवं राज्य में यह समस्या चिन्ता का विषय बना हुआ है। जैसा कि ज्ञात है कि पिछले वर्ष प्रदेश में भयंकर सूखा पड़ा था, जिस के कारण खरीफ एवं रबी दोनों फसलें चोपट हो गई थी। परिणामस्वरूप केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा बड़े पैमाने पर राहत कार्य प्रारम्भ किये गये हैं।

इन बातों का ध्यान में रखते हुए यह बहुत जरूरी हो गया है कि आने वाली खरीफ फसल के लिये कृषि कार्य सूचारु रूप से चले, किसानों को अविलम्ब पर्याप्त मात्रा में डीजल मिलने की व्यवस्था की जाये एवं वर्षा के मौसम को ध्यान में रखते हुए 300 से 400 लीटर डीजल प्रति ट्रैक्टर अतिरिक्त मात्रा में उपलब्ध कराया जाये क्योंकि 10-15 दिन बाद ज्यादातर ग्रामीण रास्ते कम से कम दो माह के लिये बन्द हो जावेंगे और समय पर डीजल न मिलने से किसानों को भारी नुकसान होगा।

13 hrs.

(vii) NEED FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED SHADY DEALS OF OFFICIALS OF FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA AT MANCHERIAL IN ANDHRA PRADESH

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY (Adilabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir recently, the Food Corporation of India go-

down at Mancherial in Andhra Pradesh has sold more than 200 quintals of rice at Rs. 6/- per quintal inclusive of gunny bag while the price of the gunny bag itself is more than Rs. 7/- by declaring the said rice as rotten and unfit for human consumption. In the same manner some days back sugar was also declared as spoiled and sold at Rs. 120/- per quintal while the market rate was Rs. 600/- per quintal. These sales are taking place secretly. I am sure there is a big racket where some FCI officers and some merchants have come to certain understanding and disposing off rice and sugar at a throw-away price and making huge profits at the cost of public fund. I would request the Minister for Agriculture to appoint an independent officer and get the whole thing enquired and let this House know, during the last one year how many quintals of rice and sugar were declared unfit for human consumption and at what price these were disposed off and what is the procedure followed in disposing.

MR SPEAKER: Before we adjourn for lunch, I would like to announce that after lunch, the first item will be papers to be laid on the Table and the next, the reply by the Railway Minister to the discussions on the Railway Budget.

1302 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen past of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL in the Chair]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Maganbhai Barot.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—
Contd.

NOTIFICATION RE. REDUCTION IN EXPORT
DUTY ON CARDAMOM

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
MAGANBHAI BAROT): I beg to lay
on the Table a copy of Notification
No. 123/80-Customs (Hindi and Eng-
lish versions) published in Gazette of
India dated the 20th June, 1980 to-
gether with an explanatory memoran-
dum regarding reduction in export
duty on Cardamom, under section 159
of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in
Library. See No. LT—939/80]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the hon.
Minister of Railway will reply. He
may please reply while sitting, be-
cause he is not well.

14.06 hrs

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1980-81—
GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

रेल मंत्री (श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी): सभा-
पति महोदय, मुझे बड़ी प्रसन्नता है कि
रेलवे बजट प्रस्तुत करने का जो अवसर मुझे
मिला, उस पर प्रायः 3 दिनों तक माननीय
सदन ने बड़ी गंभीरता के साथ विचार
किया। माननीय सदस्यों ने बहुत बड़ी
संख्या में अपने विचार प्रस्तुत किये हैं, मैं
उन सब को हार्दिक बधाई देना चाहता हूँ
और धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। अब अपनी
ओर से अपनी कृतज्ञता व्यक्त करना चाहता
हूँ कि उन्होंने बहुत से सुझाव दिये और
मेरा मार्ग-दर्शन किया।

माननीय सदस्यों के भाषणों से मुझे बड़ा
प्रकाश मिला है, मुझे बहुत-सी जानकारी
मिली है और मुझे बोध हुआ है कि इस
विभाग का संचालन करने के लिये मेरे
सम्मुख क्या कर्तव्य है और किस प्रकार है।
मैं उन कर्तव्यों को पूरा करने की चेष्टा
करूंगा, इसीलिसे मैं हार्दिक कृतज्ञता प्रकट
करता हूँ।

मैं इस अवसर पर इतना और कहना
चाहता हूँ कि सारी बातों का जवाब देना
बजट का उत्तर देते हुए शायद संभव न होगा,
क्योंकि इसमें बहुत-सी बातें ऐसी कही
गई हैं, जिनके सम्बन्ध में जानकारी हासिल
करनी पड़ेगी। नई लाइनों को बढ़ाने की,
विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में नये रेलवे लिंक्स पैदा
करने की, छोटी लाइनों को बड़ी लाइनों
में परिवर्तित करने की, बहुत-से आप-
रेशनल मामलों में भी और यात्रियों को
बहुत-सी सुविधाएँ देने के मामले में भी
जो सुझाव मेरे सामने आये हैं, उन सब पर
मैं बहुत गंभीरता से विचार करूंगा। यह
आश्वासन दे सकता हूँ सदन को कि सदन
ही हमारा स्वामी है और उसकी जो आज्ञा
होगी, जो उसके विचार है, भावनाएँ हैं
उनका आदर करना और उन्हें कार्यान्वित
करना मेरे लिये परम सन्तोष और परम धर्म
की बात है।

जैसा कि परम्परा रही है—और मैंने भी
उसका अनुसरण किया है—जो ऐसे सवाल
उठायें गये, जिनका तत्काल उत्तर देना संभव
नहीं हुआ, चाहे वे इनटोरिम् बजट के
समय उठायें गये अथवा सप्लीमेंटरी बजट
के समय उठायें गये, तो उस समय भी मैंने
यह आश्वासन दिया था कि मैं उन प्रश्नों
का उत्तर स्वयं माननीय सदस्यों के यहाँ
पहुँचा दूंगा। आज मुझे यह कहने में
प्रसन्नता होती है कि इनटोरिम् बजट और
सप्लीमेंटरी बजट से सम्बन्धित ऐसे बहुत
से प्रश्नों का उत्तर मैंने पत्रों के द्वारा मान-
नीय सदस्यों के पास भेजा है। उसमें समय
अवश्य होगा, क्योंकि बहुत सी जाँच-पड़ताल
की भी बातें थी, और बहुतों के सम्बन्ध में
विभाग के दूरस्थ अंगों से रिपोर्टें मंगाने की
आवश्यकता थी। संभव है कि कुछ विलम्ब
हुआ हो, लेकिन प्रायः सब बातों का उत्तर
यथासंभव शक्ति-भर मैंने माननीय सदस्यों
के पास अपने पत्रों के द्वारा भेजने की चेष्टा
की थी। मुझे आशा है कि वह उन्हें मिल
गया होगा। आज भी यदि ऐसे कोई प्रश्न
रह जायें—और ऐसे प्रश्न उठायें गये हैं, जैसे
किसी क्षेत्र में न कोई लाइन बनाने का सवाल
आदि—, तो उसके बारे में मैं नम्रतापूर्वक
यह आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि उनका
उत्तर मैं अपने पत्रों द्वारा उन माननीय

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

सदस्यों के पास शीघ्र ही पहुँचा देने की चेष्टा करूंगा।

इस बहस का श्रीगणेश करने का भार हमारे मित्र, प्रो. दंडवते, ने उठाया वह तो प्रोफेसर हैं। मैं जीवन भर विद्यार्थी रहा हूँ। जीवन बीत गया करीब करीब, मैं विद्यार्थी रहा। इसी हौसियत में कुछ न कुछ सीखने को मिलता रहा है। प्रोफेसर दंडवते तो प्राचार्य हैं—आचार्य और उसमें 'प्र' विशेषण लगा हुआ है। उन्हें अधिकार है कि वह मुझे कुछ बतायें, और उन्होंने बताया। मैं बड़ा कृतज्ञ हूँ उनका कि बहुत सी बातों पर मुझे प्रकाश मिला। कुछ बातों का उत्तर भी संक्षेप में और बड़ी नम्रता के साथ मैं दे देना चाहता हूँ।

मैं ऐसा व्यक्ति नहीं हूँ—कोई अभिमान में नहीं कह रहा हूँ, नम्रता के साथ कह रहा हूँ—कि किसी पर कोई दोषारोपण करूँ। मेरी तबियत ऐसी नहीं है। मेरा रुझान भी इधर नहीं रहता है कि किसी पर किसी तरह का दोषारोपण करूँ या उसका छिद्रान्वेषण करने की कोशिश करूँ। यदि मैं ने अपनी स्पीच में 1976-77 के बारे में या 1977-78 के बारे में कोई ऐसी बात कही है, जिससे पुरानी सरकारों पर कुछ आक्षेप लगता हो, तो मैं विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि आक्षेप करने की मेरी कोई नीयत नहीं थी, मेरा वह इरादा भी नहीं था। मुझे दिखाई पड़ा कि यह वस्तु-स्थिति है, मालूम पड़ा कि यह परिस्थिति है, यह दिखाई पड़ा कि यह फैक्ट है, देश की यह हालत है।

जो बात दिखाई दे रही हो उसे जनता के प्रतिनिधियों के सामने व्यक्त करना शायद मुनासिब होता है। मेरे ऊपर इस का उत्तर-दायित्व आया तो यह और भी आवश्यक हो गया कि जो हमारा स्वामी-मंडल यहाँ बैठा हुआ है उसके सामने अपनी भावना को व्यक्त करूँ। इस दृष्टि से मैं ने कहा था। मैं ने कोई आक्षेप करने के इरादे से नहीं कहा था। अगर प्रोफेसर दंडवते को ऐसा लगा हो कि मैं ने कोई आक्षेप किया तो मैं उन्हें आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा मेरा इरादा नहीं था और अगर यह बात

थोड़ी सी उन को झूठ गई तो उस के लिए मैं क्षमा मांगने के लिए तैयार हूँ। मेरा कोई मंशा वैसे नहीं था।

इस प्रश्न का उत्तर, हमारे डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने, परसों जब उन का भाषण हुआ था, उस में कुछ दिया है। मैं तो इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि 1976-77 में कुछ एफिशियेंसी थी रेलवे में। उस सन्दर्भ में यह ध्यान आकर्षित किया कि 1979-80 में वह एफिशियेंसी नहीं रह गई और उस को ले आने में हमें लगता है कि कुछ समय लगेगा। यही बात मैं ने कही थी। उस समय थी एफिशियेंसी थोड़ी। मुझे स्वयं बड़ा खेद है कि तीन चार पांच महीने से रेलवे विभाग का काम मेरे ऊपर आया है, अब मैं यह कह सकता हूँ कि अपनी शक्ति भर, अपनी बुद्धि भर और अपनी समझ भर मैं ने उस में सुधार करने की चेष्टा की है पूरी शक्ति के साथ, पर मैं उस में अभी सफल नहीं हो सका। मुझे इसका खेद होता है, कभी कभी लज्जा भी आती है कि ऐसा हुआ। 1976-77 में कुछ बातें थीं। माननीय सदस्यों को अन्दाज है, एक छोटी सी बात है कि सारी गाड़ियां पंचवृत्त चला करती थी। यह आप को याद होगा। लोग गाड़ियों के टाइम से अपनी घड़ी मिला लिया करते थे, यह हम ने खुद देखा है। रेल की गाड़ी आएगी तो यह टाइम होगा, उस के हिसाब से लोग घड़ी मिला लिया करते थे। अब वह नहीं रहा। बड़ी कोशिश कर रहा हूँ, चार महीनों से कोशिश कर रहा हूँ। अपने रेलवे बोर्ड के साथियों से कहा, हमारे यहाँ जनरल मैनेजर्स की मीटिंग हुई, उन से कहा और जो काम करने वाले अधिकारी मिलते हैं उन से कहा। हमारे श्रमिकों का कुछ थोड़ा बहुत जो आवागमन हुआ, मुझसे जो मिल सके उन को कहा कि भाई, पंचवृत्त अल्टी कम से कम ठीक करो। मुझे ऐसा लगता है, मेरे ऊपर ऐसा उस का प्रभाव है कि रेलों जब ठीक चलती है तो साधारण जनसमाज के मन में धारणा यह बनती है कि देश ठीक चल रहा है। ठीक टाइम से रेल आए और ठीक टाइम से जाये तो साधारण जन ऐसा सोचता है कि देश भी ठीक चल रहा है और जब गाड़ियां चार-चार, पांच-पांच घंटे लेट होने लगती हैं तो ऐसा लगता है

कि देश ठीक नहीं चल रहा है, देश में कुछ गड़बड़ है। इस दृष्टि से भी मैं समझता हूँ कि यह पन्क्चुबलिटी हमें मॉन्टेने करनी चाहिए। 76-77 में बहुत बड़े अनुपात में यह माँजूद थी। जैसा मैंने निवेदन किया कि लोग घड़ी मिला लिया करते थे गाड़ी के टाइम से लेकिन अब घड़ी की बात तो जाने दीजिए, चार-चार, पाँच-पाँच घंटे गाड़ियाँ लेट आती हैं और मुझे क्षमा करें तो मैं कहूँ कि कभी कभी तो ऐसा हुआ कि शाम को 6 बजे जो गाड़ी आने वाली थी वह दूसरे दिन 6 बजे आई। ऐसा हुआ है।

76-77 में रिजर्वेशन के भगड़े भी बहुत कम हो गए थे। ऐसा नियम कुछ बन गया था कि बहुत आसानी से रिजर्वेशन हो जाता था। लोग तारीफ भी किया करते थे। यहां हाउस में कहा कि रिजर्वेशन में अब कोई भगड़ा नहीं है। आजकल रिजर्वेशन कराना मुश्किल है। बहुत सी शिकायतें आती हैं। लोग हमारे दफ्तर में आकर कहते हैं रिजर्वेशन करा दीजिए। दफ्तर वाले बात कर लेते हैं, वहां से वह कह देते हैं कि रिजर्वेशन कर दिया। हम ने उन को सूचना दे दी कि रिजर्वेशन हो गया और जब वह ट्रेन पर पहुँचे तो उनका नाम ही वहां नहीं है। अब कहां से वह टेलीफोन करते हैं कि कहिए मंत्री जी, आप ने तो कहा था कि रिजर्वेशन हो गया लेकिन यहां तो हमारा नाम ही नहीं है। अब आप भनखिए, पटकिए, उस को सजा दीजिए, कुछ भी कीजिए, लेकिन वह यात्री अपने बीबी-बच्चों को ले कर स्टेशन पर गया तो उस को रिजर्वेशन नहीं मिला। उस समय इस तरह की दिक्कतें नहीं थीं और इसके खिलाफ लोग प्रशंसा किया करते थे।

जहां तक वॉगन्स का मामला है,, 1976-77 में, मुझे याद है, कलकत्ता, बम्बई के लोग हमारे पास आये कहने के लिए कि पंडितजी, क्या हो गया यह चमत्कार, कहां तो वॉगन्स मिलते नहीं थे, बल्कि एक सज्जन ने कहा जब 4 हजार रुपया देते थे तब वॉगन मिलता था और अब ऐसा हो गया है कि रेलवे के अधिकारी

पीछे-पीछे घूमते हैं कि वॉगन खड़ा है, आप ले लें—तो यह क्या चमत्कार आपने कर दिया? अब आजकल वॉगन्स मिलने में दिक्कत हो रही है। इसी तरह से स्टेशन्स की सफाई, कोचेज की सफाई की बात है, अभी हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि पंखे नहीं चलते हैं, पानी नहीं मिलता है स्टेशन्स पर, टायलेट बहुत खराब हैं—यह सारी बातें कही गई हैं लेकिन इन सारी चीजों में 1976-77 में काफी सुधार था किसी वजह से, उसमें सभी का सहयोग मिला था। हमारे प्रोडक्शन सेन्टर्स में प्रोडक्शन बढ़ा था, डिडिप्लिन बनी हुई थी। यह सारी चीजें 1976-77 में दिखाई देती थीं लेकिन अब 1979-80 में वही रेलें हैं, वही मोहकमा है—यह बाढ़ तो ठीक है कि हम मिनिस्टर तो काँजुअल लेबर होते हैं जैसा कि दण्डवते जी ने कहा, आज हम यहां पर हैं और कल चड़्डी पहनकर सड़क पर दिखाई देंगे—लेकिन जैसा मैंने कहा वही मोहकमा है, वही लोग हैं परन्तु एफीशिएन्सी वह नहीं रह गई है। इसके लिए हम चेष्टा करते हैं परन्तु अभी कोई सफलता नहीं मिली है। तो इसी की तरफ हमने इशारा किया था और कहा था कि लगता है इस एफीशिएन्सी को प्राप्त करने में अभी बहुत समय लगेगा। मैं सदन से कह सकता हूँ कि एफीशिएन्सी में जो लास हुआ है उसका दोष मैं किसी को नहीं दे रहा हूँ लेकिन जो विभाग मुझे चलाने को मिला, मुझे लज्जा आती है कि इस तरह की हमारी एफीशिएन्सी खत्म हो गई है और इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि लोगों को कष्ट हो रहा है।

बेस ईयर की जो बात थी, जिसकी तरफ दण्डवते जी ने इशारा किया कि 1977-78 को बेस ईयर माना गया है, यह बात ठीक है कि प्रोडक्टिविटी-लिंकड बोनस देने की बात कही गई तो 1977-78 को बेस ईयर मानना ही चाहिए। उस वक्त एक बात हुई कि 1977-78 में लोडिंग 1 मिलियन टन कम हुई। 1976-77 में लोडिंग हुई थी 212 मिलियन टन और 1977-78 में लोडिंग हुई 211 मिलियन टन यानी 1 मिलियन टन कम हुई। फिर भी हमने उसका माना इसलिए कि लीड कुछ ज्यादा हुई। लीड ज्यादा होने के लिए, प्रोडक्टिविटी-

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

लिंकड बोनस देना ही चाहते थे इसलिए कहा कि इतना काम करों तब बोनस मिलेगा। 1977-78 में लीड कुछ ज्यादा थी हालांकि लोड 1 मिलियन टन कम हुआ था। हालांकि एकोनामी और फाइनेंशियल प्वाइंट आफ व्यू से एक मिलियन टन लोड कम होना बहुत बड़ी बात होती है। उसके बाद सबसे अधिक लोड हुआ 1976-77 में, यह रिकार्ड लोड है 212 मिलियन टन, उतना कभी नहीं हुआ, दण्डवते जी के जमाने में लोड कम होता चला गया जो 1979-80 में खत्म हुआ 193 मिलियन टन पर। 1976-77 में जो 212 मिलियन टन का लोड रहा था वह फिर कभी एचीव नहीं हुआ। इस बार हमने एक टारगेट बनाया है 214 मिलियन टन का, यह सोच करके कि 212 मिलियन हम एचीव कर चुके हैं, अब 214 मिलियन टन रखें।

अब 214 का टारगेट रखा है, जिसको एचीव करने की चेष्टा कर रहे हैं। मेरी तमाम रेलवे के अधिकारियों से, रेलवे बोर्ड के अपने सदस्यों से, रेल में काम करने वाले अपने तमाम साथियों से, जो ग्रास रूट वर्कर्स से लेकर और ऊपर तक जो बैठे हुए हैं, प्रार्थना है, अपील है कि देश के नाम पर, रेलवे की आर्थिक परिस्थितियों के नाम पर कि 214 मिलियन टन का जो टारगेट रखा है, उसको उपलब्ध करने की, इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने की, भरपूर कोशिश करें और चेष्टा करें।

मान्यवर, मुझे समर मुखर्जी साहब क्षमा करें और अपने विरोधी दल के लोगों से भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि कृपा करके थोड़ा सहयोग दीजिए। हमारे इन्डस्ट्रियल रिलेशन्स को बनाए रखने की कोशिश कीजिए। मैं कह चुका हूँ, वायदा कर चुका हूँ, कि सबकी तकलीफों की तरफ ध्यान दूंगा और दूर करने की कोशिश करूंगा। ऐसा सहयोग सबसे मिले और हम 214 मिलियन टन के टारगेट को एचीव कर सकें, इसका देश की इकानामी पर बड़ा भारी असर होगा।

आज यह बात स्पष्ट हो गई है कि रेलवे की एचीवमेंट 193 मिलियन टन तक आई। कभी 1975-76 में 204

मिलियन टन थी। इन्होंने टारगेट रखा था 224 मिलियन टन का, वह भी एचीव नहीं हुआ, 212 मिलियन टन भी नहीं हुआ और इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि इसका असर सारे देश की इकानामी पर पड़ा। यह सब लोग जानते हैं और प्रो. दण्डवते भी मुझ से ज्यादा इस बात को जानते हैं। उन्हें रेलवे के चलाने का बहुत बड़ा ज्ञान है। काफी समय तक उन्होंने इस संस्थान को चलाया है। मैं उन से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ, मैं कोई उनके ऊपर आक्षेप नहीं कर रहा हूँ, उन्होंने भरपूर चेष्टा की किन्तु परिस्थितियाँ ऐसी थीं, चाहे कोयले की परिस्थिति रही हो, चाहे ट्रांसपोर्ट की परिस्थिति रही हो, चाहे पावर-कट की परिस्थिति रही हो, चाहे ला एंड आर्डर की सिचुएशन रही हो, चाहे परिस्थिति कैसी भी रही हो नतीजा यह हुआ कि जो कभी 1976-77 में 212 मिलियन टन से भी अधिक एचीव हुआ था वह 1979-80 में गिर कर 193 मिलियन टन रह गया और इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि इसका असर हमारे देश की इकानामी के ऊपर प्रत्यक्ष दिखाई देता है। इस चीज की ओर मैंने संकेत किया था, कोई आक्षेप करने का इरादा नहीं था।

मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हम इस बात की चेष्टा करेंगे कि हम अपने इस टारगेट को एचीव कर सकें। कुछ बातें प्रो. दण्डवते साहब ने ऐसी कहीं जिनसे हम स्वयं सहमत हैं। उनको रेलवे संस्थान को चलाने का अनुभव रहा है, उसके आधार पर यह बात कही गई है और उसकी तरफ उन्होंने ध्यान दिलाया है, लेकिन थोड़ा बहुत ध्यान भी दिया गया है। उनके कह देने से और अधिक हमारा ध्यान जाएगा और मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारे बीच से ऊपर तक जो रेलवे बोर्ड में और रेलवे भवन में अधिकारी हैं, वे भी उससे कुछ थोड़ा सा प्रकाश ग्रहण करेंगे और उस काम को आगे बढ़ावेंगे ताकि उसमें विशेष रूप से काम हो सके। जिन बातों की ओर उन्होंने ध्यान आकर्षित किया है, उसमें कोई दो राय नहीं सकती। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं उनसे सहमत भी हूँ। उन्होंने कहा है कि इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन प्राग्राम को स्पीड-अप करें। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बात सही है। इस काम में बड़ा

पैसा खर्च होता है, रेलवे बोर्ड में इसकी तरफ ध्यान दिलाया गया है। इस काम को करने के लिए मीटिरियल भी मिलना चाहिए। प्रो. दंडवते साहब भी इस परिस्थिति को जानते हैं और कोई दूसरी गति नहीं है, आज इनजी की पोजीशन को देखते हुए, आज कोयले की पोजीशन को देखते हुए, आज डीजल की पोजीशन को देखते हुए, आज नहीं तो कल आगामी कुछ वर्षों के अन्दर सिवाय इसके कोई गति नहीं रह जाएगी कि इलीक्ट्रिफिकेशन का काम बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर देश में होता रहे, ताकि रेलवे का संचालन होता चले, क्योंकि अगर बाधा पड़ी तो देश की गति रुक जाएगी। इसलिए इसकी तरफ विशेष रूप से ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। हमने, मान्यवर इसकी तरफ ध्यान दिया है।

आप ने ट्रेक्शन की बात कही, उस की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया है। जो पुरानी रेल लाइनों हैं उन पर गति को नहीं बढ़ा सकते हैं और कभी-कभी दुर्घटनाओं का भी डर रहता है। उन में परिवर्तन की जरूरत है और इस के लिये हम ने प्रावधान भी किया है। आप ने भी अपने भाषण में इस का संकेत किया है, हम उस को मंजूर करते हैं।

वैगन्ज के मामले को लीजिये—आज देश में वैगन्ज की जरूरत बहुत बढ़ गई है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं माननीय सदस्यों का ध्यान सब से पहले प्रायोरिटी सेक्टर की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि बार-बार इस तरह की शिकायत माननीय सदस्यों की तरफ से आ जाती है कि फलानी जगह वैगन्ज नहीं पहुँच रही है। इस वक्त तक जितनी वैगन्ज हमारे पास रही है, उन से कभी कमी महसूस नहीं हुई और उन से हमारा काम चलता रहा है, हमारे पास कुल वैगन BG में 4 लाख से अधिक है। लेकिन अब ऐसा लगता है कि हमें बहुत ज्यादा वैगन्ज की जरूरत पड़ेगी। अभी कल ही हमारे यहां कैबिनेट कमिटी की मीटिंग थी—इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के बारे में। उस में यह चर्चा हुई कि जैसे-जैसे आवश्यकता बढ़ रही है, उसे पूरा करने के लिये ज्यादा वैगन्ज की जरूरत है। आज हमारे पास जितनी वैगन्ज है—वे सब-की सब आप के प्रायोरिटी सेक्टर में लगी हुई

है। जैसे पावर-हाउसेज को काल पहुँचाना है। 1979 के दिसम्बर तक इस क्षेत्र में 26 सौ या 27 सौ वैगन्ज प्रति दिन लोड कर रही थीं, अब उस काम पर 500-600 वैगन्ज प्रति दिन और ज्यादा काम कर रही है, करीब-करीब 3,300 वैगन्ज की डेली एव्ज है जो पावर-हाउसेज को काल पहुँचा रही है। कभी-कभी वह शिकायत आजाती है कि कहीं-कहीं पावर-हाउसेज में कोयले का स्टॉक बिल्ड-अप नहीं हुआ, एक ही दिन का स्टॉक रह गया, वहां जल्दी पहुँचावों, हमें तुरन्त उस तरफ ध्यान देना पड़ता है।

कोयले को केवल पावर हाउसेज में ही नहीं पहुँचाना होता है, दूसरी जगहों पर भी पहुँचाना होता है, जैसे स्टील प्लांट्स हैं, ट्रेड की आवश्यकता है, टेक्स-टाइल मिलें हैं, सब जगह इस की जरूरत होती है। अभी कुछ महीने पहले, मेरा ख्याल है फरवरी में लगभग 9500 वैगन्ज पर-डे कोयला ढाँटी रही है, अब शायद कुछ कम हुआ हो, लेकिन इतनी वैगन्ज सिर्फ कोयले के ढोने में लगी रही है।

गल्ला पहुँचाना पड़ता है—इस मामले में हमें बहुत बड़ी लीड लेनी पड़ी है। हमारे राव साहब यहां बैठे हुए हैं—इन की फुड कारपोरेशन कह देती है कि पंजाब और हरियाणा में इतनी एलाटमेंट हुई है, इस को तुरन्त फलां स्टेट में पहुँचाओ। वह गल्ला हम को वहां से उठा कर असम ले जाना पड़ता है। आप की नार्थ ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स की शिकायत आती रहती है कि वहां कम पहुँच रहा है, हम को तुरन्त गोहाटी ले जाना पड़ता है, फिर वहां से उस का आगे डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन होता है। लाखों टन गल्ला हम को ड्रूट-एफेक्टिव एरियाज में जैसे असम है या दूसरे स्केजरिस्टी राज्य है, वहां पहुँचाना पड़ा है। ये सब काम प्रायोरिटी के आधार पर किये गये।

मैं आप के सामने बड़ी प्रसन्नता पूर्वक और नम्रतापूर्वक यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि कोई मिसाल इस बात की नहीं मिलेगी कि ड्रूट एफेक्टिव एरियाज में इस बार रेलवे ने सिर्फ खाना ही नहीं पहुँचाया, बल्कि पानी भी पहुँचाने की कोशिश की है।

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

टर्कर्स में भर भर कर पानी पहुंचाया है, जब कि टर्कर्स में हम को डीजल पहुंचाने की जरूरत थी, पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स को पहुंचाने की जरूरत थी। चाहे मध्य प्रदेश हो, उत्तर प्रदेश हो या बिहार हो, जब यह सुनाई पड़ा कि वहां इन्सान और जानवरों के लिये भी पीने का पानी नहीं है, तो उन डांट एफेक्टिव एरियाज में हम ने तुरन्त पानी पहुंचाने की कोशिश की।

जैसे जैसे प्रोडक्शन बढ़ेगी, चाहे कोल में प्रोडक्शन बढ़े, सुपर पावर स्टेशनज बनें, इण्डस्ट्रीयलाइजेशन का काम बढ़े, हमारा नया प्लान आ रहा है, उस की वजह से जिन जिन एरियाज का डेवलपमेंट होगा, तमाम जगहों पर वैगन्ज की जरूरत पड़ेगी, ऐसी स्थिति में हमारे पास जितनी वैगन्ज है, उन से काम पूरा नहीं होगा।

प्रो. दण्डवते जी ने भी इस की तरफ इशारा किया है, उन के बहुत से सुभाव ऐसे हैं जो रचनात्मक हैं, जिन की तरफ हम सब को ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। मैं उन से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हम पहले से ही इन बातों के लिये चेष्टा कर रहे हैं। इस काम के लिये फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट ने रुपया एलाट कर दिया है, बजट में भी उसको रखा गया है। आप ने देखा होगा कि रॉलिंग स्टॉक के नाम पर काफी पैसा रखा गया है। हम ने वैगन बनाने वाली फैक्ट्रीज को बहुत बड़े आर्डर प्लेस कर रखे हैं और हम तो ऐसा समझते हैं कि हमारे देश में शायद कुछ ऐसी कंसेप्टी है, जहां तक मुझे याद आ रहा है अगर मैं भूल नहीं करता, करीब 24-25 हजार वैगन बनाने की कंसेप्टी हमारे देश में मौजूद है। अगर हम इस बात की चेष्टा करें कि हर साल जितने वैगन मिलते हैं उन को ले कर जमा करते जाएं और लाख, दो लाख की एक वैगन्स की टीम हमारे पास हो जाए और अगर डेवलपमेंट होता रहे, तो उस में वैगन्स न होने की वजह से कहीं कोई बाटलनेक न पैदा होने पायेगा।

तीसरा एक बहुत अच्छा सुभाव उन्होंने दिया कौण्ट्रि पावर हाउसज का। मुझे

खाली अफसोस यह है कि तीन वर्ष तक बें गवर्नमेंट में रहे और उस में दण्डवते जी का एक प्रमुख पार्ट रहा है, अगर कौण्ट्रि पावर हाउसज बनाने की जरूरत थी, तो उस समय बना लेते। हम को तो आप ने सुभाव दे दिया और मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूँ कि मैं आप के सुभाव का स्वागत करूंगा और मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह सदन भी इस सुभाव का समर्थन करे।

सन् 1973 मार्च से सन् 1977 तक, जब मैं रेलवे मिनिस्टर था, सन् 1973 में नहीं, 1974-75 में रेलवे मिनिस्टर बना था क्योंकि सन् 1973 में तो मैं शिपिंग का काम देखता था। तो जब मैं रेलवे मिनिस्टर बना और प्लानिंग कमीशन के सामने हमें रेलवे के मामले को ले कर पेश होना पड़ा, तो उन के सामने मैंने यह सवाल उठाया था कि हम को पावर की जरूरत है और हम काफी इलैक्ट्रिफिकेशन करना चाहते हैं क्योंकि बिना इस के कोई गति नहीं है, इसलिए आप हमें पावर हाउसज बनाने की इजाजत दीजिए, लेकिन उस समय हमें इजाजत नहीं मिली। आप जानते ही हैं कि बिजली कट की वजह से कितना बड़ा नवसान हुआ है। ईस्टर्न सेक्टर में हमारे प्रकॉ-शाप में काम नहीं हुआ है, यार्ड हमारे एम्पटी पड़े हैं, वासिंग लाइन्स हमारी ठीक नहीं रही और हमारे रॉलिंग स्टॉक्स का मन्टीनेन्स नहीं हुआ और वर्कशाप्स में कुछ काम नहीं हुआ। नतीजा यह हुआ कि सारी रेलवे की आपरेशन्स पर इस का दूरा असर पड़ा है। हम को पावर नहीं मिलती रही और अगर पावर मिली भी तो दो, चार घंटे को मिली और फिर खत्म हो गई और खास कर ईस्टर्न सेक्टर में। डी.वी.सी. की कौसी बुरी हालत हो गई, यह आपने देख लिया। तो मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि हम ने पहले भी यह बात कही थी कि हम को पावर हाउसज बनाने की इजाजत दीजिए। उस समय उस को मंजूर नहीं किया गया। कुछ ऐसा ख्याल था कि यह एक सेंट्रल सब-जक्ट है और एक ही जगह से पावर चलेगी और यह कहा गया था कि आप को पावर मिलती रहेगी, आज तो कोई दिक्कत नहीं है और आगे कोई दिक्कत पड़ेगी भी नहीं। हमने तो अलग से पावर हाउस बनाने के लिए यहां तक कहा था कि जितनी पावर की

जरूरत हम को होगी, उतनी हम ले लेंगे और बाकी जो बचेगी, उस को सरकार ले ले लेकिन उस के बाद भी वह मंजूर नहीं हुआ। अब जबकि फिर से रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री का भार मेरे ऊपर डाला गया है, मैंने फिर इस सवाल को उठाया है कि हम को पावर हाउसों बनाने की इजाजत मिलनी चाहिए लेकिन मिलनी चाहिये ऐसी जगहों पर जो कोल के आसपास हों ताकि जल्दी से जल्दी पावर हाउस से काम ले सकें। अब क्या होता है, यह देखा जाएगा, लेकिन मैं यह कहता हूँ कि उन्होंने जो यह सुझाव दिया है, उस से मैं सहमत हूँ और जहाँ तक हो सकेगा हमारे अपने पावर हाउसों होने चाहिए ताकि विजली की कमी हम को न पड़े। आगे जैसे-जैसे इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन की कोशिश हम करते चलेंगे, तैसे-तैसे हमारी विजली की जरूरत बढ़ती चली जाएगी।

एक बात और मैं दण्डवते जी से कहना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने यह कहा कि सीक्रेट बिलेट आप होल्ड कीजिए फार डिटरमिनेशन आफ दि रप्रेजेन्टेटिव यूनियन। आप तो मजदूर नेता रहे हैं। अगर आप ने यह कर दिया होता, तो हमारा सर-दर्द दूर हो गया होता। मजदूरों पर उन का बड़ा असर है और वे उन में बड़े इफीक्टिव रहे हैं। अगर उन्होंने कर दिया होता, तो वैसे ही हमारे सिर में दर्द रहता है, वह कुछ काम हो गया होता लेकिन वह नहीं हुआ। मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है, हम एग्री करते हैं लेकिन इस मामले पर पहले ट्रेड यूनियन्स की ओर से होनी चाहिए, मजदूर नेताओं की ओर से होनी चाहिए क्योंकि अगर गवर्नमेंट पहल करती है, तो कहीं डिक्टेट-शिप और डेमोक्रेसी का सवाल न पैदा हो जाए। हम इस में पहल नहीं करना चाहते। आप शुरू करें, तो हम उससे एग्री करेंगे। आप तो मजदूरों के नेता हैं। मैं समर मुखर्जी, आपसे भी कहता हूँ। आप यह काम करा दीजिए, हम एग्री कर जाएंगे। भगवान आपको शक्ति भी दे, बुद्धि भी दे। मिनिस्टर जो है वह तो यह पाप करता ही है कि भगवान पर भरोसा करता है। इसलिए मुखर्जी ने भी कह दिया कि रेलवे का कोपेटलिस्ट स्ट्रक्चर है। यह सुन कर मुझे लगा कि कहीं उनके मन में यह न

आया हो कि मैं तिलक लगा कर बैठता हूँ कहीं कोपेटलिस्ट स्ट्रक्चर न होऊ।

श्री लखर मुखर्जी (हावड़ा) : आप हमारी बात को समझे नहीं।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी: कोपेटलिस्ट स्ट्रक्चर तो तब होता है जबकि मुनाफाखोरी रेलवे करे फार द एक्सप्लॉइटेशन आफ द पिपुल। कोपेटलिस्ट स्ट्रक्चर में प्रॉफिट मॉटिवी मेन चीज है। वहाँ मुनाफाखोरी का ही दृष्टिकोण रहता है। आपने प्रॉफिट मॉटिव या कमर्शियल तो कह दिया लेकिन अगर यह कमर्शियल होती तो इसकी क्या यह हालत होती? मुझे मालूम है कि दण्डवते जी ने इस दिशा में बहुत काम किया है, उनको तो मालूम ही होगा। जहाँ तक मुझे ख्याल है कि 243 करोड़ 59 लाख का जो इसका घाटा है वह इस कारण से है कि सोशल सर्विस का इतना बोझा रेलवे के ऊपर है। आप देखें कि लो रेटे कम्पोजिटीज जिनको कि हम ढाते हैं उन पर 1979-80 में 68 करोड़ रुपये का बोझा रेलवे पर पड़ा, फिर सबरबन और नानसबरबन ट्रेन पर भी हम सुविधाएं देते हैं उनका भी हम पर बोझा पड़ता है। लास आन फ्रेंट कंसेशन आन रिलीफ मेजर्स का हम पर बोझा पड़ता है। यह सारा बोझा कल मिला कर 243 करोड़, 59 लाख रुपये का होता है। अगर इसको पूरा करने के लिए हम कदम उठावें तो आप उसको कोपेटलिस्ट स्ट्रक्चर कहें। हम इतनी बड़ी सोशल सर्विस कर रहे हैं जो स्ट्राइक कराने के लिए आप इसे कोपेटलिस्ट स्ट्रक्चर कहते हैं। (व्यवधान)

प्रोफेसर दण्डवते जी ने कहा कि इन द वॉजिज आफ वर्कर्स रीजनल डिस्पेरिटीज है और कहा कि रेलवे वर्कर्स पब्लिक अण्डर-टॉकिंग्स के काउन्टरपार्ट्स हैं। मैं कहता हूँ कि रेलवे एम्प्लॉईज आर द एम्प्लॉईज आफ द गवर्नमेंट। अब उनको पब्लिक अण्डरटॉकिंग्स के काउन्टरपार्ट्स कह कर उनके लिए ज्यादा सुविधाओं की मांग करना जो कि गवर्नमेंट एम्प्लॉईज को मिलती है, मैं समझता हूँ कि एक नया सवाल पैदा करना है, खतरे की घंटी पैदा करना है। मैं तो यह समझता हूँ कि ये गवर्नमेंट एम्प्लॉईज हैं और उन्हें पूरी वे सुविधाएं

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

होनी चाहिए जो रेल की मारफत होती है। अगर वे सुविधाएं उनको नहीं मिलती हैं तो इसे देखने की जरूरत है और इसे ठीक करने की जरूरत है।

एक बात चव्हाण साहब ने उठाई। मैं बहुत ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा। थोड़े में ही मैं समाप्त कर दूंगा। आप कहें तो राम-गुंडम-निजामाबाद के बारे में भी कह दूँ (इंटरचेंज)। एक बात चव्हाण साहब ने उठाई कि क्लेम्ज ट्रिब्यूनल जो है उसे खत्म कर दिया जाना चाहिये। मुझे याद है पिछली बार जब मैं रेल मंत्री था तो वहाँ कुछ अफेयर्स की कमी थी और उसको पूरा किया गया था। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह ट्रिब्यूनल एक अच्छा काम करता है और कानून के मुताबिक बना हुआ है। यह एक स्टैचुटरी बाडी है। इसे बैठ कर समाप्त नहीं किया जा सकता है। समाप्त करना भी चाहें तो स्टैचुट में चेंज हो सकता है, कोई दिक्कत नहीं है। लेकिन वह काम अच्छा करता है। उसे और भी यूजफूल बनाने की चेष्टा की जा सकती है और की जानी चाहिये। यह एक इंडिपेंडेंट बाडी है जिसमें क्लेम्ज वर्गरेह के बारे में जो लोगों को शिकायतें होती हैं रेलवे वालों के खिलाफ उसमें कोई अपील करता है तो अपना फ़ैसला देता है और इम्पार्शिल जजमेंट देता है। एक तो यह काम करता है। दूसरे हमारे रेल कर्मचारियों के खिलाफ भी अगर कोई कार्रवाई होती है वेज वर्गरेह के मामलों में उन के बारे में फ़ैसला देता है। ये जो मामले हैं इनमें उनको राइट होता है कि वे ट्रिब्यूनल में जा कर अपील करें और जल्दी वहाँ पर फ़ैसला हो जाता है। इस प्वाइंट आफ व्यू से भी मेरा आग्रह है कि एक इंडिपेंडेंट ट्रिब्यूनल बना हुआ है उससे काम लिया जा सकता है और वह काम जो कर रहा है, ठीक काम कर रहा है और उसके बारे में कुछ सज़ैशंस हों तो दी जाएं ताकि उसको और भी ज्यादा यूजफूल बनाया जा सके। उसकी और भी ज्यादा यूजफूलनेस कैसे हो सकती है, यह देखने वाली बात है।

बार-बार यहाँ कहा गया है कि आपने किराया भाड़ा बहुत बढ़ा दिया है। मैं

निबोधन करना चाहता हूँ कि किराया भाड़ा बढ़ाते हुए मुझे बहुत कष्ट और तकलीफ हुई क्योंकि आम जनता पर भार पड़े यह मैं चाहता नहीं हूँ। लेकिन हमारे सामने कोई विकल्प नहीं था। मुझे ऐसा लगा कि जो उत्तरदायित्व आ गया है उसका निर्वाह करने के लिए, जो कर्तव्य है उसका पालन होना चाहिये। मुझे ऐसा लगा कि सिवाय इसके और कोई विकल्प नहीं है। संक्षेप में मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि करीब 39 करोड़ का डिफिसिट था जो इंटीरिम बजट में हम ने दिखाया था। वह हमारा किया हुआ नहीं था, पहले का था। आप देख सकते हैं सारी चीज कागजात में मौजूद हैं। दो एडीशनल इन्स्टालमेंट्स आफ डी ए भी हैं जो 37 करोड़ की हैं। इनकीज इन डीजल प्राइसिस आठ-दस महीने के लिए, पूरे साल के लिए नहीं, 55 करोड़। प्राइस इनकीज आफ जनरल स्टोर्ज, सब चीजों की कीमतों जो बढ़ी हैं, वह बीस करोड़। रनिंग एला-उस कमेटी एक बनी हुई है। उसकी जो रिपोर्टें इंडेपेंडेंट आ रही हैं उनको इम्प्लेमेंट करने पर दस करोड़ और खर्च हो गया है। यह 122 करोड़ हुआ। अगर 122 करोड़ यह ले लें और करीब 39 करोड़ का जो डिफिसिट है उसको मिला लें तो 162 करोड़ के करीब डिफिसिट हो जाता है। इस वास्ते कोई रास्ता मुझे दिखाई नहीं दिया और किराया भाड़ा बढ़ाना पड़ा। बड़े दुख के साथ मुझे यह बढ़ाना पड़ा है और इसलिए किया है क्योंकि कर्तव्य को पूरा करना है। रेलों को तो चालू रखना ही है। अगर यह नहीं किया जाता तो स्वाभाविक था कि जनरल रवेन्यूज के ऊपर भार डाला जाता और कहा जाता कि फिर इतना पैसा दो, जितना लग चुका है वह तो लग ही चुका है। डिबिडेंड लायाबिलिटी कोई डैफेंड लायाबिलिटी नहीं है। वह चलती ही रहती है। लोन भी पहले से हमारे ऊपर काफी है। अब फिर और दो सौ करोड़ का हम लोन लेते तब हमारा काम चलला। हमें अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होना चाहिये। यह संस्थान 126 साल पुराना है। इसको अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होना चाहिये।

एक रेट इनक्वायरी कमेटी है। उसकी रिपोर्ट लाइब्रेरी में रख दी गई है। हमने कहा था कि बजट लिटरचर के साथ सारे

सबरी, जितनी है, वह डिस्ट्रीब्यूट कर दी जाये ताकि सबस्यों को यह बन्दाजा लग सके कि रेलवे रेट इनक्वायरी कमटी ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या रिपोर्ट डेपोजिशन की है। जो रिपोर्ट डेपोजिशन उन्होंने की है, उनके प्रकाश में जो वृद्धि की गई है। वह बहुत कम है। उन्होंने बहुत ज्यादा कहा है और जोर से कहा है।

अभी एक कमटी का जिम्मेदार प्रोफेसर साहब ने भी किया था, और लोगों ने भी किया था, वह है नेशनल ट्रांसपोर्ट पालिसी, पांडे कमटी। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह कमटी प्लानिंग कमीशन ने बनाई है, हमारी बनाई हुई नहीं है। हमारी बनाई हुई तो रेलवे रेट ट्रांफिक कमटी है। उसकी रिपोर्ट डेपोजिशन हमको मिल गई है जो आपको बांटी है।

प्रो. मधु दंडवते (राजापुर): हम लोगों की रिक्वेस्ट पर यह कमटी बनाई गई है।

श्री कमलापाति त्रिपाठी : आपकी रिक्वेस्ट पर ही बनी होगी, लेकिन बनाई है प्लानिंग कमीशन ने। यह कमटी मुझ से मिली थी, पांडेजी के नेतृत्व में यह कमटी बनी है, बहुत जरूरी कमटी बनी है। अब वक्त आ गया है कि नेशनल ट्रांसपोर्ट पालिसी की कम्प्लीमेंट्री स्टडी के बाद एक नेशनल प्लान बने क्योंकि ट्रांसपोर्ट पर बड़ा भारी बाटलनेक होने जा रहा है। अगर हमारे देश का डेवलपमेंट होना है तो वह तभी संभव होगा जब ट्रांसपोर्ट सेक्टर का बाटलनेक बिल्कुल कम्प्लीटली दूर किया जाये।

पेसेन्जर्स का भी ट्रांफिक बढ़ता जा रहा है। मेरी समझ में वह बहुत जरूरी कमटी रही है और उसे प्लानिंग कमीशन ने बनाया है। जहां तक मेरी सूचना है, उसकी रिपोर्ट भी हमारे पास नहीं आई है, वह तो प्राइम-मिनिस्टर के यहां सबमिट होती है और उस पर विचार होगा। रेलवे विल हैव टू से मच एवाउट इट, इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है, लेकिन वह हमसे मिले भी थे, बहुत बड़ा काम उन्होंने किया है। हमें मालूम नहीं, लेकिन ट्रांफिक और रेट्स के बारे में उन्होंने

कई सिफारिशों की हैं। रेट इनक्वायरी कमटी की सिफारिशें हमारे सामने हैं, अगर उनको इम्प्लीमेंट कर दें तो अलगा यह भार बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ जाता। हमने तो अपनी आवश्यकता की पूर्ति के लिये जितना जरूरी था, उतना कर के छोड़ दिया है, आगे जैसा होगा देखेंगे। इरादा यह था कि हम अपने पैरों पर तो जरूर खड़े हों, लेकिन जनता पर भार डालने के काम से अपने को अलग रखें, इस बात की चेष्टा कर रहा हूँ और मैं समझता हूँ कि इस समय जितना हमने किया है, वह काफी था। अपनी जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिये ताकि रेल चलती रहे।

बहुत सी रेल लाइनों के बारे में बातचीत हुई, बहुत से प्रोजेक्ट्स आये हैं। हमने इस बार एक काम किया है कि कन्याकुमारी से लेकर हिमाचल प्रदेश तक, हर प्रदेश में और काठिवावाड़ से लेकर कामाख्या के अन्त तक और नार्थ ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स में भी कुछ न कुछ काम शुरू करने की चेष्टा की है।

मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि रीजनल इम्बैलेन्सेज बड़ी खतरनाक चीज होती है, हमारे डेवलपमेंट के प्लान है और फाइव ईयर प्लान में सब जगह इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिये कि रीजनल इम्बैलेन्सेज न होने पावे और अगर कहीं हों तो किस तरह से हम उनको मीट कर पावे इसका उपाय निकालना चाहिये। मैं इस बात से एग्री करता हूँ लेकिन मैं जानता हूँ कि आवश्यकता यह भी होती है डेवलपमेंट के लिये, कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान को हम एक यूनिट मानकर चलें। रेलवे अक्सर हिन्दुस्तान को एक यूनिट मानता रही है। इसके मायने यह नहीं है कि जो रीजनल इम्बैलेन्सेज है, उनको दूर करने की कोशिश न की जाये। पूरे देश को एक यूनिट मानना चाहिए। जहां कहीं फैक्टरी लगी हों, जहां कहीं माइन्ज मिली हों, जहां कहीं प्राइमरी सेक्टर हों या कोई एरिया डेवलप होता ही, चाहे वे जगह किसी भी प्रदेश में हों, वहां रेलवे लाइन पहुँचाना जरूरी है। अगर कहीं इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्टर यकायक डेवलप हो गया है, तो वहां रेलवे लाइन ले जाना जरूरी है, जैसा कि श्री सुबाडिया ने कोटा के बारे में कहा है। जहां आवे-आल स्थिति को देखना पड़ेगा,

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

वहाँ रिजिनल इम्बलेंस को दूर करने की चेष्टा भी करनी होगी--और हमने ऐसा किया है। हर एक प्रदेश में प्रायटी के आधार पर कुछ न कुछ काम करने की कोशिश की गई है। सब जगह थोड़ा थोड़ा काम किया जायेगा। और कुछ नहीं, तो लाइनों का सरवे ही करा रहे हैं। सरवे को लिस्ट बहुत लम्बी-चौड़ी है। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि ये सरवे लोगों को बहकाने के लिए, या फूसलाने के लिए, नहीं कराये जा रहे हैं। हम पूरी तरह से सरवे करावेंगे। इसके लिए काफी पैसा रखा है। जहाँ तक हो सकेगा, हम सरवे के फसल के मूलाधिक काम करने की कोशिश करेंगे। अगर किसी सरवे से ऐसा लगता हो कि कोई लाइन रीम्युनरेंटिव नहीं है, लेकिन उस एरिया के डब्लेपमेंट के लिए जरूरी है, तो हम वह बोझ भी उठावेंगे और उस काम को करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जितने सजेशन दिये गये हैं, हम उनके उत्तर तो माननीय सदस्यों के पास भेजेंगे, लेकिन मैं उनसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि हालाँकि उनके सब सुभाव नोट कर लिये गये हैं--दफतर के लोगों ने नोट कर लिये हैं--लेकिन बड़ा अच्छा होगा, अगर वे लिखित रूप में हमारे पास भेज दें। इससे वह सब हमारे रिकार्ड में रहेगा।

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur):
Again you want them to write?

SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI:
They will write. You do not take any trouble. Your recommendations I will myself write.

यदि सब लोग लिख कर दे देंगे--बहुत से लोगों ने लिख कर दे भी दिया है--तो हमारे काम में सुविधा होगी, उस मामले को देखने और सारों के साथ बैठ कर फैसला लेने में सक्षम होगी।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र हास्कर (मिदनापुर) : रेलवे में नये शारीरियों को भर्ती करने का क्या तरीका है।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : नये आदमी तो भर्ती होते रहते हैं और उसके तरीके हैं।
(व्यवधान)

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सुनते हैं कि मिनिस्टेरियल स्टाफ की भर्ती पर रोक है।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र हास्कर (दुर्गापुर) : कौजुअल वर्कर्स को रेगुलराइज कर दीजिए।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : ऐसा मालूम होता है कि नींद खुल गई और उठ कर बोलने लग गये। अभी तो मैं बोल ही रहा था। जरा उसको सुन लें।

माननीय सदस्य ने रेक्यूटमेंट का सवाल उठाया है। रेक्यूटमेंट के लिए रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन बने हुए हैं, जो चार पांच हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि क्लास थ्री के लोग उसी के द्वारा भर्ती किये जाते हैं। क्लास वन और टू यू. पी. एस. सी. के द्वारा लिये जाते हैं। क्लास फोर के लोगों को जोनल रेलवेज भर्ती करती है। हमने एक बैन लगा रखा है--जब प्रो. दडवते रेलवे मिनिस्टर थे, तब वह बैन लगा। हम उससे एग्री करते हैं। पहले कौजुअल लोगों को रेगुलर बनाया जाये और कौजुअल लेबर की भर्ती खाली सक्टीयूट्स के तौर पर, या नई स्कीम के लिए, की जाये। इसके अलावा कौजुअल लेबर को भर्ती न किया जाये, ताकि जो कौजुअल लेबरर्स आल-रेडी मौजूद हैं, पहले उनका रेगुलराइजेशन हो जाये। और उनका रेगुलराइजेशन तेजी से हो रहा है। अगर आपको ऐसे कौजुअल लेबरर का पता है, जिसका रेगुलराइजेशन नहीं हुआ है----

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री: ऐसे बहुत हैं।

15 hrs.

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी :----- तो मुझे लिख कर भेज दीजिए, ताकि मेरी जान आपसे बच जाए। आप लिख कर भेज दीजिए। निजामाबाद-रामगुंडम जो है यह जान नहीं छोड़ता, चिपक गया है। निजामाबाद से रामगुंडम 145 किलोमीटर है। सखना-रायण जी ने सत्राल उठाया। इसका एक सबेरा हुआ था 1946 में जब निजाम की रेलवे

थी। सब पॉलिटेकल चेंजेज हूँ, निजाम की गवर्नमेंट विलय हुई तो जो कूट सर्वे कर रहे हुआ था वह सब खत्म कर दिया गया। दूसरा सर्वे 1974 में हुआ। उसमें यह लगा कि 23 करोड़ रुपये इस पर खर्च होगा, 155 किलोमीटर है भी शायद और यह रेग्युलरीटिव भी नहीं है, इस का रिटर्न उतना नहीं है। किसी प्रकार यह सर्वे भी पूरी तरह से कम्पलीट नहीं हुआ था, अधूरा छोड़ दिया गया था। अब हमने जो सर्वे शुरू किया है, अपने बजट में मैंने कहा है, सत्यनारायण जी को मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि जो बोर्ड सर्वे 74 में हुआ है उसमें जो कम्पलीकेशन नहीं हुआ है, उसका अब हम अप-टू-डेट करना चाहते हैं और इसलिए करना चाहते हैं कि 80-81 में यह सर्वे पूरा हो जाये, 8 लाख रुपये इस सर्वे के ऊपर रखा गया है तो अगले बजट में इस बात की चेष्टा कर सकें कि इस चीज को ले सकते हैं या नहीं ले सकते हैं इस पर विचार किया जाये।

श्री एम सत्यनारायण राव (कहीम नगर): दण्डवत साहब ने खत लिखा था कि सर्वे हो गया है, हम एक्सपैक्ट कर लिए हैं, प्लानिंग कमिशन को भेजे हैं।

श्री कमलापाति त्रिपाठी : जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है मैंने इस बात की जांच करने की कोशिश की और आगे जांच करूंगा क्यों कि उस से मैं संतुष्ट नहीं हूँ, लेकिन मुझे यह बताया गया कि ऐसी कोई चिट्ठी रेलवे मिनिस्टर के यहां से ईश्यू नहीं हुई है।

श्री एम सत्यनारायण राव: आप के प्रेडीसेसर दण्डवत साहब बैठे हुए हैं, उन से पूछिए।

श्री कमला पाति त्रिपाठी: हमें चिट्ठी दिखा दीजिए तो हम रेलवे बोर्ड वालों से पूछेंगे कि यह चिट्ठी मौजूद है। उनके पास रेकार्ड में नहीं है। आप हमें वह दिखा दीजिएगा। मैं आप से कहता हूँ कि अश्योरेंस उन्होंने जो दिया वह दिया, मैं आप को एश्योरेंस देता हूँ कि मैं उसकी एन्क्वायरी कराने की कोशिश करूंगा कि सर्वे स्पीड अप हो जाये और कोई फैसला हम आगे कर सकें। आप विश्वास रखें।

मुझे बड़ा खेद है कि एमिनिटीज का काम बहुत पिछड़ गया और हमारे यात्रियों को

जो सुविधाएं मिलनी चाहिए, कानूनी ढंग से जो लीची हुई सुविधाएं हैं वह भी नहीं मिलतीं। इस की मुझे लज्जा भी है और खेद भी है। मैं इस बात की चेष्टा करूंगा और मैंने किया भी है, फिर कुछ आप की बातें सुनी हैं तो अब तेजी के साथ इस की चेष्टा करूंगा, मैंने अपने सब साथियों से इस पर बात भी कर ली है, एमिनिटीज के लिए हमने अब की बजट में कुछ पैसा भी रखा है ताकि एमिनिटीज के मामले को हम पूरा कर सकें। ऐसी कोशिश करूंगा कि जो चीजें हो जानी चाहिए वह तुरन्त कर दी जायें। तीन चार चीजें हैं—कहा गया कहीं लाइट नहीं रहती, कहीं पंखा नहीं रहता, कहीं पानी नहीं रहता, स्टेशन और कोचों की क्लीन-लीनेस नहीं है—इन चीजों की तरफ हम विशेष ध्यान देंगे और पूरा करने की कोशिश करेंगे कि महीने दो महीने में यह एमिनिटीज इम्प्रूव हो जायें।

एक बात और भी हमने सोची है। हमें खेद है पहले भी हुआ और इस बार भी हुआ है, 3-4 महीने में कई जगह डकैतियां हुई हैं, इसके बारे में हम बहुत चिंतित हैं। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स से इसके बारे में बातचीत की है, उनसे अनुरोध किया है कि वे जी आर पी को जरा एलर्ट कर दें क्योंकि पुलिस पावर्स आर पी एफ को नहीं हैं। उनका पुलिस पावर्स दी जायें या न दी जायें—यह इस सदन पर निर्भर करेगा, कभी मसला उठेगा तो जैसा सदन फैसला करेगा वह होगा। अभी आर पी एफ के पास पुलिस पावर्स नहीं हैं। जी आर पी के बारे में बातचीत की है, कुछ स्टेट्स ने मंजूर कर लिया है कुछ शायद आगे कर लेंगी की इसकी स्ट्रन्थ को बढ़ाया जाए। जी आर पी की स्ट्रन्थ बढ़ाते हैं तो खर्चा बढ़ेगा। इसके लिए फैसला किया है कि 50 परसेन्ट स्टेट्स देंगी और 50 परसेन्ट रेलवे दे। हम इस बात की भी कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि आर पी एफ और जी आर पी की कुछ टोलियां बनायें जॉकि टून्स को एस्काट कर दें। कुछ एन्टी डकैती सेल बन जायें और उसके माध्यम से डकैतियों को रोकने का प्रयास किया जाए। हमारी चेष्टा से इस दिशा में कुछ न कुछ काम होये और इस सम्बन्ध में हम कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं।

बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने यहां पर सवाल उठाया कि नार्थ इस्टर्न स्टेट्स जो हैं उनका इन्वेलपमेंट होना चाहिए। इसकी तरफ हमने ध्यान दिया है। हमने कुछ गाड़ियां झरू की हैं और कुछ मैं अभी बताऊंगा, जिन्होंने इस सवाल को उठाया उनकी दृष्टि से और कौन सी कार्यवाही की है।

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बहस के दौरान मैं कुछ सुझाव हमको दिये गए हैं। उनके अनुसार थोड़ी सी चीजें ऐसी हैं जिनके सम्बन्ध में हम कुछ न कुछ रियायतें देना चाहते हैं। बहुत से सदस्यों ने हमसे कहा कि जो वॉजटवैल्स और फ्रट्स हैं उनके बारे में आप क्या करना चाहते हैं तो हमने उस पर विचार किया है। 9 कमांडिटीज को तो हम छोड़ चुकी हैं यानी जो फ्रेंट रेट बढ़ाया है उससे उनको मुक्त रखा है। 9 वस्तुओं को अलावा कुछ और वस्तुओं को मुक्त किया है उसमें हैं—

Sugarcane

Fresh vegetables and fruits including banana.

Onions

potatoes

Milk

Medicine

Safety matches and

Fodder.

These are to be exempted from the proposed 15 per cent additional surcharge.

एक माननीय सदस्य: मछली को भी कीजिए, इससे देश के करोड़ों मल्लाहों पर असर पड़ेगा।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी: जो किया है, आप उसको सून लीजिए।

आप जो सुझाव भेजेंगे, मैं देख लूंगा।

नार्थ-इस्टर्न रीजन के लिए एक काम और किया है

सिलीगुड़ी जंक्शन के बाद सारा फ्रेंट-ट्रीफिक in North Eastern region will also be exempted from the proposed 15 per cent additional surcharge.

क्योंकि उन लोगों का कहना था कि सिलीगुड़ी के बाद असम और नार्थ इस्टर्न रीजन शुरू हो जाता है, तो उनके पास जो चीज आती है, वह दिल्ली से आती है। खाना यानी खाद्य आता है, तो कहीं पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश से, हरियाणा से और पंजाब से आता है। नष्क आता है तो गुजरात ट्यूटीकोरिन से आता है, चीनी आती है तो महाराष्ट्र से आती है—कहने का मतलब यह है कि सब चीजें उनके पास दूर से आती हैं। उनके पास खाने के लिए कुछ भी नहीं है। सब चीजों में फ्रेंट चार्ज बढ़ जाती है, इसलिए चीजें उनके महंगी पड़ती हैं। इसलिए उनको शिकायत थी कि गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया उन की तरफ ध्यान नहीं देती है। इस प्वाइंट आफ व्यू से सिली-गुड़ी और न्यू जलपाईगुड़ी से आगे आपका जितना भी फ्रेंट ट्रीफिक है, वह 15 परसेंट एडिशनल सरचार्ज से मुक्त रहेगा।

एक और छोटी सी प्रपोजल है। आपको बन्दाज होगा कि बहुत से लोगों ने यह कहा कि सैकेन्ड क्लास ट्रीफिक रेट एक्जैम्प्ट कर दीजिए। मैंने यह कहा कि सरचार्ज अगर खत्म कर दें, तो जितना किया गया है, वह सब बेकार हो जाएगा।

I have proposed now that there will be no increase on passenger fare upto 100 K.M. in second class. (Interruptions.)

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री: पंडित तो उदार होते हैं, दते जाइए।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र हाल्बर: क्या 100 किलो-मीटर तक सीजन टिकट होल्डर्स को एक्जैम्प्ट कीजिएगा?

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी: मुझे जो कुछ कहना था, वह मैं करीब-करीब कह चुका हूँ। अब मुझे सबन का अधिक समय नहीं लेना है। मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। सुखाड़िया साहब ने यह प्रश्न उठाया था कि सिलीगुड़ी में सब की सब जितनी लाइनें हैं, सब एम. जी. हैं और प्लान में भी इसकी

तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया है। उन्होंने सुभाव भी दिया कि अहमदाबाद से दिल्ली तक जो एम. जी. लाइन है, उसको बी. जी. कोजिए।

अब इस वक्त तो मैं कुछ नहीं कह सकता, लेकिन जो सुभाव उन्होंने दिया है, वह बड़े सामने है, हमारे यहाँ नोटेंड है, जब सब पर विचार करने लगेंगे तब इस प्रस्ताव पर भी विचार करेंगे।

एक बात मुझे बहुत अच्छी लगी—कल श्री कुम्भाराम जी ने कहा कि राजस्थान कौन्सिल का जो एरिया है, यह दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा प्रोजेक्ट है। उन्होंने बताया कि 450 किलोमीटर का यह एरिया सरसब्ज हों जायगा, इस पर 250 करोड़ रुपये खर्च हो रहा है, लेकिन वहाँ कोई रेल की लाइन नहीं है। उस एरिया के डेवलपमेंट के बाद जो सामान वहाँ पर पैदा होगा, वह कैसे बाहर जायगा? उन की यह बात मुझे ठीक लगी। वहाँ पर एरिया डेवलपमेंट कमेटी पहले से जरूर होगी, अगर उन्होंने यह सुभाव दे दिया होता तो इस पर कार्यवाही शुरू हो जाती। लेकिन वहाँ दूसरी सरकार थी, हमारी सरकार होती या सुखाड़िया जी की होती, तो उन्होंने अवश्य ऐसा सुभाव दे दिया होता। हम को अभी तक वहाँ से किसी ने नहीं लिखा है। लेकिन मैं उनकी इस बात को जानता हूँ, क्योंकि मैं भी एक प्रदेश का बहुत दिनों तक मुख्य मंत्री रह चुका हूँ। जिस एरिया का डेवलपमेंट किया जाता है वहाँ एक एरिया डेवलपमेंट कमेटी बनाई जाती है और जो इरिगेशन फैसिलिटीज दी जाती हैं, वे उस के द्वारा दी जाती हैं, इससे जनता को बहुत फायदा होता है, वरन सारा इन्वेस्टमेंट मनी लोकलाइज्ड हो कर रह जाता है। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि उनके सुभाव की तरफ ध्यान देने की जरूरत है, उन्होंने इसे मेरे ध्यान में ला दिया है, जिस के लिए मैं उन का कृतज्ञ हूँ इस पर हम अवश्य विचार करेंगे। यद्यपि उन्होंने यह भी कह दिया है कि ये गैरजिम्मेदार है। गैर-जिम्मेदार है, तो वैसे ही सही, जैसे है, वैसे है, उनके सेवक हैं और जैसा बन पड़ेगा सेवा करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

मैं बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ, आप ने मुझे संबोधित किया और मैं कृतज्ञ हूँ माननीय सदस्यों

का, उन्होंने मुझे अवसर दिया कि मैं उन की बातों का उत्तर दे सकूँ।

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR (Gwalior): I raised two basic issues and the Minister has not been kind enough to refer to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please meet him afterwards and he may reply to those points.

15.18 hrs.

DELHI HIGH COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Delhi High Court was established under Section 3 of the Delhi High Court Act, 1966. Under Section 5(2) of the said Act, the Delhi High Court had ordinary original civil jurisdiction in every suit the value of which exceeded Rs. 25,000/- After the establishment of the High Court, it was found that the limit of Rs. 25,000/- for civil suits was too low for a metropolitan area like Delhi and that the High Court had started accumulating arrears. In the interest of speedy disposal of work, the Act was amended in 1969 raising the limit of its pecuniary jurisdiction from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 50,000/-. The arbitration jurisdiction of the High Court under the Arbitration Act, 1940, was also correspondingly raised to suits whose value exceeded Rs. 50,000/-.

Even after the monetary limit was raised from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 50,000/-, arrears of original civil suits continued to accumulate and they have gone up from 1017 at the end of 1970 to 3166 on 30th June, 1978 and 3610 on 30th June, 1979. Having regard to the present value of money and the increasing arrears in the High Court, it is considered necessary that the present limit of Rs. 50,000/-

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

should be raised and that the High Court should have ordinary original civil jurisdiction only in suits whose value exceeds Rs. 1,00,000. Consequently, the arbitration jurisdiction of the High Court, under the Arbitration Act, 1940 will also be correspondingly raised to suits whose value exceeds Rs. 1 lakh. The measure had been recommended by the metropolitan Council of Delhi in 1978 before it was introduced in the Rajya Sabha. It was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 7-12-1978. The Delhi High Court (Amendment) Bill, 1980 has been passed by Rajya Sabha on 12th June, 1980.

Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Delhi High Court Act, 1966, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Delhi High Court Act, 1966, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav.

श्री विजय कुमार यादव (नालन्दा): सभापति महोदय, वैसे यह बिल ऐसे है, जिस पर बोलने की कोई खास बात नहीं है। इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए मैं एक बात की ओर केवल मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ जोकि यह जो हमारा सुझाव है वह इस बिल के अन्दर नहीं आता है। जो कुछ आज जूडीशियरी की हालत है और खास तौर पर चाहे दिल्ली की बात हो...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yadav, we are going to discuss the Budget, when you can speak in general terms.

श्री विजय कुमार यादव: एक मिनिट में मैं अपनी बात समाप्त कर दूंगा। मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि सारे देश के अन्दर और दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट में भी, जो बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर मुकदमे लम्बित हैं, सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर कई क्वार्टर से खींचा गया है और हमारी भी यह जावकारी है कि आदातर कोर्ट्स के अन्दर जजों की बहुत सारी जगहें

खाली हैं लेकिन फिर भी सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर नहीं गया है और वह एक्टिवली इस बात को कंसिडर नहीं कर रही है, जिस की वजह से जगहें खाली हैं और कसेज पेंडिंग पड़े हुए हैं। मेरा तो यह स्पष्ट सुझाव होगा कि जो जजों की जगहें खाली पड़ी हुई हैं, उनको भरा जाए और नई जगहें भी क्रियेट की जाएं ताकि जो कसेज पेंडिंग हों, उनका डिस्पोजल हो सके।

इतना कह कर मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री मूलचन्द्र डागा (पाली): सभापति जी, मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि विधि मंत्री जी ने विधि मंत्री बनने के बाद अपनी हर स्पीच में इस बात को कहा है:

"The entire judicial system will have to be re-oriented to suit the Indian conditions."

यह बात सुनते सुनते मेरे कान पक गए हैं। कानून मंत्री हों या शिक्षा मंत्री हों, इस बात को रोज कहते हैं कि कानून में परिवर्तन होना चाहिए और शिक्षा मंत्री कहते हैं कि शिक्षी में परिवर्तन होना चाहिए। हमारे कानून मंत्री जी ने कानून में परिवर्तन करने के लिए यह किया है कि एक लाख रुपये की लागत वाले जो मुकदमे हैं, उन सारे मुकदमों को नीचे वाली कोर्ट्स में ट्रांसफर कर दिया जाए। इसका मतलब यह है कि जो देश की हाई कोर्टों में कसेज पेंडिंग हैं, वे 6 लाख 10 हजार 823 हैं। मैं सारी डिटेल्स में नहीं जाना चाहता लेकिन यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि इलाहबाद में 1,24,540, दिल्ली में 30,329, कलकत्ता में 71,950 और बम्बई में 58,090 कसेज हाई कोर्टों में पेंडिंग हैं। इस प्रकार से देश की सब हाई कोर्टों में कुल मिलाकर 6 लाख 10 हजार 823 मुकदमे पेंडिंग हैं।

एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट में आज 18 जज हैं और तीन एडीशनल जज हैं। इस तरह से कुल 21 जज हैं जो दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट में मौजूद हैं लेकिन मुझे आप यह बताइये कि सबोडीनेट कोर्ट्स में कति सा काम कम है। वहाँ

पर तो केसेज में डे-टू-डे हियोरिंग नहीं होती। एक केस लिया जाता है और उस केस को पोस्टपोन करते हैं। मेरी समझ में वहाँ पर वैसे ही काम ज्यादा है और आज हिन्दू-स्तान के अन्दर 55 जगहें खाली हैं, 55 वैकेंसीज हैं।

सभापति महोदय: इस बिल में तो पीक्यूनरी जूरिसडिक्शन बढ़ाने की बात है।

श्री मूल मन्त्र डागा: इस जूरिसडिक्शन को बढ़ाने से लाभ क्या होगा। आप जब यही चाहते हैं कि उन कोर्टों पर और ज्यादा वजन डाल दिया जाए। उन कोर्टों में पहले से ही ज्यादा मुकदमों हैं। अभी एक उदाहरण सामने आया था कि 28 साल में एक मुकदमों का फैसला हुआ है। आप सिविल प्रोसीजर कोड में एमेंडमेंट नहीं करेंगे और लोगों को सस्ता न्याय नहीं देना चाहते, और इस प्रकार का एमेंडमेंट ला कर सारे मुकदमों उन कोर्टों में दे देंगे, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इस से कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। क्योंकि आजकल जो हमारी जूडोशियरी है, मुझे क्षमा करें, उतनी ईमानदार नहीं रही जितनी कि पहले थी। हाई कोर्ट के अन्दर एक लाख रुपये की क्या कीमत है। आज एक रुपये की कीमत 26 पैसे रह गयी है। जब तक छोटी कोर्टों, सबोरेडिनेट कोर्टों के विस्तार करने की गुंजाइश, अप टू डेट बनाने की गुंजाइश नहीं होगी तब तक जिस आन्जैक्टिव से आप दिल्ली मेट्रोकाउंसिल की सिफारिश पर यह बिल लाए हैं तब तक आपका वह आन्जैक्टिव पूरा नहीं होगा। हाई कोर्ट जजिज कमीट्टे होते हैं। उनको द्वारा कौंसिज का जल्दी डिस्पोजल होगा। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव यह है कि आप इस छोटे से एमेंडमेंट पर पुनर्विचार करें। आप हाई कोर्टों में जजिज की संख्या बढ़ा दें और हाई कोर्टों में ही केस रखे जाएं। अन्यथा नोटिस सर्व होंगे, कौंसिज लटके रहेंगे और बहुत समय लगेगा।

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
(SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the amendment is a

very formal one. This amendment was brought in, as I said, by the previous government in 1978. It is only a very formal one in the sense that the burden of the High Court has got to be lessened. My friends referred to various vacancies to be filled and further vacancies to be created. I don't think that the problem of backlog of cases could be solved by merely creating vacancies. So far as the existing vacancies are concerned, we are taking all possible steps to fill up as early as possible. I don't think any valid objection has been raised and I request that the Bill be taken into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Delhi High Court Act, 1966, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up Private Members' Business.

Shri M. M. A. Khan.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SECOND REPORT

SHRI M. M. A. KHAN (Etah): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 18th June, 1980."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 18th June, 1980."

The motion was adopted.

15.29 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. CENTRE-STATE RELATIONSHIP—Contd.

MR CHAIRMAN. The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri-mati Suseela Gopalan on 1st February, 1980:—

"This House is of the opinion that a reappraisal of the existing Centre-State relations with a view to give more financial powers and greater autonomy for the States in consonance with the true concept of federalism is necessary and in this context calls upon the Central Government to immediately convene a Conference of Chief Ministers along with representatives of recognised political parties."

Shri C. T. Dhandapani.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Pollachi): This question has of course its own meaning and I want to explain the object of this resolution and one would need more time for this.

15.30 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

The hon. Mover of the Bill has taken some pains to bring out the idea of federalism to the notice of the entire nation. I congratulate her. But at the same time I have my own suspicion. The communist parties, left and right, have raised the bogey of state autonomy but they were those who opposed the very same idea on previous occasions. That is why I have my suspicions. In recent times, the Governments of Kerala and the Government of West Bengal are trying to focus attention, not on allocation of funds or sharing of powers between the Centre and the States but they are bent on attacking the Central Government.

DMK is the only party which initiated this idea long ago. That was the main reason why our leader Doctor Kalaignar had initiated the move by appointing the Rajamannar Committee consisting of economists and others high in judiciary. Dr. Rajamannar was the chairman of the Committee; Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar and Justice Chandra Reddi were members of that Committee. The object of the Committee was to enquire into Centre-State relations, to examine the existing provisions of the Constitution, to suggest measures for augmenting the resources of the state for securing the utmost autonomy of the state in executive, legislative and judicial branches "without prejudice to the integrity of the country as a whole". That Committee gave a report in 1971. That report was considered by a committee set up by the DMK Party itself and then the report was brought before the State legislative assembly. The state government published a white paper asking for the

approval of the House. At that time the opposition was the AIADMK and that party opposed the idea of more powers to the state on the ground that it was not good for the integrity of the country. The allied parties, the communist parties, also opposed the move of the Government in the Assembly. They said because D.M.K. brought that Resolution in the Assembly, they opposed it. The then Chief Minister of Kerala Mr. Achuta Menon himself was casting aspersions on our Resolution. At the same time D.M.K. did not want to do anything against the Central Government. But our object was as Anna wrote, when he was the Chief Minister, an article in English 'Home Rule' in 1969. He used to write letters, articles in the form of letters calling his party cadres.

"Dear Brother,

Never have I been made after power. Nor am I happy of being Chief Minister of our State under a Constitution which is on paper federal but in actual practice tends to get more and more centralised. On that account I do not declare that it is my intention to irritate the Centre or pick up quarrels with Delhi. That helps none. True, a sense of determination at the appropriate stage is all important. But this should be preceded by educating the public on federalism itself. In fact, dear Brother, I am quite confident of your active co-operation and intimate participation".

This he wrote in 1969 itself. The real thing as is needed to be discussed is the Centre-State relationship.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have to conclude within two three minutes.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI: It is a wide subject, How can I....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Already one Member has spoken from your party.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI: The federal concept is not only the sharing of power or not only the financial allocations between the Centre and the State, but it is something more.

I should quote Dr. K. C. Wheare. He stated while writing 'Modern Constitution' particularly about a country where there are people of different languages, different cultures, different civilisations and different religions.

"If these communities differ in race and religion, safeguards may be needed to guarantee to them a free exercise of these national characteristics. Even when communities do not differ in language, race or religion, they may still be unwilling to unite unless they are guaranteed a measure of independence inside the Union."

According to him a safeguard is necessary for all the communities in minority or majority. That is why a Federal Constitution, will help the communities where people seek protection from the Centre or the State. I do not want to go deep in the matter of federalism because my other friends have spoken much about this. As far as this country is concerned, federal polity is inevitable. Even our Government has accepted because now we have a unitary form of Government. In principle it has been accepted even in many cases. Our hon. Member Shri Sanjay Gandhi himself has stated at various forums, the policy of the Government and the Congress Party is to have a strong Centre and strong States. The D.M.K. Party also thinks on the same lines. The Centre should be strong. At the same time the State Government should be strong—in the manner that their financial position should be strong. They should have strong administrative power. At the same time they must have a strong say about their grievances in the Central Government. That is why I say this federal set up is not an easy thing. I know it is a difficult thing. I know

[Shri C. T. Dhandapani]

the functioning of a federal government is difficult. There are many countries in the world which advocate federalism like Australia, Switzerland, USA, etc., but they differ from one another. As far as India is concerned, we have to find some way suitable to our political system. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to come forward with a proposal or have some dialogue or appoint a commission to go into the matters of Centre-State relationship.

Many problems have not been solved. For example, only day before yesterday a discussion took place here on the inter-State water disputes. Tamil Nadu lacks water for irrigation. At the same time, some other States have more water for irrigation. But we are not able to get that water. The simple reason is that the Central Government do not interfere in this matter to settle the issues of inter-State water disputes. Article 262 has not at all been invoked in many cases. That is why the Administrative Reforms Commission constituted a study group which concluded that there were 3 alternatives:

(i) a provision for the settlement of disputes by the Supreme Court in the same manner as the provision for the settlement of other disputes, according to article 131;

(ii) the transfer of rights in rivers (whether intra-State or inter-State) to the Centre and making irrigation and hydro-electric power central subjects; or

(iii) adhering broadly to the existing constitutional position but tightening the existing legal provisions and administrative arrangements.

These are the recommendations given by the ARC. I want to place the matter before the House and request that these things should be taken into account. This is an important question for all the States. This system of appointing commissions exists in all the countries like USA, Australia or West Germany, to solve such problems. Take boundary disputes between States. Under Article 3, the Central Government has got sweeping powers to alter or extend the boundaries of any States. In other countries, if any such proposal comes from the Central Government, it will be first put before the public and a referendum takes place. After that, the matter of alteration or extension of boundaries is taken up by the Central Government. This is what happens in countries like Switzerland or Australia. Therefore, this should be considered by the Government.

Then, take the appointment of Governors. The Central Government appoints Governors for five years and they continue during the pleasure of the Government. But they cannot remove the Governors. Many Governors during the Emergency period were acting against the wishes of the Central Government. For example, in Tamil Nadu the Governor was acting against the wishes of the Central Government. He was not at all acting according to the programme

of the Government. That is why, there was ill-feeling and irritation against the Central Government for the last five months. But the Central Government cannot do anything. Once he is appointed, he cannot be removed. You can merely transfer him from one State to another. This type of lacunae and bottlenecks still exist in the Constitution. A committee should be appointed either in consultation with the Chief Ministers or the Prime Minister herself can do it in consultation with the constitutional experts, find ways to remove this kind of lacunae in the Constitution so that it can bring a new hope to the people in future.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are so many Members from the Congress (I) who want to speak on this Resolution. But there is no time. 12 Members have already spoken. Therefore, the Minister will intervene and the Mover will reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKA-TASUBBAIAH): Mr. Deputy-Spea-ker, Sir, the resolution that has been brought forward by Smt. Sushila Gopalan is being debated upon from the previous session. I feel that the Re-solution has come at a proper time when this country is faced with several challenges both outside and inside. The situation in the North-eastern region gives us a challenge

and makes us alive to the problem that faces this country with regard to preserving the sovereignty and in-tegrity of the country. Fissiparous tendencies like secession have raised their ugly heads. Posters have ap-peared that the North-eastern region should secede from our country. In the context of these things, I feel very genuinely and also very honestly that the time has come when we have to make up our mind with regard to the Centre-State relationship and to what extent the States and the Centre can work together to Preserve the integrity and sovereignty of this country. Smt. Gopalan has raised two important points. One is with regard to greater autonomy for the State in consonance with the concept of federalism and the Centre-State relationship that exists today. What is meant by the concept of federalism? Is it on the basis of federalism adopted by the American Constitution or any other federalism? The hon. Member did not specify here what type of federalism she asked for. Sir, when this Consti-tution was framed, this matter was very exhaustively gone into. There, the framers of the Constitution, especially Dr. Ambedkar, posed before the Constituent Assembly two options. He said that he compared the federa-lism that exists in America and the Constitution we would like to frame, as Mr. Dhandapani has said, "to suit the genius and the conditions of our country".

Dr. Ambedkar said:

"The Presidential system of America is based upon the separa-tion of the Executive and the

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Legislature. So that the President and his Secretaries cannot be members of the Congress. The Draft Constitution does not recognise this doctrine. The Ministers under the Indian Union are Members of Parliament. Only Members of Parliament can become Ministers. Ministers have the same right as other Members of Parliament, namely, that they can sit in Parliament, take part in debates and vote in its proceedings”.

He further said:

“Both systems of Government are of course democratic and the choice between the two is not very easy. A democratic executive must satisfy two conditions: (1) It must be a stable executive. (2) It must be a responsible executive. Unfortunately, it has not been possible so far to devise a system which can ensure both in equal degree. You can have a system which can give you more stability, but less responsibility or you can have a system which gives you more responsibility but less stability”

Again he compared thus:

“Under the non-parliamentary system such as the one that exists in U.S.A the assessment of the responsibility of the executive is periodic. It takes place once in two years. It is done by the Electorate. In England, where the parliamentary system prevails,—because we have almost adopted the English type of parliamentary democracy—

“...the assessment of responsibility of the Executive is both daily and periodic. The daily assessment is done by Members of Parliament through questions, Resolutions. No-confidence motions, Adjournment motions and debates on Addresses. Periodic assessment is done by the Electorate at the time of election which may take place every 5 years or earlier. The daily assess-

ment of responsibility which is not available under the American system is, it is felt, far more effective than the periodic assessment and far more necessary in a country like India.”

That is why we have deliberately opted for a system that gives more flexibility and also more answerability to the Parliament as well as to the people. Here, this dialogue has been going on for many years. At the intellectual level and at the level of politicians this dialogue was going on—to what extent more autonomy is to be given? ‘Autonomy’ means it has a sort of an independent character to give the fullest autonomy to the States or is it only the allocation of financial resources between the State and the Central Government?

This dialogue has been going on. Several memoranda were sent or resolutions passed from time to time. As my friend Shri Dhandapani just now said, this was initiated by the DMK Government who appointed the Rajamanner Committee and came forward with certain resolutions. Even as late as 1978-79 when the Janata Party was in power, it was felt that the present system was working effectively and need not be changed. The CPM and CPI were supporters of the Janata Party then. The present system has stood the test of time. The Constitution gives the necessary powers to both the Centre and the States. The feeling of the Members here also is common in one respect that the Central Government as also the State Governments must be strong, each in the sphere allotted to it by the Constitution.

The demand for greater autonomy arose in 1967 when in some States political parties with different ideologies came to power. They started demanding more autonomy and more financial powers to the States. In those days the DMK Government might have felt genuinely that their interests were not well safeguarded, but

I feel that after experience Shri Karunanidhi may be feeling the other way now. It holds good of the other non-Congress Governments of Kerala, Tripura and West Bengal also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Did Karunanidhi communicate to you his latest views?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: "May" I said, He can communicate only through you.

It may be a strange coincidence that these three State Governments belong to different political parties.

16 hrs.

The figures show that at no time the autonomy of the States was interfered with. They have got their respective areas of operation, the State List, the Central List and the Concurrent List. Shri Dhandapani, while pleading for more autonomy to the States, said that the Governors, once appointed, cannot be removed; they can only be transferred and, therefore, the Centre must have more powers to dismiss them. He also said about the inter-State water dispute.

These are the factors to be borne in mind. In a country like ours which is multi-lingual, multi-racial, multi-cultural, there are several problems. Also, a pernicious theory of the "Sons of the Soil" has been raised. If you go to the farthest extent of giving the maximum autonomy to the States, I do not know when we will be heading for a fragmentation. "Autonomy" is being understood or misunderstood in the sense of sovereign independent republics.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): No; that is not so.

49 L.S.—11.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The agitation is going on....

AN HON. MEMBER: We have nothing to do with the agitation.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: But how can you prevent such agitations? This is a country where we have fought for preservation of the integrity and sovereignty of the country, whether it is Assam or Kerala or Kashmir. The country is one and indivisible. We have to fight for the integrity of this country. So, we should not give room for any fissiparous tendencies by using the slogan of "More Autonomy". "More Autonomy" is not being understood in the proper sense of the term. This is not an appropriate time at all to voice such feelings.

Even with regard to allocation of finances from the Centre to States, I can quote figures for the information of the House. In the year 1951-52 to 1955-56, the transfer based on the recommendation of the Finance Commission was Rs. 447 crores and the total allocation that has been made to the States including Finance Commission grant, loan assistance, discretionary amount, amounted to Rs. 1431 crores. Now, according to the recommendation of the Seventh Finance Commission, the funds to be allocated to various States have gone up from Rs. 1431 crores to Rs. 25,282 crores.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: What is the total revenue earned from the States?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The total transfer to all States recommended by the Seventh Finance Commission would be 55 per cent of the total divisible tax receipt of the Central Government and 26 per cent of the total revenue receipt of the Central Government. Even in the matter of income-tax receipts, it has gone up from 80 to 85 per cent; in the case of Union excise duty, it has gone up from 20 to 40 per cent. So, substan-

[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

tial financial allocations are being made to the State Governments to provide them with the necessary wherewithal to run the States according to the provisions of the Constitution.

So, in the matter of providing more autonomy, and the suggestion of the Hon. Member who moved the Resolution to convene a conference of the Chief Ministers along with the representatives of recognised political parties—that is the operative portion of the Resolution—there have been constant consultations in several forums between the Central Government and the State Governments. There are the National Development Council, the Chief Minister's Conference and now the National Integration Council also. So there are several forums where there has been a continuous dialogue between the state Governments and the Central Government to evolve a policy of mutual adjustment and also to see that no friction is caused between the States and the Centre, and, in their respective areas, no infringement is done. The central Government respects the autonomy of the States and, in so far as the provisions of the constitution regarding the powers enjoyed by the State are concerned, there has been no occasion to feel that the present autonomy that has been enjoyed by the State Governments has, at any time, been jeopardised or has been infringed upon by the Central Government. The Constitution provides ample scope for safeguarding the interests of the various state Governments as well as the Centre.

So, in the present context of things, Government feels that the present Constitutional provisions are strong enough. They have stood the test of time, and there is no need to have another meeting of the Chief Ministers and representatives of political parties to go into this matter.

I congratulate the Hon. Member that she was able to highlight the problem before this country in this Parliament which reflects the opinion of the people. She has done her duty well by her constituency, by her state and by

Parliament and she was able to create a sort of enthusiasm and provoke Members to participate very constructively and usefully in the deliberations.

So, I would once again request the Hon. Member to withdraw her Resolution and help the Central Government and the States to have a cordial relationship, to work for the welfare of the common man. With these words I would again request the Hon. Member to withdraw her Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Smt. Suseela Gopalan will now reply.

SHRIMATI SUSELA GOPALAN (Alleppy): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy that many of the Members in the House have wholeheartedly supported the Resolution and suggested that the Central Government may have an early meeting of the Chief Ministers. I accept the fact that though our Constitution is federal in principle, it is essentially unitary in character. It is an accepted fact, that whether it is federal or unitary depends upon the sweet will of the Centre. Dr. Ambedkar had himself said that whenever the Central Government want, it will be federal; if they want it to be otherwise, it will be unitary.

Regarding the concept of a strong Centre, I think, many hon. Members and the Government has a certain misconception about it. The hon. Minister referred to the recent happenings in the north-eastern border States. The recent happenings in the country actually warrant a serious and thorough discussion on this subject. Why are these happenings there? The Minister also referred to the question of sons of soil. That question has also come up. Why are these fissiparous tendencies coming up? You will have to go into it in detail and study the problem. In all the States, people are feeling that they are being neglected. Not only in the northern States, but even in Kerala and other States, the feeling is there that they are being neglected. What about U. P. and Bihar? They have the same feeling. Bihar is giving enough

excise duty: but what is their position? They are also backward. That means, you cannot manage things properly from the Centre. You have to decentralise powers and see that they themselves manage the things in the States.

When Mr. Mohanty was speaking, he was saying that, after the Partition of India, the Constituent Assembly thought that there should be a strong Centre; he also says that, as a result of that, enough safeguards are there in the Constitution against weakening of India. I would like to ask my colleague whether he holds the same view even after the happenings in Assam and in other border States. For the last 33 years, this trial of concentrating more and more powers at the Centre has been there. But what has been the result of that? Could you preserve the unity of India? All sorts of fissiparous tendencies are developing in our country. Even the voice of secession is being raised from the eastern parts. Will the ruling Party learn some lessons from this? You actually deviate from the concept of the Congress which visualised a federal government with the minimum, essential subjects with the Centre and maximum subjects with the States. I would like to ask the ruling Party whether they still hold the views of Mahatma Gandhi. What is the concept of Gram Swaraj? Decentralisation of power was the message contained in Gram Swaraj....

AN HON. MEMBER: Which Gandhi?

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: I am speaking about Mahatma Gandhi, not about Sanjay Gandhi. I know, he is opposed to giving more powers to the States; he wants to concentrate more and more powers at the Centre; he has himself said that, if the Centre intervenes in States then the weaker sections can be protected; while speaking on my Resolution he has said that if the Centre takes more

powers, then the weaker sections can be protected. For the last so many months, you had control in the States. What happened? Could you save the weaker sections? Day in and day out, attacks were being made against the weaker sections. What was it due to? I have no time; that is why, I am not going to deal with it in detail. It was due to your not taking ample measures to protect the weaker sections. I can quote the instance of Kerala where land legislations and other protective measures are made for the weaker sections, for the agricultural workers and peasants. There they are not beaten up. There they are not attacked. So, that is a lesson you have to learn. Taking power into the hands at the Centre is not a solution for this. You have to give States more powers because in a country like India with different nationalities and cultural groups, it is impossible to direct all the affairs from one Centre. For the last 33 years you have tried and the result you have seen. To-day in various parts of the country a strong feeling of neglect is developing. So, you have to give more powers, more financial resources and also administrative powers to the States. Even now the Centre is not prepared to sit with the State Governments and talk with them and discuss with them to solve their problems.

I can cite the example of Kerala. Recently, the coco producers are facing an acute problem of selling their coco produce. They have appealed to the Central Government not to import and not to give up the import duty. But what have you done? You have taken a decision to import coco. To save whom? Only the Cadbury Company. Thousands of peasants in Kerala are angry at this attitude of the Centre. Can't you sit with the State Government and discuss with them and try? I know it is because of Cadbury Company. The coco requirements of the country is only 2000 tonnes whereas Kerala and

[Smt. Susheela Gopalan]

Karnatakas together produce more than 3000 tonnes. Still you are importing coco. Same is the case with regard to rubber. If you do like this, what will be the feeling of the people in the States?

You are not prepared even to discuss with them the 1981 Plan programme. You do not invite the Chief Ministers for discussion in the National Development Council. It all depends on your sweetwill. The Minister was telling the National Development Council is there, the National Integration Council is there. But will they meet? Even recently when we protested, when the Kerala Chief Minister protested and said that the Plan programme of 80-81 should be discussed, you did not call them. You did not consult them. You are claiming that you are going to consult for this Sixth Five Year Plan but this is a part of the Sixth Plan. They have many things to tell you. So it is essential that you consult the States. But everything depends upon your sweetwill and there is no statutory provision to force you to do all these things. So, there must be some provision, some constitutional provision to sit with the State Government and force the Central Government discuss things. That is not there at present. That is why we are asking that a reappraisal of the State-Centre relations is quite necessary. If that is not done, I warn you, the ruling Party, that if they fail to read the writing on the wall, more things are going to happen in this country. Now, only the north-eastern States say that they want separation. If that is not done, even other States will follow suit. That is the feeling in every State. In a vast country like ours, you cannot direct things from the Centre. So, whether it is written in the Constitution or not—we have changed the Constitution 44 times, that means in the constitution when it was framed, everything was not there and as you gain experience, you change the Constitution. So, Sir, this is the need of the hour. If you are not prepared to do that, even the

State Governments which are now run by the ruling party, the Congress (I), will themselves turn against you and that day is not very far because I tell you their own difficulties are there. The States are finding it very difficult to manage. So you have to have a reappraisal and change it. I request the government even at this late stage call a meeting and do that. This is a simple thing—calling a meeting of Chief Ministers and political parties and having a discussion as to whether there is any change needed. If they all feel that no change is needed, then you can convince them and take measures to help them.

That is our experience so far. So, I appeal to the Government to accept the proposal to call the Conference of the Chief Ministers and all the political parties and discuss the same with them. This is the proper time because fissiparous tendencies are developing throughout the country. We want a Strong Centre. Centre can have important portfolios like Foreign Affairs, Defence and Communications and such other things kept with the Centre but, the other things should be given to the States. The Centre should give the powers to the States so that States can pass on to the District Councils and the Panchayats. Then only the aspirations of the people can be fulfilled.

So, I appeal once again to the hon. Minister to accept this Resolution and take steps to convene the Conference.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are you pressing your Resolution?

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: I am pressing my Resolution. Let the Minister say something.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: She has made excellent points. And Government has stated its position. So, I would request her to withdraw her Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now that the Minister has made a second appeal to you, are you withdrawing your Resolution?

SHRI ANANDA GOPAL MUKHOPADHYAY (Asansol): She has made a very good speech. Let her now withdraw the Resolution.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL (Ernakulam): Considering the second Resolution of Shri Kodyan, I request the hon. Member to withdraw her Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is pressing her Resolution. Before putting that to the vote, let me dispose of the amendment. Shri A. Neelalohithadasan is not present. I shall not his amendment to the vote of the House.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH: We are not accepting the amendment and we are opposing the Resolution.

SHRI SATYASADAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the amendment moved is for a strong Centre which the ruling party does not want to accept. They are indicating thereby that they do not want to have a strong Centre. Therefore, let them accept the Resolution of the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. I shall put Amendment No. 1 moved by Shri A. Neelalohithadasan to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 1 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I shall put the main Resolution to the vote of the House:

The question is:

“This House is of the opinion that a reappraisal of the existing Centre-State relations with a view to give more financial powers and greater autonomy for the States in consonance with the true concept of federalism is necessary and in this context calls upon the Central Government to immediately convene a Conference of Chief Ministers along with representatives of recognised political parties”.

The motion was negatived.

16.5 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: CENTRAL LEGISLATION FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN (Adoor): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

“This House calls upon the Government to take early steps to enact Central legislation to protect the interests of the vast millions of agricultural workers of our country who are subjected to ruthless forces of exploitation as wage earners in agriculture and who remain by and large unprotected by the existing labour laws.”

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am glad that I have got an opportunity to raise the problems and difficulties in this august House of the vast millions of agricultural workers of our country who continue to be most oppressed, most neglected and at the same time the most exploited section among the working people of our country.

Sir, the number of agricultural workers is not small. They perhaps constitute the largest section of workers in India. According to the 1971 census, the total number of agricultural workers was 47.48 million and now that number must have exceeded even the 50 million mark. According to the 1971 census, they constitute more than 1/4th of the total work force in India and they also constitute about 1/3rd of the total work force in the country side. They supply about 42 per cent of the physical labour required in Indian agriculture. Such a vast number of workers who have been playing a very vital role in the agrarian economy of our country have all along been neglected and ignored, though since independence there has been considerable progress in our agriculture. The production of foodgrains is more than doubled. The production of other agricultural crops also has substantially increased. The income from agriculture also has substantially

increased. But even though the income from agriculture has increased, the additional income has not gone to the benefit of the millions of agricultural workers of our country. The benefits have gone largely to the landlords and other richer sections in the country-side of India. Now, Sir, the main defect in the agrarian programme of this country, or, rather, in the whole scheme of agricultural development in this country, has been that the human factors involved in the matter of production have been completely ignored and have not been taken sufficient care of. The small and marginal farmers and sharecroppers and agricultural workers constitute the bulk of the human factor involved in agriculture. As I have already pointed out, Sir, the agricultural workers constitute the largest section among the workers. But, in the whole process of planning for development of agriculture, their requirements and their needs have not been taken into consideration. Just as investment of finance and other inputs and also application of modern technology are necessary for agricultural development, so also, meeting the needs and requirements of the human factors involved in agriculture is also equally essential for the development of our agrarian economy.

We have various rural development programmes in our country. But these rural development programmes are formulated and implemented by and large without the active cooperation of the vast sections of our toiling masses in the countryside.

The ILO, that is, the International Labour Organisation, through their various conventions and recommendations, have emphasised the point on Member-countries that rural workers should be actively associated in the formulation and implementation of rural development programmes.

Sir, so far in our country the agricultural workers' organisations and even the organisations of peasants are

not at all actively associated in the process of formulation and actual implementation of our development programmes.

Now, Sir, I do not want to take the time of the House in going into in detail on the working conditions of the agricultural workers in India. But I have to point out to the attention of the honourable House certain salient features in this regard.

Sir, it was thought that as a result of the land reform the rural workers and the landless agricultural workers would be benefited. It was thought that the available surplus land as a result of implementation of the ceiling laws will be distributed among them. But that hope has not materialised.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, out of the estimated surplus land of 68.60 lakh acres only 45 lakh acres have been declared surplus and only 15.76 lakh acres have been actually distributed among landless persons. But the Planning Commission does not agree with the Agriculture Ministry's estimate of surplus land. The Commission's estimates of potential surplus land is 215 lakh acres.

So also is the case in regard to the scheme for distribution of house-sites among the landless people. That also has not been properly implemented. In several areas the land distributed for house-sites are either unfit for human habitation or are far away from the usual places of work of the landless. In many cases, the land distributed are under the illegal possession of the landlords and others. Millions of landless rural workers continue to live in huts erected on lands belonging to landlords and others and they are being subjected to eviction in many States. About the distribution of Government lands also the progress has not been satisfactory.

As you are aware, the bulk of the agricultural workers come from the down-trodden scheduled castes or so-

called Harijans among the Hindus and they are subjected to not only the usual economic exploitation by the landlords and other vested interests in the rural areas but also they are subjected to social inequalities and social oppression. The number of atrocities have tremendously increased and this House had the occasion to discuss this grave problem. There has not been any improvement insofar as the problem of atrocities on these people is concerned, whether it was under the Janata rule or the Congress rule. I do not want to enter into a dispute whether the atrocities were more under Congress rule or here was an increase under the Janata rule. This is immaterial insofar as their suffering is concerned. Irrespective of the political colour of the ruling party at the Centre or in the States, the Harijans in our country have been suffering for a pretty long time and they still continue to suffer. The latest incident in Kafalta in Almora district is a grim indication of what is in store for the Harijans and other backward sections in our country.

This vast section of the rural agricultural workers, whose number as I pointed out earlier now exceeds fifty million, has been kept away from the benefits of the various labour legislations in our country. This is because the bulk of the agricultural workers are casual workers. The hon. Minister may point out that the various labour laws are applicable to agricultural workers. I agree, it is in respect of a microscopic minority among them who are permanent workers mostly employed in the State farms or in modern agricultural farms which are organised on a capitalistic basis. But the bulk of the agricultural workers who are mostly casual labourers are not benefited by any of the labour legislation except the Central Minimum Wages Act of 1948. The history of this Act is a sad commentary on the performance of the Central and State Governments. Though the Act

was passed in 1948 and it was decided two or three years later that it should be made applicable to agriculture also, there was no serious attempt on the part of the State Governments to enforce the provisions of the Act, i.e., to announce minimum wages for agricultural workers under the Act. It was by September, 1964 that this Act came into force, more or less, throughout the country. Before that, some State Governments had announced minimum wages, but they never cared to revise the wages. It is now compulsory, under the Act, that every 3 or 5 years the minimum wages should be revised. And some of the State Governments, you would be surprised to know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, took 10 years for revising the wages. Assam took as long a 14 years to give effect to the provision of minimum wage. Maharashtra took even a longer period than Assam in revising the wages. Such an enormous time-lag in revising the wages renders the minimum wage legislation rather meaningless. In the 1960s and the early part of the 1970s, the revision of minimum wages was made in comparatively shorter periods—but in all cases not necessarily sticking to the stipulated time-limit.

But the most serious aspect of the whole problem of minimum wage legislation was that even the inadequate and low wages fixed by the State Governments, compared to the bare needs of workers, were seldom implemented. No State Government cared to set up an effective enforcement machinery. In many States, revenue officials and block development officers were asked to enforce the law. Those officials neither knew the wage problems in agriculture, nor did they find time to deal with them. The result was that the statutorily-fixed minimum wages merely remained on paper. No wonder, then, that the National Commission on Labour had to make this observation about the implementation of minimum wages in relation to agriculture, viz. "The initial

[Shri P. K. Kodiyan]
 mum Wages Act had remained a dead letter in all the States."

Here, the main problem is the lack of enforcement machinery. There was no effective enforcement machinery. And, of late, there has been some improvement, and the position has improved in some States like Kerala, West Bengal and to some extent in Bihar and Punjab, in setting up the enforcement machinery. But even these are not adequate. By and large, the law remains unimplemented, taking the country as a whole.

This is a very important point, viz., the setting up of an enforcement machinery. Whenever law you make, unless there is a machinery to enforce that law, and there are adequate number of officers and other employees to take care of the implementation of the law, there is no use enacting any legislation—not only in respect of the minimum wages, but also of any other subject.

In this connection, I want to impress upon the hon. Minister that here must be a separate enforcement machinery in the Ministry of Labour at the Centre, as well as in the Labour Departments in the States that is to say there must be separate labour wings at the Centre as well as in the States, because the existing Labour Departments there are already over-burdened with so many problems in relation to disputes in the industrial and factory sectors etc. Therefore, if it is entrusted to them, it will not be possible for them to do justice. That is why I am emphasising this point that a separate labour wing is to be set up in the States as in the Centre exclusively to look after the problems of implementation of the Minimum Wages Act as well as whatever other laws that may be made applicable to them.

The main question is regarding the central legislation for protecting the rights of agricultural workers. Now this has been a long-standing demand of the agricultural workers of India and their movement; and those who had been working among the rural

poor had been voicing this demand for quite a number of years. I should say their voice fell on deaf ears, so far as the Centre was concerned and most of the States were concerned. I am happy to state that it was the United Front Government of Kerala under the leadership of Shri C. Achuta Menon which accepted this long standing demand of the agricultural workers and enacted a legislation for them: "The Kerala Agricultural Workers Act of 1974." It was a pioneering piece of legislation, though it is not sufficient; it has several drawbacks, but it was a pioneering piece of legislation which will inspire the agricultural workers and rural workers of our country. According to this Act, there is a provision for security of employment; there is also a provision for settling disputes. The State Government is empowered not only to enforce the Minimum Wages Act but even to fix wages at a higher rate. If the State Government thinks it necessary in appropriate cases, it also regulates the working conditions, working hours of workers; it also provides for setting up provident fund for the agricultural workers. I should say certain steps were taken by the Central Government in this respect. I congratulate my hon. friend the former Minister of Labour, Shri Ravindra Varma, who is sitting here, for having convened, for the first time, a rural worker's conference on an all India level to discuss problems of unorganised rural workers; and that conference was held, I think, in 1978. In that conference, the question of central legislation was raised and discussed. Then there were various proposals. One proposal was that there must be a model legislation from the Centre. But most of the members who took part in the discussion were not in favour of a model legislation, but they were for a central legislation. Then another proposal was made by some members who spoke that the legislation should be enacted by the State not by the Centre. Any how, the principle of having a central legislation for agricultural workers was emphasised by most of the

participants in that conference. And the hon. Minister then gave an assurance that this will be considered and a central standing committee on rural unorganised labour would be constituted and that committee was constituted in July 1979. The first meeting of the Central standing committee was held in January 1979. Everybody in the committee agreed that the central legislation must be there; they were almost unanimous. A Sub-committee was appointed to go into the details and make necessary recommendations; two other sub-committees were also set up to go into the other aspects such as bonded labour, housing, social welfare, workers' education, etc. All these sub-committees had done their work and I think they had submitted their reports also. But then that government fell and since then the committee, i.e. the main committee on rural unorganised labour, has not met so far. I do not know why that committee is not being convened. What is the attitude of this government towards the working of that committee? The hon. Minister may explain the government's reaction. I appeal to him to convene a meeting of the central standing committee. The reports of the sub-committee should be discussed and a decision on central legislation should be taken by that committee.

So far central legislation is concerned, there is unanimity among the national trade union centres in India. Last year in October a national convention was held in New Delhi under the joint auspices of Bharatiya Khet Mazdoor union which I represent which is connected with the AITUC, All India Kisan Sabha led by the Marxist Party, INTUC, led Indian National rural labour federation and Khet Mazdoor panchayat which is led by H.M.S. That convention unanimously adopted a resolution on the question of central legislation. This resolution was presented to the then Labour Minister Shri J. B. Patnaik and the Agriculture Minister.

Before concluding, I should like to refer to some essential features which the central legislation should contain. One is the trade union right. Agricultural workers, the moment they organise themselves into a union, even at the slightest symptom of the workers preparing themselves for a legitimate struggle for their rights, there is a terrible reaction from the landlords and the rural vested interest; violence is being used; workers are terrorised. Even trade union functionaries are harassed. There is a deliberate attempt to suppress the workers, to prevent the workers from exercising their trade union rights. False criminal charges are filed against the trade union functionaries as well as the workers. From our experience, we find that the local administration, particularly administration at the lower levels, more especially the police, very often collude with the landlord and vested interests and workers are harassed, trade union persons are harassed. Therefore, the proposed legislation should provide for trade union rights. The functionaries of this trade union should be given protection as is given to the functionaries of the trade unions in the organised sector.

Then comes the security of employment. Employment Guarantee Scheme is in Maharashtra. In the absence of it, there must be some unemployment allowance or some such thing. It need not be exactly as it is in Maharashtra, better schemes can be formulated. The other things are—regulation of working conditions, legislative protection to migrant workers, adequate compensation to the injured or on loss of his life.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali): He has taken 45 minutes. How much more time will he take?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is going to complete. He has taken only 29 minutes.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Is there no limit for him?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Mover should be given more time, you will agree.

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: There should be proper machinery for enforcement of wages. As I pointed out earlier, there should be effective enforcement machinery and social security scheme.

Finally, I should say that some of the measures which some State Governments have taken are worth emulation by other States. For example, the Kerala Government has recently announced a scheme—Pension Scheme for Agricultural Workers. West Bengal also has announced a scheme that an agricultural worker who has reached the age of 60 will be entitled to a pension of Rs. 50/-p.m.

In conclusion, I would appeal to the hon. Minister that the Central legislation may not be delayed any further. It is a most essential requirement in order to develop the trade union movement among the rural workers and we will be acting according to the recommendations of the International Labour Conference.

I once again appeal to the hon. Minister to come forward in the shortest possible time, if possible in the current Session, with a Bill for Agricultural Workers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

“This House calls upon the Government to take early steps to enact Central legislation to protect the interests of the vast millions of agricultural workers of our country who are subjected to ruthless forces of exploitation as wage earners in agriculture and who remain by and large unprotected by the existing labour laws.”

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: I beg to move:

That in the resolution,—

after “Central legislation” insert “during the current session”.
(1)

SHRI R. L. P. VERMA (Kodarnia): I beg to move:

That in the resolution,—

add at the end—

“and provide the agricultural labourers all the welfare measures to ameliorate the conditions of their children and women for a bright future.” (2)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Resolution and amendments are now before the House.

17 hrs.

*SHRI K. ARJUNAN (Dharmapuri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome the Resolution of Shri Kodyan demanding central legislation for protecting the rights of agricultural workers. We have the Minimum Wages Act, which unfortunately has not been implemented by many States in our country.

The industrial workers have a strong trade movement and organisation to support and ventilate their grievances. There is no such trade union organisation for the agricultural workers. According to 1971 census, 753 lakhs of people are engaged in agriculture, out of whom 475 lakhs are agricultural workers. This vast work-force deserves and demands the attention of the Central Government and also of the State Governments. In order to ensure that all the States implement the Minimum Wages Act for the benefit of the agricultural work-

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

(Shri K. Arjunan)

ers, there must be a Parliamentary Committee comprising of Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, just like Parliamentary Committee for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I request that the Labour Minister should take initiative in this direction.

I take this opportunity to commend the General Budget for 1980-81, which has given prominence to rural development. Shri Kodiyan belongs to the C.P.I., hailing from Kerala. In spite of the fact that the Kerala Government has had enacted many meaningful and purposeful labour welfare legislations, if Shri Kodiyan has been prompted to bring forward this Resolution, it only emphasises the need for the Central Government to think of a legislative measures for the benefit of agricultural workers. The C.P.I. is one among the multi-party Alliance in Tamil Nadu. This Alliance gave numerous assurances to the people of Tamil Nadu before the recent Assembly Elections. One of the assurances was that the Alliance, if returned to power, would honour the 9 point demand of the Agriculturists Association. The AIADMK assured that all the agricultural loans would be repealed. I am sure that the C.P.I., which is committed to the upliftment of agricultural workers, would urge upon the AIADMK Government in Tamil Nadu to implement the assurances given to the people of Tamil Nadu, in particular to the Agriculturists Association. If the AIADMK Government fails to honour its words to the people of Tamil Nadu, I hope that the C.P.I. would withdraw from the Alliance

Shri Narayanswamy Naidu, the leader of the Agriculturists Association, and other office bearers of the Association were charged with criminal complicity by the AIADMK Government before the Elections. Now the AIADMK has been returned to power, with Shri Ponniyan

who has been known for his corrupt practices in charge of Justice Department, I wonder what kind of justice these office-bearers of the Agriculturists Association can expect from him. If the C.P.I. as a member of the ruling alliance in Tamil Nadu fails to move the AIADMK Government in honouring its pledges, then the people of Tamil Nadu will lose their faith in the C.P.I. as a party committed to fight for the rights of agricultural workers.

The leader of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. Dr. Kalaignar Karunani-dhi, was the champion of rights of backward classes, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, who predominate agriculture in our country. When there was DMK Government in Tamil Nadu, he constituted a special Police Force to protect the rights of agricultural workers in the States. I have no hesitation in declaring here that D.M.K. alone can usher in an era of welfare for the agricultural workers. I wish that the C.P.I. keeps up to its professed sympathies for the agricultural workers and ensures that the AIADMK Government honours its plighted words to the Agriculturists Association before the recent Elections to the Assembly; otherwise the CPI will lose its credibility. I support Shri Kodiyan's Resolution.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur):
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am very glad to associate myself with this Resolution. I am also happy that the Mover of the Resolution did not unnecessarily bring any political partisan discussion into it.

Agricultural workers have been neglected for a very long time not only by the Indian Government but also by the International Labour Office. We felt in 1935 when we all came here into this House, in the Central Legislative Assembly, on behalf of the Congress to urge that the International Labour Office should take up the consideration of the conditions and needs of the agricultural work-

[Prof. N. G. Ranga] ers. The late N. M. Joshi, the great labour leader, who was then on the executive of the ILO tried his best to get the ILO interest itself in the plight and in the need for welfare and progress of agricultural workers. And to a very great extent, he had succeeded. With the result, ILO had passed some conventions. But what was the use of ILO passing any convention there when the Government here in India was not prepared to come to the rescue of the agricultural workers? The British Government introduced a Bill for payment of wages. I brought forward an amendment saying that it should be extended to the agricultural workers also. The British Government did not agree. They said that they had no machinery to enforce that law. I suggested that there would be the village panchayats, the revenue officers and they should also pick and choose a few champions of the agricultural workers in any particular locality, constitute a committee and entrust that committee to look after the implementation of that Act. They did not do anything.

Afterwards, we achieved freedom and then came this Minimum Wages Act. Shri Jagjivan Ram was then in charge of that Bill. I wanted it to be extended to agricultural workers also. With great difficulty we were able to get it extended but subject to one condition. Since agriculture continued to be a State subject, we had to incorporate in it a provision giving freedom to the State Governments to give effect to it. And what the State Governments have done is writ large in our history. They ignored that Act. Wherever it was possible, they gave a nominal implementation to it to small sections on the periphery of agriculture, labour in so-called plantations and in some mechanised concerns and so on. They were content with that and they did not do anything more. That has been the condition till now.

It stands to the credit, as my hon. friend has said, of the Governments in Kerala and also in West Bengal to begin to do something in this direction. Kerala has gone ahead also in passing that legislation. I think, in getting that legislation passed, all political parties were agreed. So, it was an all-party and a non-pariisan legislation. I am not prepared to say that the same legislation should be accepted as a model for other States. But on similar lines, legislation should have been initiated by all the State Governments also. As my hon. friend just now said, in Tamil Nadu Mr. Karunanidhi, had gone ahead in providing necessary police protection to such labour as are willing to undertake the risky jobs of organising themselves and raising their demands. Then why is it that all the labour leaders and all those who are interested in labour work belonging to all the political parties starting from Congress to Communists—CPI, CPI (Marxist), CPI (Marxist-Leninist), have failed to organise agricultural workers? We must go into it. I started organising agricultural workers in 1923 into their own unions and also the kisans owning lands into other set of organisations. As far as the land-holding peasants were concerned, smaller people, I succeeded to a very large extent. But when it came to agricultural labour, I did not succeed.

Communist friends in some Districts in Andhra also tried and they also failed. Then we used to have general conferences at the district and State level for agricultural labour. When I was in charge of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee in 1946—1951, I organised an Agricultural Labour Congress and similar Agricultural Labour Congress wings were to be organised in almost all the States by the State Congress Committees. Nevertheless, we could not go down to the grass-root level and develop the trade union organisation among the agricultural workers. We did organise a few strikes. We burnt our fingers

very badly. Our labour unions began to raise their demands for higher wages, humane conditions of working and for several other things everywhere. It was a sad experience of failure. Why? Mahatma Gandhi understood these things much better than we did. He realised that our people, most of the agricultural workers, happened to be the Scheduled Castes, Harijans and tribal people. They were living in sub-human conditions. There was not even independent communication through their own habitations, their own huts, for their huts were not their own. For instance, in Tanjavur and other districts in Tamil Nadu, the sites belonged to the land-holders. The pathway also had to go through the land-holders' boundary bund. They were completely helpless. They were untouchables on top of it. So, he said to all the Congress people to which at that time large numbers of the elders of these Communist friends then belonged: "Let us first of all get rid of this devil of untouchability."

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You also know that they were called 'Sudras'.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: 'Sudra' is a little higher. A Harijan is much lower than the 'Sudra'.

AN IION. MEMBER: 'Panchama'.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Yes, 'Panchama'. So we fought against untouchability, we are still fighting. To a large extent it has released most of the Harijans from its terrible, fatal grip.

Then he said: "Let them have their own house-sites". They are coming to have house-sites. That is where the relevance of the 20-point programme comes in. It goes to the credit of Mrs. Indira Gandhi to have spared crores and crores of rupees to provide lakhs and lakhs of these people, more and more of them, with house-sites, their own independent house-sites. It also goes to the

credit of the Communist Party and Rajaji then in the Tanjavur district to have declared the sites on which the Harijans were then living to be their own property. Later on, I think the DMK Government and now the AIADMK—whether it is AIADMK or DMK it is the same thing for me—have also declared it to be their own property. That had to be done. It has not yet been done in Bihar, U.P. and several States in North India. In Punjab the sites are not there for the poor people. They have to be provided with huts and houses. Where were they? They were living wherever it was possible for them—on the canal bunds, road sides, tank bunds, anywhere and everywhere—and they were at the mercy of the local land-holders and also the police (even today). Even today there are millions of them. To their rescue Indiraji is coming now.

Only when they become independent and have something of their own by way of house or house-site can they begin to consider themselves as workers. Shri Kodiyan has said that the moment they begin to organise themselves, the landlords will start terrorising them. I have gone, Mr. Rajagopal Naidu has accompanied me, after Indiraji set the example to us, to several places in Bihar as well as Marathwada where Harijans were massacred or persecuted or suppressed, and even their small belongings were taken away by those who became enraged just because those workers who happened to be Harijans not only liberated themselves from untouchability, but also began to demand reasonable wages. So, we have had that experience. Protection has to be given to them. It is from these levels we have to rise. So much has got to be done.

I am very glad that my hon. friend Shri Ravindra Varma, who co-operated with me at the Youth Congress level in those days when we were fighting for freedom, became the Labour Minister in the Janata Govern-

[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

ment. It goes to his credit to have called a conference, to have established the standing committee, to have appointed these three sub-committees and got their reports which are now available to the present Government. I am quite confident that Indiraji and her Government with all our support, would try to give the best possible consideration to these reports and try to have the necessary political and legislative steps in order to initiate trade union organisation and labour protection for agricultural labour. These things have to be done one after the other. I would certainly like the present Government to study very carefully the legislation passed and also the administrative steps that are being taken by the Maharashtra, Kerala, West Bengal and Bihar Governments and then begin to work in the direction of achieving as much protective legislation for the agricultural workers as is now available for industrial workers.

In certain sections of industrial labour, labour is enjoying social security. Where is social security for agricultural labour? Even personal security is not there for Harijans. People talk of old age pension. I am glad one of these Governments has already initiated it. We need it very badly. A bill was sought to be introduced by Mr. Rajagopal Naidu in order to provide old age pension to these people.

Industrial workers have had workmen's compensation for a long time. Machines have been introduced into agriculture now, and yet there is no protection for the agricultural worker from accidents from tractors, harvesters and various other things. There are also snakes and men are bitten and killed. They use harrows and ploughs and get themselves hurt. There is no protection for them. Some protection has got to be given to them, but who is to give? The so-called landlords themselves are very poor. Therefore, it is the duty

of the State to take up this responsibility. It should not be a contributory thing, it should be entirely the State's responsibility.

My hon. friend Shri Kodiyan said that they should be free to organise themselves into trade unions. He assumes that there would be people good enough to organise them into trade unions, and that such people should be given protection. But where are those people to organise them? I have tried to train and send hundreds and hundreds of workers to villages, but after one or two years there is no maintenance for them. Therefore, I am suggesting that the Government itself should undertake responsibility to maintain in every village an honorary agricultural labour welfare worker, give him Rs. 100 or Rs. 200, not a salary but a mere maintenance, to meet his creature needs so that he would be an honorary man and, therefore, he would not be liable to be dismissed by anybody and everybody under the Government service but he would be directly responsible to the district magistrate. Some such suggestion I have made. I am glad to say that the sub-committee was able to accept it. Such people also have got to be provided by the Government. Some people may ask, "Why should they be provided?". For poor people, we are asking for lawyers to be maintained by the Government in order to protect them in courts. Similarly, for agricultural workers, the organisers should be provided an honorarium in order to help them to maintain themselves, independent of their local landholders and other people. Their job would be to help these people to organise themselves. From that level onwards we have got to go step by step. There is so much of other legislation which is now available for an industrial worker. Is maternity benefit there? A woman is obliged to give birth to a baby by the roadside. There is nobody to look after her. Are their proper medical facilities?

What is it that we have done for these people? Not only now, not only during the British days, from the days of the Mughals, their plight has been so miserable. In one sense, I would like to amend what my hon. friend, Mr. Kodiyan has said that their wages have not improved. Their wages have been rising but seasonally. (Interruptions) I am only supporting you; I am only strengthening your point of view; I am adding some points which you have missed because I have had more experience in this sphere than any of you here. Only seasonally, their wages are more or less reasonable. But what happens to the major part of the year when they do not have any employment at all? Is anybody thinking about them? The Maharashtra Government has said, at least one man has got to be provided with employment and another State Government has said, they will pay Rs. 50. What is Rs. 50? We political freedom-fighters are getting Rs. 200 a month. We know what it is like. It goes nowhere. That only shows at what level, miserable, sub-human sub-historical level, we are obliged to rise from.

Even Rs. 50 is a big thing for them. The agricultural workers may naturally be obliged to welcome it. They feel grateful to the Government because they have given at least Rs. 50 where there was not even 50 p. But Rs. 50 is nothing. It should be at least Rs. 150 or Rs. 200, what is now being doled out to the freedom fighters. From that stage we have got to hasten to raise them.

In the interest of the landholders themselves, in the interest of the whole land-holding class itself, they should support these demands. From that level onwards we should begin to calculate the prices of agricultural commodities that we have got to pay, that all these people, salaried people, in all the cities have got to pay.

The other day, I was interrupting my hon. friend, Prof. Madhu Dandavate, when he said that his railwaymen should be paid as much as those who are employed in the State enterprises. "What about the Harijans, the tribal people, the backward classes and these agricultural workers? What are they getting? Even today, on an average, they do not get even Rs. 150 a month, possibly Rs. 200, in a month. What is Rs. 200 when compared to other people.

I want, therefore, these people also to be raised. You have got to have national rural housing policy—now, Indrajai has got it—house-site policy.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: A group insurance scheme for the entire peasant community and then the Government paying the subscription will help a long way. That can also be thought of.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Plus all these things also have to be done. We have got to make a beginning somewhere. Therefore, the Centre has got to take a hand. They must have a legislation from here.

How much, we do not know. But whatever can be enforced at the Centre, let it be done and for whatever cannot be enforced at the Centre but can be done only with the help of the State, let them have this as a model law and let that model be available to be adopted by the State Government. Whichever State Government is not willing to adopt it or develop it will be scorned. It will place itself at the mercy of public opinion and we will be able to develop the needed public opinion in order to force the State Governments also to do it.

[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

I can assure my hon. friend that, with the willing cooperation of all political parties, Indiraji would be able to move in this direction—provided they would cooperate and our friends who are representing other classes of people, apart from agricultural workers, also cooperate. With the cooperation of all of us it would be possible, and we cannot get a better time. Just as we did not have a better time than that of Mahatma Gandhi in order to fight the demon of untouchability, we cannot get a better time than this tenure that the people have given Indiraji, when it should be possible to help her mobilise support from all sections of this House. I do not mean to say that everybody would feel the same way as I feel, but everybody can be persuaded to work and move in the direction of this resolution in which Shri Kodiyan would like to move and our people would like to move. Mr Varma had tried his best, but without much success, because, at that time, that Government unfortunately did not give as much push as one would have expected.

Let us move in this direction and let us see that the Resolution is accepted unanimously.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA (Bombay North): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution that has been moved by my hon. friend Mr. Kodiyan and so ably supported by my distinguished friend Prof. Ranga. In fact after what Rangaji has said, there is not much to say in support of the Motion. He spoke with knowledge, and experience and the warmth of feeling that have always characterised the manner in which he has worked for the poor peasants and the agricultural workers of our country. I have had the good fortune—in the forties—to move with him and to tour many of the districts in Andhra and see the sincerity and the spirit of dedication with which he was devoting himself to the cause of agricultural workers.

The dimensions of the problem have been referred to by both the Hon. Members who spoke before me. In our country, it is well known that 80 per cent of our people live in the rural areas. About 86 per cent of rural labour households are agricultural labour households, and nearly 335 million people live in these households. In 1971, out of a total work force of 230.48 million, 160.35 million were workers in the rural sector. The rural work force increased to about 199 million in the year 1978. The fact that the vast majority of our working force lives and toils in the rural sector must have made it imperative for any Government, any Trade Union Organisation, any voluntary Association to give the utmost consideration to the problems of this vast majority of our working force. But as my distinguished friend Prof. Ranga said—and, before him, Shri Kodiyan,—it is most unfortunate that, somehow or the other, in the history of our country, we find that neither Governments nor Trade Unions have been able to devote the attention that this vast majority of our working force deserves and demands. Any policy that the Labour Ministry follows or the Government follows, unless it deals ably and effectively with the problems and the demands of this vast section of our working force of our country, will deal only with a fringe of our working force. Yet, unfortunately, during the last many years or decades to which my hon. friend Shri Ranga referred, Governments have been devoting their attention only to the fringe of the working force in the urban sector. I am not saying that their problems are not important, and Attention should not be devoted to their problems. But the condition of our rural work force has been already described. Their low incomes, the fact that their employment is seasonal and intermittent, the fact that their incomes are scanty, the fact that they do not have the power of organisation behind them, either to demand more wages or to ask for amenities or social security or even to invoke the provisions of the Acts that we have

on the Statute Book, should have drawn the attention of the Government as well as our trade union organisations to the sad plight of our work force in the rural areas. Unemployment, under-employment, seasonal employment, increasing indebtedness and the decreasing number of working days available to our rural work force and agricultural workers have added to the problems of our agricultural workers. I shall not take the time of the House dealing with problems of indebtedness and unemployment, much as they are germane to the problems and the condition of our workers in the rural areas. I wish to point out some of the reasons why unfortunately this work force, this overwhelming majority of the work force, has not received the attention that they deserve, and their problems demand.

First of all, unlike our urban workers who live in concentrated areas where there is an agglomeration of population, the rural work force is dispersed. They are dispersed in distant, far-flung areas over five hundred to six hundred thousand villages in our country. There are no means of communication for them to avail of. They live far away from the lime-light of publicity. If injustices happen in urban areas, the newspapers publish reports about them; if wages are denied, if there are injustices, they are referred to in the newspapers. Urban workers have the privilege of living under the constant gaze of the press or conscious and militant public opinion. The urban workers again inhabit the nerve-centres of our polity and our economy and they can paralyse these nerve centres in a flash. Therefore, it has been possible for them to demand and receive much more attention than our rural workers who live and work in a dispersed manner in the distant villages of our country.

The total dependence of the rural workers on the landlords or cultivators or other employers, the absence

of alternative sources of employment, the absence of mobility as far as professions or vocations are concerned, absence of diversity in the economy and the possibilities for employment in the rural areas which inhibit the bargaining power of our rural work force, leave them with a Hobson's choice. Oftentimes they have to choose between reconciliation with exploitation and reconciliation with starvation. They have to live somehow, and their poverty, their mud-huts and hovels, and the problems created by the poor incomes they receive are multiplied manifold by the fact that there is poor organisation to support the demands of these workers. And these organisations, such as exist, do not enjoy the legal protection that the organisations of urban workers enjoy. It is, therefore, an undeniable fact, unjustifiable and inexcusable fact, that there has been neglect of the problems and the requirements of our work force in the rural areas.

There was reference made to legislative protection. All problems cannot be solved by legislation. There is no doubt about it. But it is necessary for the Government to provide legislative protection to the weaker sections of the community. On that, there can be no difference of opinion in this House. There is the Minimum Wages Act, and my hon. friend quoted a statement from an authority or a tribunal, I suppose.

AN HON. MEMBER: National Commission on Labour.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: The National Commission on Labour, which has stated that the Minimum Wages Act has almost become a dead letter. There are the Trade Union Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act, the Provident Fund Act and other Acts. But these Acts only touch the rural work force marginally, as my distinguished friend, Prof. Ranga, has pointed out. He has been crusading for the extension of this legislative protection to our rural work force, but unfor-

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Unfortunately they still do not enjoy the legislative protection that they require. Law must protect the right to organise and the right to register Unions. Law must protect security of employment, safety in places of employment, and provide safety from accidents and insurance against accidents. Law must protect conditions of work, hours of work and wages; provide a machinery for the fixation and revision of minimum wages and above all, ensuring that the actual wages received are equivalent to the minimum wages

Now, Sir, unfortunately, though the Industrial Disputes Act has provisions which protect the urban worker, both the trade-unionist and members of the trade union, from the possibility of charges of conspiracy, and provide protection against certain kinds of criminal suits, and assure the right to organise and register as a trade union, these rights are not available to the rural worker. As my distinguished friends have pointed out, the conditions in which the agricultural worker or an organiser of agricultural workers has to function are much more grave or much more serious and much more challenging, as you very well know, Mr. Deputy Speaker. In the rural areas any movement made even to assert your rights is regarded often times as subversive of the existing socio-economic order, and immediately you attract the charge of subversion, and the overzealous local administrator invokes sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Indian Criminal Procedure Code and to ensure law and order which is a blanket term used to roll up and cover all such legitimate movements and it becomes very difficult for the agricultural worker to organise himself in a trade union.

Law and statutes are not adequate unless they are backed by two things to which my hon. friends have referred an efficient machinery for the enforcement of law and statutes for the detection of infringement of statutes, for punishment and for redressal. Now, Sir, if the statutes are to be implemented, then there must also be

organisations of the beneficiaries which are capable of ensuring the enforcement of law. There must be a statute. There must be an administrator who is imbued with the will and the ability and invested with the authority to enforce law, and there must be a popular organisation which is able to channelise the awareness of the beneficiaries and ensure that the statutes are honoured through their implementation. Here, therefore, I can refer as my hon. friends have referred, to such things as the Minimum Wages Act and the Bonded Labour Act and their administration, which have amply proved the necessity for a more efficient machinery for implementation and inspection. The organisation of rural workers, therefore, is crucial both for securing legislation for protection, and for securing the implementation of legislation which is put on the statute book for protection.

My hon. friend, Prof. Ranga raised a very valid point. He said, why is it that people do not come forward to organise rural workers. It is true that people do come forward but they are confronted with great difficulties. These difficulties arise because of the dispersed location, total dependence on the employer, division into different interest groups with different demands—wage earners, sharecroppers and small farmers—my hon. friend is familiar with the entire ground—the interplay of caste prejudices to which my hon. friends have made a reference, problems created by vested interests who want to foil or frustrate the efforts at organisation, in some cases, by building up counter-organisations for confronting the organisation of workers the attitude of the administration which often thinks that it is a challenge to the inviolable right to private property, the tardy presence of the administration in the rural areas, the bias of the lower echelons of the administration and the intertwining of the interests of the administrator at the lowest level with the vested interests of the areas where the challenges are made by the agricultural workers. As my hon. friend, Prof. Ranga and my good friend, Mr. Kodiyan have said

the problems are also compounded by the fact that there is lack of legal protection and lack of financial resources and lack of cadres. These are interconnected. Now Government cannot undertake the responsibility for starting an organisation. It should not. But the Government should create conditions for the promotion of voluntary organisations, strong and effective voluntary organisations. For that, it is necessary that first of all the legal handicaps should be removed; administrative indifference and hostility should be removed; the conspiracy between the lower echelons of the administration and the vested interests must be scotched. For this purpose, it is necessary that Government declares its policy and formulates programmes for the furtherance of policy.

Sir, our Government—the Government of India—ratified the Convention Number 141 of the International Labour Organisation. By ratifying the Convention, the State of India, the Government of India, took upon itself the responsibility to create conditions for the promotion of effective organisation of rural workers and the rural poor. This means that all kinds of assistance should be rendered to those who are engaging themselves in the task of creating these organisations,—for programmes, for running the organisational machinery of these organisations, for projects. Unless the Government follow up the ratification of the Convention with such steps it will not be possible for the Government to fulfil the responsibilities that it has taken upon itself by ratifying this Convention.

Sir, my hon. friend's resolution primarily deals with the necessity for a Central Legislation. He referred to the Kerala Act. My hon. friend, Prof. Ranga said that it might be necessary to amend this Act in one way or the other. But, the crux of the question is: do we need a Central Legislation—a piece of Central Legislation or not? Here, Sir, I may be permitted to congratulate my distinguished friend Shri

Anjaiah, the hon. Minister, who has assumed the responsibilities of the Labour Ministry, I wish him well, I know he is a trade unionist himself and so well aware of the problems of agricultural labour as well as industrial labour. He has been a minister in Andhra Pradesh. But, that is a small part of it. Ministers come and go. All of us know it. Or at least I should know that. But, our devotion to certain causes... (Interruptions).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Ministers are casual workers!

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Our devotion to causes are more important than the offices that we hold temporarily.

Therefore, Sir, I have no doubt in my mind that he will be as convinced as the hon. mover of the Resolution himself that we need a Central Legislation which will assure security of employment and safety.

I talk of safety again and again because the number of accidents in agricultural operations has increased. No survey has been conducted all over the country. But, as far as I know, in the neighbouring State of Haryana where a survey was conducted, reports say that over a thousand workers are maimed during harvesting in the rabi season every year. The Haryana Agricultural University had conducted a survey. It came to the conclusion that 25 accidents occur in the use of every thousand power tillers. This is only in one State. Agricultural machinery, tractors and threshers are used to-day, and power tillers are used in almost all the States. Therefore, the number of accidents is perhaps likely to increase. I wish they do not. But, they are likely to increase and, therefore, it is necessary for us to ensure that such facilities like compensation for accidents, insurance etc. are extended to the agricultural workers as well. I also want to refer to the hazards that have been created by the extensive use of pesticides, especially where child labour is employed. It can perhaps be argued that they are more prone to such hazards. Therefore, my case is that it has become absolutely necessary for us

[Shri Ravindra Varma]

to extend these measures for the provision of accident insurance, measures to protect the workers in the places of work, to extend the facility of Provident Fund, social security etc. to our rural workers also. Why is it that we cannot extend these amenities to them? Unless we extend these facilities of social security etc. to the 75 per cent or 80 per cent of our workers who live in our rural areas, how can we claim that we have a policy or we have a programme to provide social security and security of employment to our workers?

Sir, I shall not take more time of the House. I will only say that I am in total agreement with my Hon. friend Shri Kadiyan. To some extent, a beginning was made in this direction by the previous Government. It tried to correct the imbalance in the attention that was being given to the urban worker and the industrial worker. A special conference was organised for the first time. A standing committee was set up and it set up three sub-committees and distinguished luminaries like Prof. Ranga, Mr. Kadiyan, Mr. Chitta Basu and many others worked on these committees. Their reports are available. I see no reason why any government or any Opposition party should approach this question with a partisan attitude. This is a national issue on which there is need for national introspection and on which there is need for correction of course, for ensuring that legitimate attention is paid to the demands and problems of the vast majority of our workers who work in the rural areas. Therefore, I will appeal to my hon. friend to accept this Resolution. In fact, I have a suspicion that he will find it very hard to say that he does not accept this Resolution.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI
(Bhubaneswar): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir as has been pointed out by my hon'ble friend, Mr. Kodian, the number of agricultural workers in 1961

was only 17.5 per cent of the total work-force in the country but in 1971 they constituted 307 per cent of the total work force. This increase is a matter of concern. Sir, one could have read the Asian drama by Myrdal wherein he pointed out that whatever measures were taken in India regarding land reforms, because there was lack of political will, such measures were not successfully implemented. Therefore, in 1974 it is for the first time that central Government, Indian National Congress and the Indian National Trade Union Congress jointly formulated the plan to see that something effective could be done to improve the living conditions of the vast majority of the agricultural workers who are suffering from poverty and are in the unorganised sector.

Sir, I am very happy that Mr. Anjiah who has now taken over charge and who is part of the trade union movement will do his best for improving the lot of the agricultural workers.

Sir, in 1974 it was decided to fix land ceilings and that the surplus land should be distributed and the land distribution programme was effectively implemented in all the States. From 1977 till 1979 there was absolutely no land distribution and all the programmes which were started till 1977 were dropped. I say from my own experience that in Orissa itself whereas Congress government distributed 1.10 lakh acres of land immediately when Janata Party came to power not only that a single acre of land was distributed but also all the programmes were completely stopped and 4 thousand acres were evicted.

Sir, you know—as it was being referred to by our friend Mr. Varma—in the Cr. PC. and Penal Code out of the 411 clauses or so 81 clauses relate to protection of property. Therefore, our society is a property based society. Almost all the laws which have been framed have been giving security to the property owners. What we did

was this. With the approval of the Central Government the Congress Government in Orissa decided that whenever there is a clash between the landless agricultural workers, share croppers and landlord, the police will not go to the help of the rich landlord. This is the first time that the Congress government in Orissa decided to take such a step. It was something new. Police had to go to the help of the poor. It is something which has been done for the first time. But, immediately the Janata Government came into power, almost the first thing which they did was to delete that provision.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Mover of the Resolution does not belong to the Janata party.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Sir, I have every sympathy for Mr. Kодиан. We are working together in respect of taking measures for helping the agricultural workers. I support his contention but what happened was that during the last 2½ years, whatever programmes were undertaken previously, were completely stopped. No programme was implemented so far as land reform measures are concerned.

With regard to surplus land, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the estimate which was made in the year 1974. The estimate of surplus land available was 68.60 lakh acres. We dispute this figure. But how is it that out of that, only 15.76 lakh acres have been distributed up to now? Why? At least the minimum of 68.60 lakh acres ought to have been distributed. This distribution of land to the landless is really one of our greatest achievements. When you go to the bank for loan the Banks asks, have you got any land? Because of this distribution of land to them these landless people got social dignity too. Whenever they approached a bank, they said, 'yes, we have got land' and they got the loan which they wanted. Land helped them to get loans from the banks. But what hap-

pened during the last 2½ years? During the last 2½ years all these loans were stopped. They did not get such loans. All such programmes were halted. I urge upon the Minister to see that immediate measures are taken in this regard so that the rest of the surplus lands which have not been distributed, be distributed.

Sir, the INTUC and the Indian National Rural Labour Federation are taking steps for organising the unorganised sector of the rural labour force. I am very happy to know that the Central Government, in the Labour Ministry, has again been trying to see how to help this unorganised sector. They are taking some new steps in this direction. These 15.76 lakh acres of surplus land should be distributed immediately. The lands concerned have to be properly identified and actual possession should be given to the recipients. It must be entered in the revenue registers. All the formal proceedings have to be completed in giving land to the landless speedily.

About the distribution of house-sites it has been announced in the Budget that 8 lakhs of people will be given house-sites in the rural areas. It is a very good programme which needs to be implemented. Regarding the minimum wages Act, this is not being implemented effectively by most of the States. It is my submission that this should be properly and effectively implemented.

Further to liquidate the rural indebtedness, an Act was passed, but no State has implemented it properly. Forty-eight per cent of the loans incurred by rural and agricultural workers today are still from the money-lenders. This is because the Act for the liquidation of the rural indebtedness has not been properly implemented. Will the hon. Minister let us know the progress made in this direction?

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

The Rural Works Programme is one of the good programmes to provide employment in the rural areas. Under the Labour Guarantee Scheme, I would suggest that the hon. Minister might ask the State Governments that every Panchayat should keep a register where these rural workers who do not get employment throughout the year—they now get work for 180 days in 365 days—should get their names registered. In that case, it would be known that such and such number of persons want work. That would be very helpful and our effort should be to give employment to every rural worker, and the work should be guaranteed throughout the year.

Then, for the industrial workers, the Government has fixed the minimum wages of Rs. 500 per month. A sweeper who cleans the floor in Rourkela Steel Plant gets Rs. 300 a month, why should not a rural worker, an agricultural worker, who sustains this country by producing crops get Rs. 500 per month. A sincere effort needs to be made in that direction, and this should be guaranteed for an agricultural worker also.

In spite of the scheme to abolish bonded labour, 22 lakhs of bonded labour is still there. Why should it not be abolished and serious efforts made in that direction?

About the consumption credit the Government gave direction to the banks that rural workers, Harijans, Adivasis etc. should get the consumption credit, but it is not being implemented. This needs to be taken care of.

I must make one appeal to the hon. Minister. Like the industrial workers, the rural workers, the agricultural workers should be organised and whatever facilities are being offered to the industrial workers in the shape of security, medical aid, time limit etc. should be slowly, not today or tomorrow, ensure for these workers also. The Minister should see that the Cen-

tral Government has a model Bill which should be sent to all the State Governments so that there is uniformity throughout India in this respect.

The Government which has tried in the past to come to the rescue of the rural workers should expedite the massive programme, the rural employment programme, announced in the budget and they should see that it is implemented properly. It would go a long way in solving their problems.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Chitta Basu. There are two more speakers, Shri E. Balanandan and Shri Daga. They would speak next time.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I deem it a great pleasure and a part of my responsibility to discharge to associate myself, with the resolution, moved by my friend, Shri Kadiyan. I also deem it a pleasure and my duty to congratulate the veteran kisan leader, Prof. Ranga who also gave a full-throated support to the motion.

The central point of the motion is: do we or do we not require a Central legislation for the agricultural workers of our country? And I want to build up a case to show that nothing short of a Central legislation can remove the grievances and pitiable condition of life and work of agricultural workers of our country. There is the necessity of a Central legislation which is to be applied in all the States.

18 hrs.

Our country is an agricultural country and it is good that the organisation like Planning Commission has come to realise the importance of agriculture in our economy. It is reported that the Planning Commission has recently decided to develop India's agrarian economy.

